



**Minutes from May 3rd, 2016 (4:00 pm /Meeting Room, Grad Club)**

**Attendance**

Matthew Fox	President, VP Finance, Senate Observer, University Research Board (URB) Rep., Department of Medical Biophysics, Robarts Research Institute	X
Baraa Al-Khazraji	Vice-President Internal, Outreach Coordinator, School of Kinesiology, Faculty of Health Sciences	X
Jiro Inoue	Vice-President External, CAPS Representative, Robarts Research Institute	Regrets
Andrea Di Sebastiano	Vice-President Communications, Webmaster, Department of Clinical Neurological Sciences	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	Department of Physiology & Pharmacology	X
Yara Hosein	Western's Mental Health and Wellness Initiative representative, Schulich Dentistry	X
Kalin Penev	Department of Chemical and Biochemical Engineering	-
Jessica Esseltine	Schulich Anatomy and Cell Biology	X
Emma Holmes	Brain and Mind Institute	Regrets
Lauren Solomon	Department of Microbiology and Immunology	X
S. Amanda Ali	Health Studies, Faculty of Health Sciences	X
Yan Yan	Department of Computer Science	Regrets
Kyle Paradis	School of Kinesiology, Faculty of Health Sciences	X

**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. PAW election (Jiro)**

The following nominations were received during the PAW election:

President: Andrea Di Sebastiano  
Vice-President, Internal: Baraa Al-Khazraji  
Vice-President, External: Jessica Esseltine  
Secretary: Ming Wu.

In addition, the following nominations for the remaining positions were received at the PAW meeting:

Vice-President, Finance: Kyle Paradis  
Vice-President, Communications: S. Amanda Ali

There were no contested positions so no election will be held. Blake (seconded by Matt) moved that their acclamation to their positions be made official, and the meeting attendees voted unanimously in favour.

The new exec will start July 1. The new exec should arrange a handover with the existing exec before July 1. It was also suggested that new positions of Director-without-portfolio be considered for postdocs that regularly attend and contribute to meetings (we can have as many of these positions as required).

**5. Gift for Mihaela (Andrea)**

It was agreed that Andrea on behalf of PAW will arrange a gift for Mihaela.

**6. New Business / Open Forum**

**Mental Health (Yara)**

Yara met with the SGPS health and wellness (H&W) working group. They are looking at arranging access to a counsellor for postdocs. Yara commented that the PAW H&W website ranks fairly highly in web searches as she gets enquiries from postdocs and students on H&W services at Western. The website will be updated soon to make it easier to read. Blake suggested to add information for a new drop-in site for mental health in London.

**Webmaster (Matt)**

Matt said Caitlin had contacted him about being the new webmaster, possibly alongside Ming. He will contact her to arrange a meeting.



**Union matters (Matt)**

Discussion was had about how to update the postdoc community (in an unbiased manner) about the current progress of the unionisation drive at the university, possibly by email.

**Promotional material (Andrea/Amanda)**

It was decided by the exec to spend the remaining budget for this financial year on promotional material for PAW to give out at future events. Ming will send Amanda the PAW logo, and Amanda will request a quote from Creative Services.

The postdoc happy hour social will be on May 5th 2016, 4.30pm, at the Grad Club.

The next PAW meeting will be on June 7th 2016, 4pm, at the Grad Club meeting room.