

WHOI Postdoctoral Association

MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 29

Monday, April 14, 2009

Caryn House

Committee members present: Ernst Galutschek, Mar Nieto-Cid, Jong Jin Park, Anna McIntyre-Wressnig

Other representatives present: Janet Fields (Postdoctoral Coordinator / Academic Programs)

1. PDA members:

Sam retired from the PDA, so the Association needs another postdoc from the Biology Department to take his position. It was decided to send an email to all the postdocs in the Biology Department to seek for volunteers.

2. Postdoc lounge:

The door code for the postdoc lounge will be changed. Students are not allowed to be in the room without being accompanied by a postdoc (in the same way, poscdocs are not allowed in the student room without students). We all agree that we should work together with the students to make both places available to both groups.

3. Career workshop:

Ernst will email Ananya and Michelle to know about the status of this workshop.

4. Changes to the PDA Charter:

It needs to be changed before the approval. The only thing we expect to change is the PDA members' election day. All agree that it would be better do the elections after the WHOI Postdoctoral Symposium. Ernst will do the changes with Janet. It was decided to

send an email to all postdocs to let them know about the change and to ask them if they had ideas about things they would like to change.

5. *New post-docs:*

There were new postdoc in the AIOP Departement, and Jong Jin already welcomed them. Janet will send a new list of new postdocs soon.

6. *Coffee hours:*

We would like to have a coffee hour in the R/V Oceanus when they come to town. Also, Janet will send an email to check if a coffee hour could be organized in the Geophysical Fluids Dynamics Lab in April or May.

7. *National PDA conference:*

Janet resumed her attendance to the National PDA conference held in Houston / Texas in March 2009. Some ideas:

- We agree that it would be a good idea to do a survey among postdocs to know if they are interested in several things like: a) teaching opportunities at WHOI, b) the chart review process, c) a website for postdocs to search for jobs outside WHOI, d) buy new books for the lounge, which ones?, e) collaborate with other PDAs in the region (Yale, Harvard, MIT...), f) links section, etc...
- The Postdoc Alumni Database is still in hold.
- Ideas for the career workshop from the meeting: it would be interesting if we could have Peter Fisk as speaker (he is located in the west coast but we could maybe split airfare costs with another school in Boston / New England). Another good one would be Peter Hobday.

Meeting closed 1 pm

Minutes recorded by Mar Nieto-Cid