

Minutes from May 1st, 2018 (4:00 pm / Meeting Room, Grad Club)

Attendance

Caroline Alencar	President, Department of Physiology and Pharmacology	X
Nicole Kuntz	Vice-President Internal, Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology	X
Natalie Kozyrev	Vice-President External, Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology	X
Ahmed Alassuity	Vice-President Communications, Department of Chemical and Biochemical Engineering	Regrets
Brijesh Kumar	Vice-President Finances, Department of Microbiology and Immunology	X
Maria Machado	Secretary, Department of Medical Biophysics	X
Kaitlin Laidlaw	Webmaster, Brain and Mind Institute	Regrets
Kate Parham	Tax representative, Department of Microbiology and Immunology	Regrets
Isadora Olive	Cultural and Arts Officer, Department of Psychiatry	Regrets
Sarah Patterson	Department of Sociology	X

1. Ratification of the Minutes from the previous meeting

Passed

2. Ratification of the Agenda

Passed

3. Announcements/Introduction of new members/Attendance

No new members

4. PAW Roundtables – Workshop on Resumes and Cover Letters (Caroline)

Caroline gave a report on the last Workshop organized by PAW on April 4th, 2018. Teresa Boere from the Career Support Centre talked about Effective Resumes and Cover Letters. The event was opened for 15 postdocs because of the hands-on session, we had 17 people registered but only 10 attended. The slides used on the workshop were sent to the postdocs email list.

5. Postdoc Research Forum and Research is Beautiful Competition (Caroline)

As part of the Research Forum that will be held in May 23rd, PAW is organizing a competition and will pay a \$250 prize to the best original research photo sent by a postdoc. The votes will be collected from the attendees of the Research Forum. Brijesh will send an email and post on our social media about the competition.



6. April Senate Meeting Report (Jessica)

Jessica Esseltine sent a report about April Senate Meeting:

This month was nominations and elections for senate-appointed committees. Caroline and Nicole have been nominated for the University Research Board (URB) and as there are two postdoc seats and only two nominees, both Caroline and Nicole have been acclaimed for the 2018-2019 URB. Nicole was also nominated for a second term with the Senate Subcommittee on University Planning (SCUP) and again with no competition has been acclaimed. The official observer senate seat for PAW is traditionally filled by the next PAW president.

It was also budget day for senate. Within the nearly \$1B (!) operating and capital budgets, Western has allocated \$226K for a one-year pilot program to fund internal postdoctoral fellowships. This should fund ~4-5 one-year fellowships across campus which is not much, but it is a start. After years of pushing, senate is finally moving ahead with the pilot program, lets hope it gets expanded and made a permanent part of future budgets!

7. The National Postdoctoral Association meeting 2018 (Natalie)

Natalie attended the National Postdoctoral Association meeting and presented a report on the event.

8. Executive Council Election (Maria)

After asking the postdoc community to nominate members for the PAW executive term from June/2018 to May/2019, the elected members are:

President - Caroline Alencar

VP Internal - Nicole Kuntz

VP External - Kate Parham

VP Communication - Brijesh Kumar

9. Next PAW meeting

The next PAW meeting will be on June 5th, 2018 at 4pm, in the Grad Club Meeting Room.