

# PDFA Executive Meeting

18 MAY 2016 / 12H09 - 13H16 / CAB 377

## In Attendance

Ann, Nico, Neil, Camille, Mahdi, Richard, Sarah

## Agenda

### 1) Approval of Agenda

- Approved: Richard, Sarah
- Note: amended 11 to 9 order

### 2) Approval of Minutes

- Approved: Nico, Sarah

### 3) Minutes: How to Disseminate?

- When minutes are approved they will be posted on the website
- Nico: related to website, update the funding page (e.g., MITACS, tri-council, AI)
- **Action:** Neil will update, Nico will determine content/format
- Neil: website is also updated with not-broken list of execs

### 4) Fundraising Updates

- Richard: sent out, no good news yet
- Neil will send out current saved drafts
- Mahdi: potential for some departments to have budget set aside for things like this
- **All remaining emails should be sent from PDFA account in the next week**

### 5) Travel Award Updates (Nico)

- 22 applications; good number of faculty judges (3 to each); most have already replied
- No faculty judges from Engineering sadly
- Ann: Coordination of funding could determine having second set of Travel Awards

### 6) Transportation Updates (Ann)

- If postdocs get access to the LPASS, we may lose access to the ETS@work; need to determine in consultation with postdocs what is best
- Need to create social event / townhall for discussion of options, and follow up with creating a survey
- Should invite Diane, who is more knowledgeable about these sorts of things

## 7) Social Events: Discussing Transportation Options

- Potentially have at Dewey's, with microphone and good space
- Try to have before June 1, but play by ear

## 8) Summer BBQ

- Ticketed event; need to determine venue, Hawrelak Park is probably best
- Potential to rent BBQ equipment, and to watch the fire ban (depending)
- Weekend event. Try to get covered space

## 9) Future of Research Organization (Richard)

- Sept 26 meeting: Calgary symposium about postdoc advocacy (related to CAPS)
- Richard plans to attend; difficulty with scheduling with Research Day

## 10) Research Day

- Richard: Would be good to coordinate with U of C postdoc research day
- Sept 28; Auditorium in Bernard Snell (Hospital)
- Save the Date card to higher-ups (good turnout last year from postdocs, but relatively few non-postdocs): include MLAs and Minister for Advanced Education; Mayor ("City of Learners")
- **Action:** Ann creating list to email, Sarah finding blurb, Mahdi updating invite from last year
- **Speakers:** Potential to get "Professor Is In" author; someone from Neuroscience could garner money from Campus Alberta Neuroscience; Tim Caulfield on interpreting science and controversy (how-to science communication); Peter Faleen (economist: inspiring academics); potential for two speakers and a panel discussion (decision: leave format alone for this year)
- **Action:** Mahdi will contact Karen Kalsky and determine feasibility / scheduling; could potentially get VP-research or other to help pay; Sarah will contact Tim Caulfield

## 11) Coffee and Cookies by Faculty

- Just pick a Faculty and have exec rep run a get-together
- Determine method of emailing postdocs in specific Faculties (Diane?)

- Ideally sent from PDFFA; might announce on Facebook or website
- Continues theme of reaching out and creating postdoc network

#### **12) Academic Women's Association**

- Don't have postdoc rep; potential for exec or reach-out
- Ann will forward information on AWA

#### **13) Integrative Health Institute**

- Also don't have postdoc rep
- Ann will forward information on IHI as well and execs will determine

#### **14) Adjournment**

- Approved: Ann, Nico

Note: Next meeting is June 15; Neil will add to PDFFA gcal