Monthly Postdoctoral Association Meeting  
Wednesday, October 5th, 2011  
Light Hall Room 306, 11:30 AM

Meeting Minutes

List of Postdoc Attendees:
Jenny Noto, Greg Digby, Barbara Natalizio, Tara Schwetz, Daniel Durkin, Rockann Mosser, Lindsey Morris,  
Daniel Trott, Laurie Silva, Erik Spears, Tammy Sobolik-Delmaire, Oriana Hawkins, Sean Carmody, Wenguang  
Liu, Eby Martinez-Finley

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

Topics Discussed:
- Nominations for keynote speaker  
  o Have list from last year  
  o Greg Digby suggested the speaker cannot be someone “too big”  
  o Claudia suggested that Kim has a list of alumni that we could possibly access for more ideas
- Upcoming activities:
  o Halloween Party Oct. 27 5:00-7:00  
    ▪ Check with Claudia to see if room is reserved  
    ▪ BRET office will provide pizza and sodas (through Claudia)  
    ▪ Dan will buy beer day before  
    ▪ Time was changed to 5-7 due to Discovery Lecture that day  
    ▪ Roger asked what the purpose of the Halloween party was. He expressed concern about reaching out to international postdocs.  
    ▪ Several ideas were suggested including: doing a trick or treat, getting a magician, having an award for best kid’s costume  
    ▪ Suggestion to revamp flyer to be “Kid Friendly”
  o Possible PDA potluck during summer – will discuss further  
    ▪ Another way to attract international postdocs  
    ▪ Good food
  o Life Science Tennessee networking event Nov. 2  
    ▪ More information forthcoming
  o October 18 Giants workshop – sign up with Kim Petrie  
    ▪ Also suggestion to sign up for career development list with Kim
  o November 9 2:00 202 Light Hall - International Student Visa Information Workshop  
    ▪ Answer questions about visas  
    ▪ Brandon Delaney  
    ▪ Will be informational only - no legal advice will be provided  
    ▪ Discussion re: Mr. Delaney cannot solicit business  
    ▪ The international offices have a list of legal people who handle visas for Vandy  
    ▪ Specific legal questions should be directed directly to the ISSS
- Ideas for special topics for PDA meetings  
  o Teaching opportunities for postdocs  
  o Benefits  
  o Retirement  
    ▪ Problem is that, once again, HR would not be able to give specific advice  
    ▪ Possibly a panel?  
    ▪ Needed particularly for trainees who have to invest on their own  
    ▪ Claudia suggests we can “kick it around” on the web board
• Tara will check into the possibility of a professor at Owen coming to speak December?
  o Possible speaker with Insight Genetics who was at Vandy in past
  o Possible speaker former postdoc currently at Fisk
• VU connect for alumni
  o Tara working on trying to get us on this list
  o Working with Kim
  o Database will VMAA
  o Issue with fact that some postdocs are employees and would not technically be considered alumni
  o Roger – suggested that Vandy could change official designation to include “training” or another term to qualify as alumni
• Roger discusses Stanford v. Roche
  o Involves a discovery that wasn’t patented
  o Intellectual property has to be assigned ownership from the get-go
  o If discovery is at Vandy, then Vandy has ownership along with individual
  o There is a formula for determining compensation for individual, department, etc.
  o Vanderbilt now requiring to cede ownership up front and is drawing up paperwork, part of agreement with NIH
  o Will be applied to new postdocs at appointment, older postdocs at reappointment
• Begin thinking about ideas for abstract to NPA conference
• Speaker: Claudia Andl – Transitioning to a Faculty Position