

May 2017

PDFA executive meeting

18 May 2017 / 3:10 - 4:05 PM / ROOM CCIS 3-003

In attendance

Richard, Jessica, Camille, Anni

AGENDA

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
3. Research Day (Richard; 5 min)
 - a. Thoughts on Speakers (3 in total; one Industry?)
4. Fundraising- Quick Update by Camille (5 min)
5. CAPs Subsidy Renewal for Career Advice (Richard; 3 min)
6. BBQ Update in Summer (Jessica; 5 min)
7. Bill 7 (Richard; 10 min)
 - a. Meetings with President Turpin, VP Research Office, other lessons
 - b. Town Hall Meeting relating to Bill 7 (coordinating with Numan Resources)
8. Career Seminars (Richard)
9. Monthly Beer/Event Socials
10. Adjournment ; June 12-16 Next Meeting, Not Thursday

NOTES

*Action items in blue!

1. Approval of Agenda by Jessica, seconded by Camille
2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes by Jessica, seconded by Camille
3. Research Day (Richard)
 - a. Thoughts on Speakers:
Everyone should think about potential speakers by next meeting - we'd ideally like to have 1) someone senior with some prestige for an external, to talk about a topic relevant to the majority of the Post Doc and broader academic audience, 2) a local speaker, and 3) a speaker from Industry

- b. Camille suggested that we invite Women in Science to participate, possibly in the form of an award (e.g. talk award)

4. Fundraising- Quick Update by Camille

- a. Currently raised about \$7000, some follow-ups still ongoing. All follow-ups should be done by next meeting. Those board members who have not yet sent their fundraising emails should do it asap!

5. CAPs Subsidy Renewal for Career Advice (Richard)

- a. Service has been much appreciated and we'd like to keep it going.
- b. With Bill 7, situation is uncertain for a renewed subsidy. For now, we could continue to subsidize for a couple of months (a few hundred \$ per month at most) until we can make a decision.

6. BBQ Update in Summer (Jessica)

- a. 152.80 for booking 10am-2pm, August 12. Jessica will send a save-the-date email, Anni will update website & Facebook. Ticket sales start 2 weeks before.

7. Bill 7 (Richard; 10 min)

- a. Meetings with President Turpin, VP Research Office, other lessons. PDFA will be independent, law has passed, and we are now employees. U of A is waiting for further info on EI and CPP details, but these have to be deducted. Deductions will start end of July, with an average income of \$47 000 sees deductions of about \$2800. CRA website has more accurate calculators, and Human resources will make a website. We are now part of the Labor Act but not the Employee Act. Parental leave is still not necessarily a right i.e. no right to keep your job, but could be negotiated with PI, have to pay EI for a set amount of time to have benefits. Details still trickling down. We're now in a bargaining position, so even though our wages go down with the payments, we could potentially get them up. We don't have resources to have staff, and not sure how to set up a formalized organization to begin bargaining. Government may be able to offer training for the bargaining.
- b. Town Hall Meeting relating to Bill 7 (coordinating with Human Resources) about the new employee status and deductions. HR will initially help us and inform us of all the relevant details, but they do represent the employer. They'll be present for the first Townhall to answer questions. Richard will check for possible dates with HR.

8. Career Seminars (Richard)

- a. Ann will hold one at the end of June, and Richard has asked another person but that needs follow-up. Jessica can organize the one with Ann, a Member-at-large would be needed to organize the following ones. Career workshop 1:30-4:30 on June 16, \$15/per person, on the topic "Determining market demand for your new idea" Shelley MacDonald will send an email ad to send to the post doc list → if Richard can't forward it, Anni will take care of it

9. Monthly Beer/Event Socials

- a. Wei should take on organizing a monthly beer event (and additionally anything else she sees fit)

10. Adjournment ; June 12-16 Next Meeting, Not Thursday

- a. Richard will organize another Doodle poll to fix a new meeting time to increase attendance
- b. Adjourned by Richard, seconded by Jessica at 4:05