

## Purdue Postdoc Association (PPDA)

### Minutes of the meeting of the PPDA Council

**Meeting date / time**      **Tuesday March 8<sup>th</sup> 2011, 8.30am**  
**Meeting location**        **Room 111, Matthews Hall, Purdue University**  
**Minutes status**            **Accepted April 5<sup>th</sup> 2011**

<b>Name</b>	<b>ID</b>	<b>Position/Subcommittee</b>	
Akil Narayan	<b>AN</b>	President; Survey; Information; PR	<b>Present</b>
Dina Banerjee	<b>DB</b>	Public relations	<b>Excused</b>
Charlotte Perrett	<b>CP</b>	Secretary; PR	<b>Present</b>
Peter Richtsmeier	<b>PR</b>	Communications Officer; Annual Dinner; Survey	<b>Present</b>
Liz Vivas	<b>LV</b>	Treasurer; Seminar	<b>Present</b>
Simran Banga	<b>SB</b>	Information	<b>Present</b>
Christian Hammer	<b>CH</b>	Information; PR	<b>Present</b>
Ana Juan Garcia	<b>AJ</b>	Seminar	<b>Absent</b>
Torrence Gill	<b>TG</b>	Social	<b>Absent</b>
Solange Lewis	<b>SL</b>	Careers Fair	<b>Excused</b>
Defne Kayrak-Talay	<b>DK</b>	Seminar	<b>Excused</b>
Tillmann Kubis	<b>TK</b>	IDP	<b>Excused</b>
Valentina Trinetta	<b>VT</b>	Social; Annual Dinner; Survey; IDP	<b>Present</b>
Jennifer Tsuruda	<b>JT</b>	Social; Annual Dinner	<b>Present</b>
Kris Villez	<b>KV</b>	Newsletter; Information; IDP; Buddy system	<b>Present</b>
Professor Peter Dunn	<b>PD</b>	Faculty Advisor	<b>Present</b>
Professor Jon Story	<b>JS</b>	Faculty Advisor	<b>Present</b>
Professor Linda Mason	<b>LM</b>	Faculty Advisor	<b>Present</b>

### Agenda:

- 1. Approval of previous minutes**
  - 2. Update from Communications Officer**
  - 3. Update from PR**
  - 4. Subcommittees**
  - 5. Social events**
  - 6. Buddy system**
  - 7. Any other business**
- 
- 1. Approval of previous minutes**
    - a) February meeting minutes are accepted.

## **2. Update from Communications Officer**

a) PR reports that there is now a 'jobs' dropdown link on the PPDA website, which includes links to CIE, Purdue's online writing lab, and links to grant information. The next focus is to update the calendar, the list of council members and the photo of council members. AN suggests a new photo is taken at the April meeting. It is also suggested that pictures of the socials go on the website so Postdocs can see the type of events the PPDA runs and may be encouraged to attend. The current system of PR gathering information and sending to Sherri to update the website is now working well.

## **3. Update from PR**

a) DB and AN have discussed a few possible responsibilities for the PR. These include following up on whether each department contacted is sending out the PPDA flyers to new Postdocs, holding an open house for the PPDA, and getting a piece written in the Exponent about the PPDA. The last suggestion comes after a Postdoc got in contact with the PPDA informing them that when quoted by the Exponent he is referred to as a Grad student, and when informing the editorial team that he is a Postdoc they didn't understand what this was. Therefore, it has been suggested a piece could be written about Postdocs and the PPDA to inform Undergrads. PD suggests it may be a good opportunity to advertise the Annual Dinner especially as most stories need a hook. AN suggests a subcommittee is set up to discuss these and other possible tasks for the PR officer. CH and CP volunteer to be on the subcommittee with AN and DB.

## **4. Subcommittees**

### **3.1 Seminar Series**

a) LV reports that the last seminar held was successful with 20-25 attendees. The seminar series committee are now organizing a seminar for Postdocs with CIE. DK has been in contact with CIE but a topic has not yet been chosen.

b) AN reminds council that members of the council will be doing a 'Postdoc Panel' for the PGSG on April 6<sup>th</sup>. The event will be advertised by the PGSG. Postdocs will be informed of the event so they know the PPDA is collaborating with other parts of the University and so they can attend if they wish and pass on their pearls of wisdom.

### **3.2 Survey**

a) AN updates council that the survey to be held this year is nearly ready and the paperwork is underway. PD advises AN that if the survey results from the two years are to be pooled for the publication then the original protocol needs to be checked to ensure this is allowed and if not to amend it. AN asks if the new IDP form that needs to be signed can be used to make the amendment if necessary. PD replies that the amendment can be sent in with the form. KV asks about incentives for filling in the survey. AN replies that the subcommittee are still deciding. They will probably distribute the rest of the t-shirts remaining from last year but have to decide on whether to have another gift.

b) AN is preparing a poster for the NPA using data from the last survey. A copy will be sent to council members as soon as it is ready for comments.

### 3.3 Individual Development Plans

- a) On the 8<sup>th</sup> April PPDA representatives will attend a meeting with College of Agriculture Faculty to discuss the IDP and start its implementation in the College.

### 3.4 Career fair

- a) SL informed AN that the career fair went smoothly.

### 3.5 PPDA Annual Dinner

- a) PD confirms that the OVPR will subsidize the dinner so tickets will be \$17. The venue, speaker and menu have been confirmed. The subcommittee now needs to meet to discuss ticket sales and to decide how the evening will be run. CH suggests it should be announced on Facebook as soon as possible so Postdocs can plan ahead to attend.

## 4 Social events

- a) The March social is a dinner at 9 Irish Brothers to which 15 people have confirmed their attendance. In April the social will be held at the beginning of the month to prevent it clashing with Springfest when many people will be busy. The social will be held between 1pm-5pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> April and is a trip to Wolf Park. In May the social will be the annual dinner.

## 5. NPA Annual Meeting

- a) AN will attend the NPA meeting on behalf of the PPDA. VT will also be attending for ADVANCE and LM.

## 6. Buddy system

- a) Current status is that there are more senior Postdocs wanting to be a 'buddy' than new Postdocs requesting a buddy. Suggested that the request for a 'buddy' can be placed on the PPDA website, alongside the information package.

## 7. Any other business

- a) PD is planning to organize Postdoc orientation for the fall.  
 b) AN and KV inform council about an email they received from a Postdoc suggesting the PPDA may want to endorse an online petition opposing a bill to be passed in Indiana that may affect rights of immigrants in the state. AN is not sure how to respond to what is essentially a political question. It is decided by council members that the PDDA will not be involved in political matters and will not directly advertise the petition especially as it may set a precedent for advertising other campaigns. Instead Postdocs will be directed to the PPDA google forum and facebook pages to discuss such matters.

### Actions:

Action identifier [yyyymmdd-no-id/id/..]	Short description	Deadline	Status
20100301-1-AJ/KG/LV	Organise a seminar series for Postdocs	2010-12-31	ongoing

20101007-1- NW/VT/PR/AN	Prepare a paper on the PPDA survey results	2010-12-31	ongoing
20101104-1- VT/JT/EC/PR	Organize the PPDA Annual Dinner	2011-06-30	ongoing
20100308-1- AN/DB/CH/CP	Decide on responsibilities for the PR	2011-05-31	ongoing

Date and time of next meeting: Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2011 at 8.30am. Room MTHW  
111