Monthly Postdoctoral Association Meeting  
Wednesday, February 1, 2012  
Light Hall Room 415, 11:30AM

Meeting Minutes

List of Postdoctoral Attendees: Jenny Noto, Ebany Martinez-Finely, Greg Digby, Tara Schwetz, Dan Durkin, Jeri Bryant, Laurice Silva, Joseph Dufraine, Annet Kirabo, Dan Trott, Shan Wang, Barbara Natalizco

List of Faculty/Staff Attendees:  
Trish Labosky, Roger Chalkley, Claudia Cottingham, Kim Petrie

Topics Discussed:

Holiday Party and Toy Drive
- Collected $124 dollars + toys
- Money and toys delivered to Children’s Hospital
- Thank you note received and distributed

Monthly Happy Hour Get-Together
- First one Feb. 2 5:00 at Sportsman’s Grille
- 2 for 1 drinks and some ½ price appetizers until 7:00
- Some suggestion that the time might be a little early – it was picked to coincide with happy hour
- Will reassess after 1st one

Lunch with Dean Wente
- To be held Friday, February 17th 12pm. Location TBD
- Open to people "active in PDA"
- Hope is to get enough questions to take up an hour

Symposium
- 208 Light Hall and the Light Hall and Langford Lobbies have been reserved for May 1st, 2nd.
- Keynote Speaker: Greg Kopf
- So far, T32s have pledged $1600
- Postdocs were asked for other potential ideas for funding – none offered at meeting
- Claudia stated that she needs to finish paperwork – Tara stated she will be able to do so after the core survey deadline Feb.17
- Tara ordered 70 poster boards
- However, Emphasis is having an event the day before – might be able to share. No updates on whether we can extend for a day or what it might cost.
• Roger mentioned a couple other possibilities, including the possibility of using the Pharmacology boards for free. Need to check if Pharmacology boards are on stands.
• Roger also mentioned that, with the high cost of renting, buying may be a good option; however, storage would be an issue
• Question was posed re: charging for tables at symposium to generate additional funds
• Wouldn’t charge BRET or other Vandy “sponsors” (i.e. core)
• Will be inviting 15 Vandy orgs
• Roger suggested we wouldn’t want to charge much over actual cost
• Jenny suggested we ask for a donation rather than charge
• Not sure how much tables cost – may be part of charge for poster boards
• Still seeking a Meharry postdoc contact who will respond – Jenny says she will contact someone she met

Postdoc Recruiting Event May 20-21
• Dinner at Roger’s and also out
• Need people to volunteer for tour of cores – Tara said she did it the year before and it didn’t take much time
• Application deadline is March 15 for people who may be interested in a postdoc here

Investment discussion
• Roger suggested we have a round table discussion rather than having a speaker
• Tara tried for a speaker but business professors mostly “theoretical” and Judd’s friend was not available
• Tara passed around flyer for free tax preparation

Look at the most recent BRET newsletter for a link to view a NIH workforce report

Tara will be emailing a NYU survey aimed at improving library services for postdocs – Feb. 10 deadline