

PDFA Executive Meeting

15 JUNE 2016 / 12H02 - 13H00 / ECHA 2-125

In Attendance

Ann, Neil, Sarah, Camille, Manmeet, Megan, Richard, Nico

Agenda

1) Approval of Agenda

- Approved: Sarah, Manmeet

2) Approval of Minutes

- Add Action Items
- Approved: Sarah, Manmeet

3) Fundraising Updates

- Camille: so far \$2500 raised from donors (\$1000 in hand); not previous donors
- Ann: Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry (\$2000)
- Enough funds to support Travel Award and Barbeque
- Office of Advancement: Camille met with funding officer; if we get a speedcode, the Office can help with fundraising (take care of page and transfers); speedcode might be difficult to obtain, but exploring options through VP-Research; speedcode is a problem for general fundraising anyway
- **Action:** Ann following up with VP-Research about speedcode; also contact for pharma companies through Glenn Baker

4) Postdoc Committee

- Issues postdocs face on campus (e.g., employment status, immigration issues)
- Taking advocacy issues to an administrative-level committee (currently only one postdoc: need to discuss), and help fundraise and increase faculty involvement in Research Day
- **Action:** Ann sending out terms of reference for committee

5) MLA Advocacy Updates

- Reps from Calgary and Lethbridge met with MLA for Ellersley; support for reopening postsecondary learning act, advice for moving forward
- Meeting with Minister of Advanced Education: setting up meeting time
- Also discussing labour issues, and postdocs will be included
- Camille: any opportunity for working federally? Ann: education is normally handled by the provinces; Neil: CAPS would do this level of advocacy
- Potential difficulty about being classified as employees in some aspects and trainees for others. Status clarification best at time PSLA is reopened

6) Transportation

- Small turnout for townhall
- Very likely that ETS@work and LPass can be held simultaneously
- Need information for how many postdocs travel between campuses for work
- **Action:** Neil to develop survey for postdocs to determine number of postdocs to pass along to ETS by tomorrow
- LPass has no stipulations for weekend vs. weekday
- **Action:** Ann contact Jeff to determine card text for postdocs (vs. blank cards)

7) Summer BBQ

- August 21, 11:30-3:30 @ Emily Murphy Park
- Ticketed event for RSVPs, same supplier for meat and whatnot
- **Action:** execs interested in organizing will contact Sarah
- **Action:** Neil will make Save the Date for website and facebook

8) Coffee and Cookies by Faculty

- Sarah contacted Diane, who said best option was to contact admin of each faculty to disseminate
- **Action:** Sarah will try Faculty of ALES in July as a dry run

9) Career Seminars Update

- Mahdi has organized 5PM career seminar tomorrow (at least 11 questions); hour of discussion, half hour for questions; would be good to video record for folks who cannot attend (post to youtube and link on website)
- **Action:** Camille will obtain gifts (Starbucks cards?) for speakers, Nico will bring cookies
- Next panel: "new recruits"

10) Research Day

- Mahdi offered to get Save the Date put together

- One speaker was charging \$5000 so that's not okay; would be good to get alternate-academic speaker as well; three invited speakers would be easier than panel at this time. Kathryn Todd would be good example. Tim Caulfield also a good option. Campus Alberta Neuroscience would possibly provide extra funding if we invited a neuroscientist.
- Need to think about central theme for Research Day + general subthemes for speakers to cover.
- **Action:** Ann to contact Kathryn Todd; Sarah to contact Tim Caulfield; Mahdi to contact a third speaker not from U of A (maybe not even from Edmonton); Mahdi to complete Save the Date

11) Adjournment

- Approved: Nico, Richard