



**Postdoctoral Association at Western**

**Minutes from November 7th, 2017 (4:00 pm / Meeting Room, Grad Club)**

**Attendance**

Jessica Esseltine	President, CAPS Representative, Schulich Anatomy and Cell Biology	-
Nicole Novielli	Vice-President Internal, Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology	-
Natalie Kozyrev	Vice-President External, Mental Health and Wellness Representative, Robarts Research Institute	-
Caroline Alencar	Vice-President Communications, Department of Physiology and Pharmacology	x
Brittany Balint	Secretary, Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology	-
Ali Attaran	Vice-President Finance, Physics and Astronomy	-
Baraa Al-Khazraji	Outreach Coordinator, School of Kinesiology, Faculty of Health Sciences	-
Kaitlin Laidlaw	Webmaster, Brain and Mind Institute	-
Kate Parham	Tax representative, Department of Microbiology and Immunology	X
Blake Butler	University Research Board (URB) Rep., Department of Physiology & Pharmacology	-
Ian Kalman	Department of Political Science	X
Emma Holmes	Brain and Mind Institute	-
Lauren Solomon	Department of Microbiology and Immunology	-
Katherine Kasper	Department of Microbiology and Immunology	-
Jahirul Mazumder	Department of Chemical Engineering	-
Mariano Avino	Department of Pathology	-
Kyle Pardis	School of Kinesiology, Faculty of Health Sciences	-

**1. Ratification of the Minutes from the previous meeting**

Passed

**2. Ratification of the Agenda**

Passed

**3. Announcements/Introduction of new members/Attendance**

Maria Joao Machado

**4. GMCA mini MBA series – Winter 2018**

This was a topic that came from Natalie, but as she was absent and we did not have further information about this event, we decided to not discuss it at this moment.

**5. Vacant positions on the PAW Executive Committee**

Brittany Balint is leaving Western as of the new year, so we will need to find a new secretary. People were invited to submit candidacy statements and we will vote on the position at the December meeting.

**6. Paw Roundtables**

The personal website design workshop hosted by Kaitlin Laidlaw was a great success! We had fifteen participants as well as a waiting list. The next roundtable is November 16 with Dr. Greg Vilks who will discuss patents and IP and we have 10 postdocs interested in participate so far.

**7. PAW Halloween Party**

It was also a great success! We had more than 20 people join us for snacks and pumpkin carving. Only Nicole, Jessica and little Emmaline wore costumes, but it was still a great time!

**8. PAW holiday breakfast**

Caroline will take the lead on organizing the annual bagel breakfast. She will meet Mihaela next week to determine the place, the date and the next steps for the event.

**9. PAW's email list**

Caroline updated PAW's email list, according to Mihaela recordings. 371 emails were excluded and 105 were included.

**10. Postdoc Research Forum**

Jessica received an email from Mihaela about her vision for this year's research forum. She wants to incorporate Carolyn Paterson's Persuasive writing workshop into the research day instead of having it as a stand-alone workshop. Mihaela's ideas were discussed (whether we want to keep the persuasive writing workshop separate or incorporated it into the research forum). We think it would be important to know how many postdocs are currently interested in being present in this event and how hands-on it is before deciding on it.

**11. The Canadian Association of Postdoctoral Scholars meeting in Ottawa**

Ian attended this meeting on November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017 on behalf of Western. He presented a report of the event.



## **12. PAW social email**

Ian and Kate had the idea of creating an email list where the postdocs could opt-in, and every postdoc would be able to send emails about social events, furniture exchanges etc. Caroline will develop this idea.

## **13. Next PAW meeting**

The next PAW meeting will be on December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017, at 4pm, in the Grad Club Meeting Room.