

PDA meeting Thursday, May 6, 2021

Meeting Notes:

- Retirement/Social hour
  - Erin is tracking down numbers/figures on the retirement contributions/stats for different positions. Haven't heard from HR yet.
  - Might put on a more informal Retirement Discussion – Social Hour and bring in folks who have more experience/knowledge (e.g., post docs who have been there a while, or have transitioned from post doc to investigator etc.).
  - **Tentative Date: Thursday, May 13<sup>th</sup> 5:15pm, happy hour at 6pm**
- Academic Materials Workshops
  - Cover letter, teaching, research, and DEI statements
  - Several new post docs showing up in June-Aug, so mid-late Aug or early September might be best.
  - Virtual or in person? Make a call closer to the event.
  - **Tentative Date: Aug. 18**
  - 4 Weeks: Cover/letter and CV, Teaching Statement, Research statement, DEI
- NSF Program managers meetings with Postdocs
  - **June 18<sup>th</sup> at 4:15pm (tentative)**
  - (As part of the OCB meeting)
- Do we each want to find out who manages departmental calendars and figure out how to push the PDA calendar onto their calendars?
- Non-academic career paths
  - Including MIT career services?
  - Or more of a panel WHOI folks who have transitioned to non-academic careers
  - Proposal: Condense the MIT career presentation into one session and put together an additional session of JP and/or WHOI Alumni panel
  - Work with Janet to crowdsource folks for the Alumni panel
  - **Proposed dates: First two weeks of August**
  - Include Lea Fraser in discussion on what the goals/components of the two sessions would be (which will then guide the selection of panelists and topics covered by MIT career services).
- Other topics
  - Promote National Postdoctoral Association (NPA) on website better (Simon)
  - Revisiting the research funding page of the PDA Website