

WHOI Postdoctoral Association

MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 22

Thursday, March 24, 2008

Caryn House

Committee members present:

Michael Berumen, Tom Farrar, Ernst Galutschek, Michelle Portman (by phone).

Other representatives present:

Janet Fields (Postdoctoral Coordinator/Academic Programs)

1. *Ernst Galutschek replaces Breea Govenar on PDA*

Ernst also takes over for Breea as ‘web czar’ and representative to the Diversity Committee.

2. *Comments on the PDA website*

Ernst suggested that the PDA website should include more photos, and he pointed out that the last minutes posted on the website are from 9/24/2007.

3. *Social events for postdocs*

Ernst volunteered to organize a regular event for postdocs, a social gathering on Friday evenings at the Captain Kid. Michael will organize a June coffee hour. Ernst will look into hosting a coffee hour at the NOSAMS lab.

4. *Postdoc review process*

Jim Yoder is willing to raise any of our concerns about the review process at one of the meetings of the department chairs.

5. *Postdoc social event with Susan Avery*

It was agreed that the social event should be a “reception” and not a “wine tasting”. The Academic Programs Office can subsidize the event to an extent, but we will use extra beverages that are on hand and money from our treasury. It was agreed that a committee of about two people should be formed at least three weeks prior to the event to organize and promote the event.

6. *Tax advice for postdocs (fellows/scholars)*

Michael noted that some postdoctoral scholars and fellows have expressed confusion about how to handle their income taxes. Although we did not settle on a way to solve this problem, we discussed sending an email to all postdocs to remind them to be aware of their tax obligations.

7. *PDA Fact Sheet*

Janet noted that the PDA Fact Sheet has not been revised for a long time (years). The fact sheet should be reviewed and revised as necessary.

Meeting closed.
(Minutes recorded by Tom)