



Postdoctoral Association at Western

Minutes from March 7th, 2017 (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	-
Kyle Paradis	Vice-President Finance, School of Kinesiology, Faculty of Health Sciences	X
Nicole Novielli	Vice-President Communications, Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology	X
Ming Wu	Secretary, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering	X
Kaitlin Laidlaw	Webmaster, Brain and Mind Institute	X
Natalie Kozyrev	Mental health and wellness representative, Robarts Research Institute	X
Kate Parham	Tax representative, Department of Microbiology and Immunology	Regrets
Blake Butler	University Research Board (URB) Rep., Department of Physiology & Pharmacology	Regrets
Jiro Inoue	Robarts Research Institute	X
Ian Kalman	Department of Political Science	-
Emma Holmes	Brain and Mind Institute	-
Lauren Solomon	Department of Microbiology and Immunology	X
Katherine Kasper	Department of Microbiology and Immunology	-
Valentina Taiakina	Department of Biochemistry	-
Jahirul Mazumder	Department of Chemical Engineering	X
Mariano Avino	Department of Pathology	-
Jean Macklaim	Department of Biochemistry	-

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 elections (Andrea)

Ming will be the chief returning officer. He will send out the first call for nominations in late March/early April, with elections in mid-April so the new exec can be in place for the May/June PAW meetings to ensure a smooth transition.

For the elections, we'll keep the VP communications and social coordinator roles combined. We may separate these roles again if there is sufficient interest when assigning representatives after the new exec is in place.

5. Budget opportunity (Andrea)

As we are not attending the NPA, we have extra room in our budget (about \$2000). After some discussion, we agreed to try to offer 3 scholarships of \$500 each to postdocs in each of the different streams (NSERC, CIHR, SSHRC) to use for a conference. Winners will need to provide some proof of attendance (e.g. payment of registration). Baraa is to follow up on this, including providing a mini-proposal or blurb.

If the scholarships cannot be arranged, an alternative may be to send someone to the Canadian Science Policy Conference in Ottawa in November. We also agreed to use the balance (about \$500) to provide a lunch/breakfast social event and honoriums/gifts for our workshop hosts and panellists.

6. PSAC bargaining (Katherine/Jahirul)

There are no new updates to the PSAC local 610 bargaining timeline, except bargaining may recommence in April. PSAC may look at calling for postdocs to be representatives on PSAC.

PSAC also offers a scholarship to postdocs, with applications close by April 15. More information is on their website.

7. New Business / Open Forum

The next PAW meeting will be on March 7th 2017, 4pm, at the Grad Club meeting room.

There was no URB meeting so no updates.