

OPA Meeting – January 16, 2013

In Attendance: Michelle, Guillermo, David Dickson, Julie, Rebecca

- 1) OPA office: needs furniture in order to hold meetings there; will ask **Siba** to follow up on office furniture and use of the index/account number.
- 2) OPA account: Debra stopped by to let us know that they are still looking into the status of the account in order to update the board; will ask **David Haim** to follow up.
- 3) Welcome package: draft document was sent out about a week before Christmas for additions and edits from members of the welcome committee. The first person to receive it didn't have time to look at it, so it was passed on to another member who didn't respond, and then passed to a third member who will look at it late next week. **Julie** volunteered to be next on the list, and then will cycle through the committee list again. **Rebecca** will follow up again this afternoon and ask to be cc'd on all correspondence among the members of the committee. **David Dickson** also volunteered to add content. The living document will eventually be posted to the OPA website once the major edits are completed.
- 4) OPA Board meeting time: **Michelle** will follow up with the other 3 board members to see if the 1st Mon of the month @ 4-5 pm works for them.
- 5) OPA website: Guillermo would appreciate ideas on how to further develop the site, and will ask for help implementing changes if needed. We brainstormed some ideas to clean up the site and add visual interest which **Guillermo** noted, and he will work on some of these, asking for help if he runs into problems – **Julie** may be able to help with this (and they both are interested in attending a drupal workshop).
- 6) NPA delegate: Rebecca might be interested in being the delegate, especially if Barb receives the mentor award. David Dickson is available, but not technically a postdoc so he is reluctant to be the delegate. The meeting is 15-17 March in South Carolina. Rebecca is considering staying on the OPA board next year, which would help enormously with continuity, and has tentatively agreed to be the NPA delegate (and put it on her calendar). **Rebecca** will let us know if she won't be going, otherwise she'll let Barb know she is going.
- 7) Nomination for mentor award: Rebecca submitted the application to nominate Barb for the mentor award – she wrote an essay for the application and David Dickson got a supporting letter from Brenda McComb. Rebecca also got a letter from a former postdoc, and wrote one of her own based on her experiences as a postdoc at OSU. If Barb is not selected for the award, we will still provide her with the application materials as a way of saying thank you for all she's done for OSU postdocs.
- 8) Spring picnic: Would like to time the picnic/BBQ for late in spring so that hopefully the weather is good. We agreed that Avery Park would be a good venue, and that Saturday afternoon would be the best time to host the event so that families are able to attend (maybe June 1st?). Since it would occur after the OPA board elections, it would be a good opportunity to introduce the new board and look for recruits if there are still open spots remaining. Because there are a number of events in the spring, we will inquire in our departments to identify any potential conflicts. **David Dickson** will contact Avery Park for shelter availability, and **each of us** will find out when our departmental spring BBQs are and report

back to the group. Then via email, we will decide on a date before our next board meeting (1st week of Feb).

9) Pizza recruiting lunch: this would be scheduled sometime in early April, and would be an opportunity to recruit postdocs to serve on the OPA board and sign up to be candidates for the upcoming elections. Would need to target a date that doesn't conflict with an OPP event, or try to piggyback on one of the OPP pizza lunches. Julie will follow up with Barb to see if we can join with an OPP "welcome" pizza lunch, and maybe split the pizza costs.

10) To do before the end of this board's tenure: create a document to pass along to the next board with information on what we've done and the lessons we've learned over the past year.