

WHOI PDA Meeting Minutes
July 7, 2021 3:30pm EDT

Present (virtually):
Janet Fields
Melina Kourantidou
Scott Loranger
Erin McParland
Simon Pendleton
Bobby Scharping
Jacob Steinberg
Nina Whitney

Diverse Careers Outside of Academia Series

- 2 Week series consisting of a workshop and a panel open to JP students and postdocs
- Workshop, run by MIT Career Center, will take place on Tuesday, July 20 from 2-4pm EDT
- Panel discussion on Thursday, July 29th from 12:00-1:30pm EDT
 - Still working on recruiting panelists, primarily JP and WHOI postdoc alums with current careers outside of academia
 - So far have 4 confirmed panelists
 - Still waiting to hear from two other panelists
 - Bobby S. will reach out to colleagues at USGS to try to get an additional panelist from government
 - Nina W. will send out an email to postdocs and JP students by the end of the week to announce the panel and solicit questions for the panelists via a google form
 - Once the panelists are final, Janet will introduce via email the panelists to Nina and Jake. Nina and Jake can garner bios and will moderate the panel

Academic Job Workshop

- Erin M. will start to organize this
- Will be a multi-week workshop designed around working on academic job materials
- Will begin mid-August

Paid Family Leave

- There are several recent questions from postdocs on WHOI's policies for paid family leave
- Scholars can find the breakdown of paid family leave benefits here:
<https://www.who.edu/what-we-do/educate/postdoctoral/postdocs-resources/>
- Fellows paid family leave will depend on their fellowship

- Investigators should contact HR about their paid family leave benefits. The HR website will have information once it has been updated to reflect the new changes in MA law: <https://www.who.edu/HR/page.do?pid=161736>

Changes to the PDA

- Simon P. is leaving WHOI at the end of the month
- Jake S. will take over the PDA website
- Erin M. will replace Simon P. on the WHOI Workplace Climate Committee as the postdoc representative
- Jake S. and Nina W. will remain on the Education Council as postdoc representatives

Miscellaneous

- Janet has gotten suggestions from CDEI (?) on how to make the language on both the website and the WHOI scholar application more inclusive. She will be updating that language accordingly in the coming weeks.