



Minutes from July 5th, 2016 (4:00 pm /Meeting Room, Grad Club)

Attendance

Andrea Di Sebastiano	President, Senate Observer, Department of Clinical Neurological Sciences	X
Baraa Al-Khazraji	Vice-President Internal, Outreach Coordinator, School of Kinesiology, Faculty of Health Sciences	X
Jessica Esseltine	Vice-President External, CAPS Representative, Schulich Anatomy and Cell Biology	X
S. Amanda Ali	Vice-President Communications, Health Studies, Faculty of Health Sciences	X
Kyle Paradis	Vice-President Finance, School of Kinesiology, Faculty of Health Sciences	-
Ming Wu	Secretary, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering	X
Kaitlin Laidlaw	Webmaster, Brain and Mind Institute	X
Blake Butler	University Research Board (URB) Rep., Department of Physiology & Pharmacology	X
Matthew Fox	Department of Medical Biophysics, Robarts Research Institute	X
Jiro Inoue	Robarts Research Institute	X
Emma Holmes	Brain and Mind Institute	-
Lauren Solomon	Department of Microbiology and Immunology	X
Kate Parham	Tax representative, Department of Microbiology and Immunology	X
Valentina Taiakina	Department of Biochemistry	X

1. Ratification of the Minutes from the previous meetings

Passed

2. Ratification of the Agenda

Passed

3. Announcements/Introduction of new members/Attendance

Welcome to Val.



4. Committee representation (Andrea)

Representatives were decided for the various committees that postdocs serve on:

CAPS – Jessica

Grad Education Council – Jessica & Amanda

International postdoc representative – Ming

Mental Health – Yara

PAW OWL – Jiro (probably not necessary)

Union liaison – empty currently. Lauren will check if she knows a postdoc associate who may take this role on.

Senate observer – Andrea

Tax representative – Kate Parham

University Research Board – Blake

Webmaster – Kaitlin (Ming to help)

Campus Council – Baraa

NPA attendance – Matt

Postdoc steering committee - Andrea

PAW OWL role was deleted.

Update: UCRE role also deleted as the UCRE may be dissolved soon. These have been updated on website. Updated GEC reps (updated as of 13 July) are Amanda (voting) and Andrea (ex-officio as president).

5. PAW Communication/Advertising/Promotion (Andrea/Amanda)

Several mental health events on campus were planned at the last mental health meeting (that Andrea attended). She will email this to postdocs, and raised that we need to better promote these events.

We discussed better ways to promote PAW. Suggestions include:

- Pamphlet and mugs to give out at orientation
- Website launch event
- Possibly a regular newsletter, including a postdoc profile (Kaitlin suggested mailchimp could be used to do this. Postdoc profiles could be recycled from other sources on campus).

If anyone has any ideas on how better to promote PAW, please let Andrea know.

6. PAW website (Kaitlin)



Postdoctoral Association at Western

Kaitlin will work on making the PAW website less gross for now and including analytics. As Amanda will be active on the PAW twitter feed, Kaitlin will make the tweets more prominent on the website.

If anyone has any ideas on how to improve the PAW website, please let Kaitlin know. Also for the exec members, please send a profile photo to Kaitlin.

7. Career Central workshops (Andrea)

Mihaela has arranged for two workshops in July and August with Career Central - Launching a Successful Job Search and Interview Skills + Negotiation.

If anyone has any ideas for other classes, including industry-focused workshops, please let Andrea know.

8. PAW swag and social events (Amanda)

Thanks to Amanda for arranging the great-looking PAW swag items.

For appreciation week, we'll have fewer events. We'll cancel the monthly happy hour due to poor attendance, and instead focus on having social events after workshops and seminars (including during appreciation week). Another idea was to have a few 'research bytes /roundtable' events, featuring an informal speaker and drinks (including one in the summer to address applying for postdoc funding). Amanda will identify potential speakers for this.

9. NPA (Andrea)

Submissions will likely be due in September 2016 for the NPA conference (March 2017). Ideas from this meeting include:

- what our group does and issues we have
- competitive mentoring scheme – update and feedback
- unionisation drive at Western

Jess will sketch out some ideas and present at the next meeting.

10. New Business / Open Forum

Archives (Matt) – Currently, PAW files are archived in several dropbox folders. Matt will try to combine into one folder.

Individual email addresses for each exec member (Matt) – Matt suggested that this be done similar to other groups on campus (e.g. secretary_paw@uwo.ca). Andrea will follow-up with ITS, including what is happening with the current email addresses as ITS migrate to the new email system.

Unionisation news (Matt) – Matt will email all postdocs with links to updates on the unionisation drive at Western.



Postdoctoral Association at Western

Canada Fundamental Science Review (Jiro) – This is currently ongoing, and either individuals or PAW can provide feedback to the review. Jessica will look at it.

Columbia sale (Ming) – Ming will draw up printable PAW membership cards for this. A first email will be circulated informing postdocs of the sale, then more details closer to the date.

The next PAW meeting will be on August 2nd 2016, 4pm, at the Grad Club meeting room.