



**Postdoctoral Association at Western**

**PAW Executive Council Meeting**

Tuesday January 12<sup>th</sup> @ 4:00pm

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://westernuniversity.zoom.us/j/98520920669>

Meeting ID: 985 2092 0669 Passcode: PAW

**MINUTES**

**Attendance**

Stephen Tuffs	President, Department of Microbiology and Immunology	X
Roberta Bgeginski	Vice-President Internal, Department of Kinesiology	X
Sabina Rakhimbekova	Vice-President External, Department of Microbiology and Immunology	Absent
Harvi Hart	Vice-President Finance, Department of Physical Therapy	X
Karine Dufresne	Secretary, Department of Microbiology and Immunology	X
Mariya Goncheva	Vice-President Communications, Department of Microbiology and Immunology	X
Alexandra Levine	Vice President Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, Department of Psychology	X
Kathryne Van Hedger	Postdoctoral representative for Western strategic plan	X

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

Passed

**2. Ratification of the Agenda**

Passed

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

Introduction of Karine Dufresne as PAW secretary

Introduction of Kathryne Van Hedger for Western strategic plan, will introduce the progress

**4. PAW during COVID-19 (Stephen)**

- New announcement for Ontario measures today, we will see in the next few days what it means for the university, but research should continue as it was in the last couple of months. We will keep in touch with Miheala if anything can affect the work of postdocs

**5. Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (Alex)**

- Progress on Workshop plan: Alex arranged a meeting on Thursday afternoon with Nicole to discuss the workshop planned.
- Will have to schedule the workshop: it was mentioned to pay attention of the time we pick especially now that we may return in lockdown or restricted hours (afternoon or out of normal hours)
- Verify with Miheala for how we can compensate Nicole for EDI workshop

**6. Western Strategic Plan (Kathryne Van Hedger)**

- Western is working a new strategic plan. Kasey is representing the postdoc association on that comitee
- Last plan was from 2014, very different vision now with a new organization
- Meeting every other week on Friday, working with a consulting firm
- Division in subcommittees (7 different groups) right now on different topics related with the strategic plan: Kasey is on the EDI group
- There will be sollicitation of data from these groups in the next months
- Kasey had also the chance to talk with Alan Shepard about postdoc importance and needs in Western
- Kasey proposed to keep coming to PAW executive meeting to update the group

**7. Workshops (Stephen)**

- Academic Development Series: Stephen reach out to Ruth to help with formation of this serie to overview documents/proposals that are important for academic job application
- Research plan / research proposal will be the first document to be approached. Stephen proposed to present it on a panel format
- **Postdoc symposium:** we should think about doing a virtual event this year due to Covid situation. We will need to talk about it in next meeting. Roberta proposed that the postdoc symposium is replaced by the academic development serie.
- Roberta highlighted the importance of diversity statement in the application package for academic position.
- Kasey proposed to also prepare a workshop for CRC application

**8. PAW Representatives (Roberta)**

- No new update

**9. Socials (Steve/Mariya)**

- Fall/Winter Picture Competition – Prizes have been organised. Bookstore gift cards. We have to figure how to send the prizes to the winners in the context of Covid.



## Postdoctoral Association at Western

- Public vote was sent. More than 80 responses already
- We will continue to do this event, it works very well to reach most of the postdoc population.
- Roberta proposed theme of cultural food/clothing for photo competition.
- Kasey proposed that with all the photos we have, we can do a calendar to put them to a good use

### 10. OWL site

- Miheala is looking into getting PAW an OWL site.
  - Plan is every postdoc will be enrolled.
  - Executive will have editing privileges
  - What do we want on the site?
    - EDI resources/training
    - Professional development resources
    - PAW agendas and minutes etc

No further updates on that topic since the last meeting

### 11. New business/Open Forum

No other business

### 12. Next PAW meeting

- Tuesday February 2<sup>nd</sup> 2021 4:00-5:00pm – Zoom details to be included in Agenda