

University of Iowa Postdoctoral Association –Council of College Representatives Meeting

Friday, August 23th, 2013, 4 pm

5 Gillmore Hall, Callen Conference Room

In attendance: Celine Baguenard, Kim Chickering, Carol Fischer, Phil Gander, Minnetta Gardinier, Cara Hamann, Graziela Kalil, Scott Small

- Involvement in the UIPDA
 - The UIPDA needs more involvement by postdocs. The university as a whole needs to be aware of the existence of the UIPDA and what we can do.
 - Phil suggests we remind college and department heads of our existence.
 - Minnetta pointed out that John Riehl in the Graduate College is producing spotlight pieces about postdocs at Iowa, and what they do.
- Postdoc Appreciation Week
 - This semester, Postdoc Appreciation Week occurs the week of September 16th.
 - The UIPDA will hold a happy hour and a family event during this week. It was suggested that the family event occur during the week after 5 pm. The Social Committee will announce their plans on these events.
 - During this week, the Graduate College traditionally holds a pizza party. It was suggested that this occur sometime around lunch and be accompanied by a presentation of info relevant for postdocs. Kim is checking if Friday September 20th will work for the party and a talk.
- Professional Development
 - Minnetta is working to pull faculty members from search committees to give presentations of interest to postdocs.
 - Minnetta is attempting to find 4 or 5 faculty members from different colleges to give presentations.
- Social
 - It was suggested that the UIPDA look into holding an event to coincide with Homecoming. Suggestions include holding a tailgate and participating in the Homecoming Parade.
- Postdoc Survey
 - Each year, the UIPDA holds a survey of postdocs across campus. The information has previously been shared with the grad college as an update on the Iowa postdocs.
 - Phil would like to take the survey later this semester.
 - The UIPDA does need IRB permission for the survey.
- Postdoc Research Day
 - Iowa is hosting the Postdoc Research Day this year in the spring.
 - Phil suggests we build on what Iowa State had done last year by getting ideas from them. Ideally, we would like to focus on professional development.
 - Representatives on the Council and the Executive board are welcome to suggest anyone as a speaker.
 - Phil proposed creating a committee to prepare for Postdoc Research Day.
- Postdoc Handbook
 - Minnetta would like to create a postdoc handbook and grievance policies this year.
 - A committee must be formed with a faculty member from each college with postdocs. The committee will also include postdocs, preferably those involved with the UIPDA.

- Minnetta would like the committee to start in September and meet about once a month.
- Other universities' handbooks will be used as references. The National Postdoc Association also has ideas.
- Council of College Representative Involvement
 - The Council of College Representatives is encouraged to get involved with their constituents.
 - At a minimum, representatives should send an email to their constituents through the LISTSERV for their college.
 - The UIPDA does have money to allow for College Representatives to hold events with their respective colleges. Bring any such requests to Scott.
 - Representatives should see if postdocs are listed in their college and/or department webpages. If not, names should be added.
 - Representatives could also attend faculty meetings to introduce themselves and the UIPDA.
 - Representatives are also encouraged to join open committees. The current committees include Policy and Advocacy, Professional Development, and Social. Contact the committee chair to join. There will also be an additional committee for the Postdoc Appreciation Day.
 - Representatives are also encouraged to stand-in for a non-represented college. Currently, Pharmacy and Nursing are not represented.