

Meeting minutes 28 June 2022

PDA meeting 28 June 2022

In attendance: Elaine, Yaamini, Svenja, Tzu-Ting, Michael, Hannah, Janet

Called to order 14:03

Agenda:

discuss events for the summer?

any other business

Negotiations/startup event, recent

This was yesterday! It went well, good turnout and lots of participation. Elaine and Hannah are working on small thank-you gifts and notes for the panelists.

Beach-cleanup event, upcoming

Mike: beach cleanup July 7th, "hosted" by PDA via sustainability committee

For getting some non-alcoholic beverages, talk to Meg Tivey since this will be cross-program (JP and PEP students are invited)

Mike will send the flier out to the email list

Program managers event during OCB, recent

Disappointing postdoc turnout - not sure why. Maybe because people are still remote? Also because people are super busy in summer, tons going on, and also because covid is really going around and a bunch of people are out.

Summer picnic, upcoming

Eesh and Svenja organizing?

Casual, something on the ballfield

Family-friendly? Late afternoon, bring some kids toys

Academic job applications workshop, upcoming/September

non-academic careers workshop with MIT people will be in August (per Janet)

They will poll people on topics for this non-academic jobs workshop. There is a list of options, two or three will be chosen from that list.

We should avoid overlapping in time with our (academic jobs) event and MIT/APO's (non-academic jobs) event

Svenja will take the lead on planning/setting dates for the academic job applications workshop (and organizing any PDA meetings that need to happen for that) because Elaine will be away for a few weeks.

MIT career development also runs a workshop on faculty job searches or similar - we do our own, but if we want access to MIT's version, Janet will look into it (maybe shared recordings, or maybe one MIT login that we could use to have a viewing party for postdocs or something since we wouldn't have individual MIT logins) and will let us know. Might be easiest to just ask a JP student to log in for a group in a room.

Difficult to get a remote option for this because MIT cares about online security
Also the MIT series started in early June and is more than halfway done already.

Status of the meeting with all postdocs and APO? upcoming

We need to find a time with Meg and Janet. Things got busy so June dates we suggested a while ago were not going to work.

Janet can talk to Meg about dates that would work for them and get back to us

Other business

Should future events be hybrid or fully remote?

In-person only should not be an option to be accessible to folks who are remote

One problem is space - lots of spaces that are equipped for A/V are not good rooms for small group discussions (Redfield, Clark 507 - too big) or are not great in general (Clark 201 - too small, not good for airflow)

We can borrow equipment from IS for rooms that are not fully equipped (owl cameras). Janet has custody of an owl camera for GFD currently.

If we do want help or equipment from IS, be sure to ask well in advance because they are swamped with requests for A/V hybrid event support

Insurance

Note that APO is going to increase the amount that postdoc scholars get for health insurance! Not by a huge amount but by a bit. This will happen sometime in the near future (I didn't catch the timeline)

Adjourned 14:39