PDA meeting – Nov. 1st 2012

- Presence: Nathatlie, 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:
  - 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.