

Purdue Postdoc Association (PPDA)

Minutes of the meeting of the PPDA Council

Meeting date / time	Tuesday January 2011, 8.30am
Meeting location	Room 111, Matthews Hall, Purdue University
Minutes status	Accepted 2nd February 2011

Name	ID	Position	
Akil Narayan	AN	President	Present
Dina Banerjee	DB	Public relations	Absent
Charlotte Perrett	CP	Secretary	Excused
Peter Richtsmeier	PR	Webmaster	Present
Liz Vivas	LV	Treasurer	Absent
Simran Banga	SB		Absent
Eric Cox	EC		Absent
Christian Hammer	CH		Present
Ana Juan Garcia	AJ		Absent
Torrence Gill	TG		Absent
Solange Lewis	SL		Present
Defne Kayrak-Talay	DK		Excused
Tillmann Kubis	TK		Present
Valentina Trinetta	VT		Present
Jennifer Tsuruda	JT		Present
Kris Villez	KV		Excused
Professor Peter Dunn	PD	Faculty Advisor	Present
Professor Jon Story	JS	Faculty Advisor	Excused
Professor Linda Mason	LM	Faculty Advisor	Excused

Agenda:

1. **Approval of previous minutes**
2. **Update from PR Officer**
3. **Update from webmaster**
4. **Subcommittees**
5. **Social events**
6. **Orientation session**
7. **Buddy system**
8. **Senate seat**
9. **Any other business**

1. Approval of previous minutes

- a) December meeting minutes are accepted.

2. Update from the PR

- a) No update

3. Update from Webmaster

- a) AN and PR met in order to decide a strategy to update new information on the PPDA website regarding job opportunities. They found a list of links from a page on the Carlton University website that they plan to link to on the PPDA website; it seems very comprehensive and complete. AN and PR are going to add some more specific information about Purdue, but will link to the page. CH reports having some difficulties when browsing the PPDA website and he would like to look and the webpage with Peter or Sherri later. Dr Dunn will check with Sherri regarding her availability to meet and solve the problems. CH reports also that when “googling” PPDA, the first link that shows up is the one PR created before the OVPR office decided to host the PPDA website. CH suggests deleting the link and PR agrees.

4. Subcommittees**6.1 How do I...?/Information Package**

- a) No update

4.2 Seminar Series

- a) No update

4.3 Survey

- a) AN informs the council that an abstract was submitted to the National Postdoc Annual Meeting. AN is going to attend the meeting and will apply for a travel Award.
b) Dr Dunn asks the status of the article regarding the survey data. AN reported that the subcommittee slowed down a bit for the statistical analysis. PR says he can run the statistical analyses of the data, while VT suggests asking for help to the Statistics department. PR takes the leadership on the project.

4.4 Individual Development Plans

- a) VT informs the council that the department of Biochemistry has accepted IDP. On March the 4th VT and Professor Tran will present a mentoring plan for postdocs to the College Academic Council.

4.5 PGSG/PPDA Career fair

- a) SL will have a meeting with PGSG committee in order to organize the career fair later today. Some information already available is the poster competition for postdocs. SL is looking for professors willing to volunteer to judge the posters.

4.6 PPDA/PGSG collaboration

- a) AN reports for DK that in February a research day will be host for high-school students in Discovery Park. During this day Postdocs are invited to present posters and results of their research. No time and day have been decided yet, DK and AN will inform Postdocs when more information is available.

b) PGSG asked also to PPDA to have a postdoc panel discussion during the seminar series organized by the Graduate students. AN, CP, TK and DK will participate. The panel will be during Spring Semester.

4.7 PPDA Annual Dinner

a) Dr Negishi has officially declined the invitation to talk at PPDA annual dinner. VT already contact Dr Robinson and she is waiting for an answer. The subcommittee doesn't have update about the budget that can be used to reduce the cost of the dinner for the guests. AN will ask to LV to be part of the subcommittee since she is a treasurer. Dr Dunn will soon update the subcommittee regarding possible funding to be used for the dinner.

5. Social events

a) AN reports that last month Postdocs went to the Museum of Art in Lafayette. VT says that this month no social event has been planned. Next month instead a Games Night will be organized. VT asks Dr Dunn for the possibility to reserve a classroom and Dr. Dunn suggests contacting Sherri for the arrangement. AN remarks that taking pictures during the event and uploading them on the website would increase knowledge of PPDA activities.

6. Any other business

a) Orientation: No updates from Dr Dunn.

b) At the previous meeting, PPDA membership eligibility concerns were raised regarding 'research scientists' at Purdue, especially those funded by institutions external to Purdue. After checking the PPDA constitution, AN concludes that postdocs with titles of 'Research Scientists' are already included in PPDA membership. Furthermore, the constitution specifies no requirements regarding the source of a postdoc's funding; only that research is conducted under the supervision of a Purdue faculty member.

c) Dr Dunn informs PPDA council that on January 27th there will be a Grant Writing Seminar. This seminar is organized for graduate students, but also postdoc are welcome. Dr Dunn gives the possibility to PPDA to have a separate version of the seminar only for postdoc. The council agree. AN will be anyhow send the advertisement to postdoc e-mail list about the seminar on the 27th.

d) Sigma Xi poster competition will be hold in February. A different prize category has been organized for postdocs. AN will update postdocs when more information will be available.

e) JT asks to AN the number of people in the council, since today a high number of members were absent. The number is actually 17 active members.

Actions:

Action identifier [yyyymmdd-no-id/id/..]	Short description	Deadline	Status
20100301-1-AJ/KG/LV	Organise a seminar series for Postdocs	2010-12-31	ongoing
20100301-2-	Create a series of 'How do I...' features for	2010-09-30	completed

KV/TH/SB/CH	PPDA website		
20101007-1-NW/VT/PR/AN	Prepare a paper on the PPDA survey results	2010-12-31	ongoing
20101104-1-VT/JT/EC/PR	Organize the PPDA Annual Dinner	2011-06-30	ongoing
20101104-2-JT/VT	Organize PPDA involvement with Sigma Xi Poster competition	2011-01-30	completed
20101202-1-AN	Check constitution for who is eligible for PPDA membership	2011-01-30	completed

Date and time of next meeting: Tuesday 1st February 2011 at 8.30am. Room MTHW 111