

PDA meeting – Nov. 1st 2012

- Presence: Nathalie, Katie, Ben, Mike, Meg, Amy
- Duties
 - o Everyone fine? Yes.
 - o All-postdocs list? Yes.
 - o Webpage access? Not yet, Amy is working on it.
 - Get details from last PDA (Joel) and get access from Janet.
- Career workshop?
 - o We like the idea of doing shorter, more focused workshops: Interviewing (Nov), negotiating (early 2013), and writing applications (summer 2013).
 - o Interview workshop 3-5 pm, Nov 15th, followed by reception with drinks and food.
 - Janet will arrange drinks and food. Mike will arrange beer (wine? How much to get?).
 - Janet will find out if retirement party is using Clark 507 or Carriage House and we will use whatever they are not using.
 - Katie will coordinate with speakers and send invite email to WHOI postdocs.
 - Structure of workshop:
 - Jim Yoder will give an overview of the interview process from the perspective of the interviewer/hiring institution (30-45 min, Jim has agreed to do this)
 - o What happens throughout the day or days you are interviewing?
 - o What questions can you expect?
 - o What questions are allowed/not allowed to be asked?
 - o What are the interviewers looking for?
 - o Any advice/tricks we should know?
 - Panel of ideally 4 people that have been recently hired at different types of institutions (and are still here at WHOI):
 - o ~10 min each to tell us about their interviewing experience:
 - Brief description of how your day/days went.
 - Differences between different types of institutions you may have interviewed at.
 - Did anything surprising happen?
 - What was most challenging?
 - Advice/helpful tips.

1. Someone hired on at WHOI (Aron Mooney, Mike is checking with him).
 2. Someone hired on at a small/liberal arts school (Larissa Williams (Bates) has agreed).
 3. Someone hired on at a large/research oriented school (TDB).
 4. Someone hired on at non-academic/non-profit/industry/government (TBD).
 - Question/answer period, transition into reception at 5.
 - Pass out notecards to see how much interest there is in mock interviews, if enough interest we can think about having a mock interview workshop soon afterward.
 - PDA is searching for recently hired panelists: Mike – Aron Mooney (WHOI), Katie – Davin Wallace (Miss State), Nathalie – Chris Hein, Amy – Bio people, Ben – PO people.
- Negotiations (Elaine Candell?) next (early 2013).
 - Someone who was at last negotiations workshop was disappointed that the person leading it (Elaine Candell?) did not have any experience in academia.
- What should we do at the Breakfast?
 - notecards for people's ideas
 - Pamphlet: who's the PDA member in your department, contact them if you need anything – add information about different email lists, add google calendar, Janet is going to send Nathalie the PDF.
 - Coffee, who wants to organize:
 - January? – Nathalie might do chemistry open house in the Fye building.
 - February?
 - March?
 - Happy Hours
 - Days & times?
 - Family and friends welcome: note in next happy hour email.
 - Dec next or wait until after new year?
 - We should extend from time to time the invitation to postdocs from other institutions in Woods Hole
 - Pizzas? – Ordered 2 pizza's for first happy hour (Nov 1) and sold it all, @ 2\$/slice.
 - We have \$114 for beer/pizza.