



Postdoctoral Association at Western

Minutes from October 6th, 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	X
Jiro Inoue	Vice-President External, CAPS Representative, Robarts Research Institute	Regrets
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	Regrets
Kalin Penev	Tax representative, Department of Chemical and Biochemical Engineering	X
Jessica Esseltine	Schulich Anatomy and Cell Biology	X
Emma Holmes	Brain and Mind Institute	X
Lauren Solomon	Department of Microbiology and Immunology	X
Baraa Al-Khazraji	School of Kinesiology, Faculty of Health Sciences	X
S. Amanda Ali	Health Studies, Faculty of Health Sciences	X

1. Ratification of the Minutes from the previous meetings

Liliana raised that she was not in charge of finance for CAPS etc meetings, and this was amended in the minutes from the previous meeting. The minutes were then passed.

2. Ratification of the Agenda

Passed



3. Announcements/Introduction of new members/Attendance

Emma, Lauren, Baraa and Amanda were welcomed to the meeting.

A reminder to everyone that these PAW meetings are open to any postdoc.

4. Committee representatives/spots (Liliana)

Liliana went through the list of committee representatives and the list was updated with discussion/agreement from those present.

CAPS – Jiro

Grad Education Council – Jessica & Liliana (as ex-officio)

International postdoc representative – Ming

Mental Health – Yara

Outreach – this position removed as similar to Andrea’s role.

PAW OWL – Jiro. To check with Jiro as may not be needed.

Union liaison – empty currently. For future discussion given the current union drive for postdocs.

Senate observer – Matt

Tax representative - Kalin

University Council on Research Ethics - Tim. Matt to confirm if this was still the case given Tim’s not a postdoc anymore.

University Research Board – Matt

Webmaster – Andrea

Campus Council - Baraa

NPA attendance – Tim has been nominated. Please email the exec if you would like to nominate someone. It was agreed Tim should present the NPA presentation at a PAW meeting first.

Super G – waiting for more information.

5. Senate Ad Hoc Committee on Renewal (Matt)

PAW will have a meeting on October 15 with the Senate Ad Hoc Committee on Renewal. The scope is quite broad as it covers general problems. Suggestions for this and point 6 include postdoc funding, training, more grants for postdocs, and changing the senate observer status to a voting position.

Matt will email information on this meeting to the PAW-active email list. A written submission is required for the meeting - please send any suggestions to Matt by October 13 (for Matt to prepare the written submission).

6. Board governance review task force meeting and Senate thing on budget models (Matt/Jiro)

The Board Governance Review Task Force meeting has not scheduled yet and may be in November. See point 5 also for suggestions to be raised at this meeting, including getting more funding/grants for postdocs.

7. Appreciation week debrief (Andrea)

There was somewhat poor attendance at social events during PA week. PA week is arranged to coincide with the U.S. PA week (same as other Canadian universities), but it was suggested this can be an issue as many Canadian grant applications are due at the same time. There was a good variety of events but some found it hard to attend all activities.

\$800 was raised for the Terry Fox run. Lunch and workshops (eg resume) were well attended. It was recommended that organising the event should start earlier in spring by the current exec.

It was suggested that PAW should arrange for each department/faculty to nominate a postdoc representative, who can then promote these events to their department/faculty. This will hopefully increase engagement. Liliana will contact Mihaela to try to arrange department/faculty representatives.

8. Fall Research Event (Jiro/Matt)

The aim of this event is to develop plan for our own research program. The basic planned format is 1-1.5 hour with panellists, then a workshop with a facilitator (followed by lunch). We estimate 30-40 postdoc attendees. We need workshop panellists and a facilitator - a balance of new, middle and senior researchers are needed.

Jobs were allocated to help organised it. Blake will chair the event. Jessica and Baraa will help Matt with finding panellists and a facilitator. Liliana/Ming will help with registration and on the day. Andrea will book lunch and the room – she will contact Mihaela to help with this.

9. Upcoming events: Postdoc Halloween social event, Christmas breakfast (Matt/Andrea)

Andrea has notes from Barat on last year's events. These events targeted different postdoc groups (the Halloween event was mainly attended by families, and the Christmas event by the general postdoc community). As both events were well-attended last year, we'll have a similar format for both events. We are planning to have the Halloween event in the last week of October, and the



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Christmas event in the week of 13 December. Andrea will contact the Spoke/Wave to see if it is a possible venue for the Christmas event.

10. CAPS (Jiro)

If anyone has questions on, is interested in anything to do with the CAPS or attend the CAPS meeting, please contact Jiro directly.

11. Attendance and interest levels (Matt)

Discussed in above items.

12. PAW website (Andrea)

An overhaul was suggested by Phil Clifford at his workshop last Friday to make the website clearer and easier to navigate. Lauren suggested Wordpress templates - Andrea will investigate.

13. New Business/Open Forum

None.