



## **One-Hundred and Twenty-Seventh Meeting** **Agenda**

**April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017 5:00 PM (Stellar Chance Room 104)**

**In attendance: Terry Cathopoulos, Amita Bansal, Andrea Stavoe, Beau Wangtrakuldee, Dorian Pustina, Jagmohan Hooda, Nicole Anderson, Amanda Boggs, Lori Zboray**

1. Welcome
2. Approval of minutes and membership - Approved
3. Update from Co-Presidents –Terry and Amita
  - NPA meeting (Amita) - New York City Postdoctoral Council - covers 5 institutes
  - They reach out to the postdoc office from each institute
  - Also maybe we should reach out to other postdoc associations within Penn
  - One person from the council tries to attend the meetings of other meetings
  - NYC Postdoctoral Council might also have a regular meeting outside of the individual meetings
  - Children’s Hospital of Boston - mentoring network - meet the mentor session for postdocs
  - We do poorly in faculty engagement in postdoc activities - speed dating with mentors
  - Boston has a similar inter-university postdoc council
  
  - BPP Advisory Meeting (Terry)
  - Dr. Weiss is addressing diversity in recruitment - working with Diversity committee
  - Talk about getting as many postdocs as possible on training
  - Postdocs who aren’t on training grants will have social security and medicare taken out of their paychecks
4. Updates from Committees

- a. Seminar Series – Jagmohan  
Merge with CET? - we don't want CET to lose the Career focus  
Rather than a committee with a discrete function, it's more a tool that any committee could use  
Without the separate identity, we lose the institutional knowledge  
Mentoring circle could fit here
- b. Career Enhancement & Training (CET) –Dorian/Jagmohan/Sean  
Last Thursday - Introduction to Neuroimaging - speaker gave a good talk, but it wasn't exactly as planned - historical perspective  
Got 80 registered, 60 people showed up - the advertizing was very effective  
Committee received some feedback on poll from December - who to bring in next  
New idea about predatory journals doesn't seem very relevant here at Penn, but we are asked to review for the journals - speaker from the library
- c. Social Media – Yann/Ana  
Amita has seen very strange posts on our facebook page - we should be careful about our posts (post about unionization of grad students)  
Amita will reach out
- d. Newsletter – Nehal  
“Special Edition Newsletter on Immigration Ban was published online on March 16 2017.”
- e. Penn Editor's Association (PEA) – Diana/Arpita  
No update
- f. Community Service –Brian/Amanda  
Demos are going well  
Science Carnival: the tables have been booked since the New Year  
Science in the Park at Clark Park on April 22 at 1 or 2 pm - whatever we were going to present at the Carnival  
Anybody that has something they can present to students (model of a DNA helix, neuron, cell) - demos are ok, but material would be an issue  
Conference call on the 6th to understand what is needed/wanted - after that, Amanda will send out a request
- g. Diversity – Dondra/Heather  
No update
- h. Advocacy – Andrea/Jason  
Meeting tomorrow with BPP to discuss possible pre-tax benefits that other Penn employees already receive and postdocs at other institutions receive
- i. Social Activities – Rueben  
“TEDxPENN2017 on 4/1/2017: 24 people  
World War I at Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts on 3/12/2017: 7 people  
Dates for forth coming happy hours: 5:30-7:30pm on 4/14, 5/19, 6/16, 7/14, 8/11, 9/15”

March for Science - fundraiser for it -

j. Symposium – Ben/Glenna/Sayantani

No update - have had trouble getting a keynote speaker

k. Environmental – Terry

Started putting together materials for a poster about climate change denial

Sprouting is going well - peppers, peas, red cabbage, frisee, flowers

l. Fundraising –Terry/Beau

“Beau sent an email to see if Morgan has received 3 remaining payments from vendors on 4/3/17. The next vendor show will tentatively take place in August and Juliette Aka, the new fundraising chair, will lead the organization of the event. Beau will step down as a Fundraising chair effective May 1st.”

m. Foreign National Committee (FNC) – Jagmohan/Helene/Nicole

“We had a successful welcome session this month. We had 8 new postdocs attend. We will be hosting our first postdoc lunch in April in Smilow.”

The committee will come up with a statement about the potential legal implications of visa holders attending marches

New postdoc mentioned they aren't receiving emails - collect the email addresses, then send them onto Lauren or Morgan

Should prepare a tax seminar

Lots of talk about taxes

n. Website updates – Terry/Jennine/Amanda/Jason

No updates

o. Treasurer – Beau

“The current BPC account balance is \$15350.74 We received \$1820 income from the vendor show. The expense during March is \$2242.99. Here is the detail of the expenses: - Fees from vendor show \$2182.49 including \$952.49 for lunch pizza, \$65 for 1 hr OT(overtime), \$840 for 14 vendor table set up, \$320 for reserved garage space for vendors, \$5 for 6 table cloth - \$32.50 for BPC symposium on 2/8/2017 for 0.5 hr OT(overtime?) - \$30 for BPC CET Seminar 2/28/2017 for 2 tablecloth

Beau will step down as a treasurer effective May 1st.

BPC needs to recruit for a new treasurer.”

5. Other updates/agenda from members

Amanda's thoughts on NPA meeting

Reaching out to the school of education for various seminars about teaching - a great resource

Grad students from the school of education are always looking for teaching opportunities

Entrance and exit surveys for postdocs (what do you wish you would have done/learned given your next steps after postdoc)

Hard to do exit surveys because postdocs just leave without BPP knowing  
CHOP has an annual survey (actually IDP) - state career goals and plans to

achieve those goals

Maybe make some sort of annual survey - ask BPP, Nehal, Andrea

If you have a visa and you're going to a march, be VERY careful! There can be arrests at the marches. If you're arrested, you can be deported without charges.

Opt to use other ways to participate without showing up to a protest

Rueben sent an email asking the BPC to "include a committee for LGBTQ," per a request by Erin Cross, Assistant Director of the Penn LBGTQ Center. The chair of this committee was requested to be "from the LGBTQ group or must be an ally."

It seems like LGBTQ falls under the Diversity committee

We could institute an additional co-chair of the Diversity committee that represents the LGBTQ community

Amita and Terry will follow up with Rueben

6. Updates from BPP Office - Morgan/Lauren/Mary Anne/Susan  
Not present at the meeting
7. Next Meeting — May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017, 5 PM.