

UIPDA Council Meeting Minutes
March 9, 2015
Noon-1pm
Location: Room 5, Gilmore Hall



In attendance: Christina Nicholas, Cara Hamann, Gurman Gill, Rachel Marek, Kim Chickering and Minnetta Gardinier

1. MWPDF Updates: To be held at Iowa State on Friday, May 15
 - a. Kate O'Brien is secretary
 - b. Need to send a speaker : Potential speakers discussed including Donna Hammond, Dan Tranel, Darren Hoffmann, Matt Gilchrist, Tom Keegan (Teaching and Writing) and Lori-Adams Philips (Mentoring)
2. UIPDA Charter Items
 - a. General Meeting in April. Postdoc community will be invited.
 - b. Postdoc survey – Feasibility study to be performed by Rachel
3. Committee updates
 - a. Policy/advocacy (Rachel, Tian, Annie, Kate)
 - i. Postdoc benefits list is done and linked from UIPDA website!
 - ii. Handbook: First draft shown by Minnetta.
 - iii. Life Insurance (Rachel): To determine if CIC can connect with Garnett, as in the CSU system.
 - iv. Auditing University Classes (Tian) – It's possible and this need to be announced to the postdoc community!
 - b. Professional development (Gurman, Candis, Shabbar, Krystal)
 - i. Job Prep Series. February meeting well attended.
 - ii. Teaching as theatre workshop recap.
 - iii. Panel of postdocs/new faculty on finding a job and what to expect: Gurman to send email to postdocs to advertise the event and request for panelists. Minnetta to send info regarding recent faculty who can be on the panel.
 - c. Social (Marie, Greg, Cara)
 - i. Jan Social recap – 18 attended
 - ii. Feb Social – 9 attended.
 - iii. Social media status – Events are published on Facebook. Still looking to incorporate Twitter.
4. UIPDA will be a voting member of the research council soon!
5. Travel Awards feasibility: Cara sent email to certain interested individuals to lead this initiative but did not hear back from them.
6. Due to lack of attendance, pizza was mostly devoured by Gurman Gill!