



Minutes from August 4th, 2015 (4:00 pm /Meeting Room, Grad Club)

Attendance

Matthew Fox	President, VP Finance, Senate Observer, Robarts Research Institute	X
Liliana Alvarez	Vice-President Internal, Outreach Coordinator, School of Occupational Therapy	Regrets
Jiro Inoue	Vice-President External, CAPS Representative, Robarts Research Institute	X
Andrea Di Sebastiano	Vice-President Communications, Social events coordinator, Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, Physiology and Pharmacology	X
Ming Wu	Secretary, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering	X
Tim Burkhart	University Council on Research Ethics (UCRE), Department of Mechanical Engineering	-
Blake Butler	University Research Board (URB) Rep., Department of Physiology & Pharmacology	X
Yara Hosein	Western's Mental Health and Wellness Initiative representative, Schulich Dentistry	X
Kalin Penev	Tax representative, Department of Chemical and Biochemical Engineering	-

1. Ratification of the Minutes from the previous meetings

Passed

2. Ratification of the Agenda

Passed

3. Announcements/Introduction of new members/Attendance

None

4. URB position (Matt)

After some initial confusion regarding the URB representative role, Blake was reinstated as the URB representative.

5. Meeting with SGPS (Matt)

Matt summarised the July meeting with SGPS. They were happy with PAW's efforts, and keen to promote and support both academic and non-academic training. The PAW budget has been sent to Mihaela but has not been approved yet by SGPS. Andrea has several postdoc profiles for the PAW/SGPS website (to promote the value of postdocs to industry).

6. Town Hall meeting with President Chakma (Matt)

Everyone approved of the proposed format, of asking questions submitted from postdocs then an open questions/discussion. It was suggested that PAW introduce the organisation and the purpose for the meeting, then President Chakma present a short address.

It was agreed that prior to the meeting, the exec should prepare 5-6 discussion points and 3+ questions from each member. A planning meeting will be held on Aug 10, 4pm at Grad Club (all invited).

7. BBQ survey (Matt)

A survey will be presented at the postdoc BBQ to find out what postdocs would like for training and social events. A draft 2014 survey was circulated and will be used as a base. Comment was made that we should add a question asking what prevents postdocs from attending PAW events. The draft survey will be emailed around for comment.

8. Postdoc Appreciation Week (Andrea)

Planning is progressing well for the Postdoc Appreciation Week events. The Monday of PA week will either have an event organised by faculties or a mini-launch party. It was decided that yoga (Thursday) will be held at the rec centre. An additional event may be movie night at Western Films if they can contribute movie passes.

Bar suggestions are needed for the pub crawl.

9. Beach day (Andrea)

The event will be advertised further as few people have registered to date.

10. GMCA funding (Andrea)

Andrea summarised GMCA's first event, which was oversubscribed (26 postdocs attended). Andrea circulated feedback showing that attendees were positive about the event but would like more networking. SGPS has voiced support for GMCA but has not sponsored them yet. It was agreed that



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the GMCA events provide good non-academic training for postdocs, and that PAW (Matt) should coordinate with SOGs to write a letter to SGPS supporting GMCA's request for SGPS sponsorship.

11. New Business/Open Forum

- **AGM.** It was decided that the AGM will be held immediately prior to the August postdoc BBQ, along with the survey. The AGM will provide an overview of PAW, what was done last year and planned for this year, and the budget.
- **PAW email lists:** It was clarified that the PAW-active email list comprises of the exec and other postdocs interested in being active in PAW events etc. The email lists will be updated by Matt.
- Ming will email the dates for 2015-16 meeting schedule. The next PAW meeting will be Sept 8 at Robart's Institute (5th floor conference room).
- Happy hour this Thursday.
- **NPA:** a representative is required for next year.