



**Postdoctoral Association at Western**

**PAW Executive Council Meeting**

Tuesday May 4<sup>th</sup> @ 4:00pm

Join Zoom Meeting:

Meeting ID: 986 6183 5457 Passcode: PAW

**Meeting 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	Absent
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
Vasudeva Bhat	Schulich PAW representative	X
Kate Parham	Representant for London Health Reasearch Day	X

**1. Land Acknowledgment**

- We acknowledge the Anishinaabek, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak and Attawandaron peoples, whose traditional lands we gathered upon today.

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

- The minutes are ratified.

**3. Ratification of the Agenda**

- The date of the meeting in the agenda need to be fix. The corrected agenda will be posted on OWL.

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

- No new members

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

- Any updates? Any impact from the new lockdown
- Stay-at-home order is still in place until the end of the month
- Vaccination is continuing in Ontario

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

- News on next workshop?
- CTL is not giving external workshops unfortunately
- Alex is still following some leads to have a indigenous-oriented workshop (indigenous decolonization workshop)
- We need to stay aware for Pride event that should happens in June. We will advertise the different initiatives

**7. Western Strategic Plan (Kasey)**

- The information session will take place on May 12<sup>th</sup>. The president will present where we are in the strategic plan.
- Western would increase the size of faculties in the next years. It should bring more students and expansion for the university. Kasey is optimistic that there will be a great place for postdocs in this new plan.
- It doesn't include permanent research scientist position.
- We also mention our concerns about the infrastructure of Western to support multidisciplinary research.



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**8. Workshops (Stephen)**

- Academic Application Series – Next session Cover letter 14<sup>th</sup> May
- Training Program: quiet for now, will be developed maybe more during summer

**9. PAW Representatives (Roberta and Mariya)**

- New executive taking over from next month
- Vasu will start doing the senate meeting
- For now, Mariya position will be filled by Stephen (contact by email, Twitter, OWL), Karine (monitor email, Facebook) and Alex (LinkedIn account) until we find someone to take over the position. We will also send a new email for this communication

**10. Postdoc Research Forum (Stephen)**

- Monday Speaker - Jenny JW Liu? She's a postdoc and she works on mental health and was interested in giving a workshop around it. Comitee agree with the proposition.
- Invite Alan Sheperd to the prize giving on the Friday.

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

- Virtual Coffee: we're starting the virtual coffee again. The first one would be Wednesday May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2PM and then June 16<sup>th</sup>. Mihaela offers to host the coffee if needed.
- Vasu also propose a workout session. He knows a person organizing them already. He will give us more information by email. He also suggested "Among us" social event.

**12. PAW online (Twitter, Facebook, OWL and Website)**

- No new item except that Mariya position was separated between several people

**13. London Health Research Day (Vasu/Kate)**

- Postdoc workshops: both workshops are organized and ready. It's going to be a panel discussion with 5-6 speakers in each session. We have good numbers of participants registered.
- Registration close tomorrow

**14. Budget (Steve)**

- After conversation with Mihaela, we can make a budget for PAW and manage the money we are giving for speakers during special workshops. For now, it is not relevant in the Covid context as most of our expenses are cancelled.

**15. New Business/Open Forum**

- No new business



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**16. Next PAW meeting**

- We postponed next PAW meeting a week later because of Postdoc research forum that will be beginning of June
- Tuesday June 8<sup>th</sup> 2021 4:00-5:00pm – Zoom details to be included in Agenda