



OSU Postdoctoral Association
Oregon State University
416 Snell Hall, Corvallis, Oregon 97331
<http://oregonstate.edu/opa>

09/04/13 OPA Board Meeting Minutes Snell Hall 416

Attendance: Rebecca Hutchinson, Doni Schwalm, Linnéa Andersson, Jim Rivers, Sascha Hallett
Absences: Alba Argerich, Yasmeen Nkrumah-Elie, Robert Kykyneshi, Dave Dickson

I. Meeting called to order at 10:10 am by Rebecca Hutchinson

II. Roll call

Acting secretary: Linnéa Andersson

III. Approval of the Minutes

Motion from Rebecca: approve the minutes from the OPA meetings on 7/13/13 and 8/7/13

Vote: all in favor

Resolution: the minutes from 7/13/13 and 8/7/13 were approved

IV. Officer and Committee Reports

a. Treasurer's report: The Treasurer reported on the balance. See attachment #1.

b. Active committees:

i. **Da Vinci Days Planning Committee:** no report

ii. **NPAW Planning Committee:**

The committee proposes to hold the OPAW during the week 10/28-11/1 with fundraising activities, a poster session with a potential vendor show and chair massages for postdocs presenting posters. There will be a focus on appreciation activities. Jim has investigated our options for organizing a vendor show during the OPAW. Our first choice of day for the combined vendor session and poster session is Wednesday 10/31 and second choice is Tuesday 10/30.

Jim: investigate the availability for suitable rooms.

Rebecca: look into the possibility to have chair massages.

Dave: follow up on fundraising evening at squirrels.

Linnéa: Invite local newspapers to cover the OPAW events.

During the NPAW, OPA will organize a fall picnic at the Lion's shelter in Avery Park on Saturday 9/21, 1-5 pm.

Motion from Rebecca: allocate \$350 from the OPA funds for the fall picnic



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Vote: all in favor

Resolution: we will use \$350 from the available OPA funds towards the fall picnic

- iii. **Industrial Exploration Program Committee:** The committee is developing the pitch document for companies and will meet next week. See attachment #2.
- iv. **Welcome Committee:** No activities since last meeting.
- v. **Professional Development Committee:** The committee is preparing a panel discussion seminar for graduate students and advanced undergraduate students on the topic "A student-based guide to obtaining research funding". See attachment #3.

V. Unfinished business

a) Amendments to bylaws

We discussed the time of elections for any future OPA board. We concluded that it would be appropriate to hold elections around or after the OPAW (mid-November) to allow for an overlap between the old and the new board during December to January.

It was decided that the bylaws will be discussed at the next OPA board meeting. Members of the board who cannot attend the meeting can send suggestions and comments to the OPA President. A modified version of the bylaws will be sent out to the OPA community after the meeting for membership approval. The intention is to pass the modified bylaws at the following board meeting.

b) Website changes

The board briefly discussed changes of the website.

VI. New business

a) Form a new committee for social events

Motion from Rebecca: form a Social Events Committee

Vote: all in favor

We briefly discussed how to engage more members of the OPA community to volunteer on committees, and to host peers and beers.

b) Internal Mentoring Award

Rebecca suggested that the OPA hands out a Mentoring Award at the poster session during OPAW.



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VII. Open Forum

We agreed to approve the Treasurer's report with the minutes for the following meetings.

VIII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:56 am



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Attachments

Attachment #1 – Treasurer’s report

1. On the budget, GRD040 still stands at a whopping \$13.36; petty cash remains at \$5, and the Foundation account stands at \$1,030.34 after one reimbursement to Alba for some Da Vinci Days expenses. Please remind folks to connect with me if they need any reimbursements.
2. On the budget for next year, as you were copied, I simply increased our fundraising goal to \$2,000, with the intent to spend \$1,500 on various activities (I would welcome any thoughts from the board on those numbers).

Attachment #2 - Industrial Exploration Program Committee report

Update of progress from the IEP committee for the September OPA board meeting

1. **Progress since last OPA board meeting:**
 - 1) The value proposition and return on investment for the “pitch” document are currently being developed.
2. **How we will proceed:**
 - 1) The IEP committee will meet on Thursday September 12 to discuss:
 - The developed pitch document.
 - The opportunities for on-campus networking by connecting with Directors of Development at the OSU Foundation. Meet and discuss within the IEP committee.
 - Map OSU alumni working at local companies, agencies, etc.
 - Methods for creating a business intelligence or research dossier on our first company
 - 2) Make an effort to recruit more postdocs to the committee by advertising specific tasks in the newsletter, on the LinkedIn page and at Peers and Beers.

Linnéa Andersson
IEP committee chair

Corvallis, August 30, 2013



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Attachment #3 - Professional Development Committee report

OSU Postdoctoral Association Report of Professional Development Committee 4 September 2013

The Professional Development Committee has worked with Anita Azarenko of the OSU Graduate School to co-sponsor a seminar series for student professional development during the 2013-14 academic year. The seminars will be held once during Fall, Winter, and Spring terms and will be panel discussions focused on topics that pertain to graduate students and advanced undergraduates in the OSU community. The Graduate School will host the meeting, cover the room fee costs, and will pre-register individuals; in addition to knowing how many to expect, pre-registration has the added benefit of building a database of individuals who may be interested in future seminars. The Graduate School will also be advertising this seminar via materials they provide to new students at the annual orientation.

Each seminar will consist of 4-6 panel members discussing the topic and providing personal insights into the topic. The first seminar is titled “A student-based guide to obtaining research funding” and has been scheduled for 9 October from 10am-noon in room 206 of the Memorial Union; a description of that event is given below. The topic for the Winter and Spring seminars are not yet finalized but will likely focus on publishing research and an overview of the peer review process. If you are interested in serving on the panel, please contact Jim (jim.rivers@oregonstate.edu).

A student-based guide to obtaining research funding

This professional development seminar is being organized by the OSU Postdoctoral Association and will provide an overview of funding graduate research in the sciences through student-centered grants. The format will begin with a brief overview by panel members regarding the scope of funding for student research, the value in obtaining independent grants for students, and the types of funding sources that are available to students. A panel discussion will follow to discuss specific topics of interest to attendees. Graduate students and advanced undergraduates interested in a research career are encouraged to attend.