Dartmouth College Postdoctoral Association Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 1st 12-1pm
Hanover campus: Vail 202

Postdocs in Attendance: 8
Presided over: Kristine Hill, President

Meeting Points:

1. Next meeting: Thursday, August 5th 2010 at DHMC (to be confirmed)
2. Action items addressed from last meeting:
   • DCPDA’s Membership to NPA has been renewed.
   • The DCPDA reception (June 25th) was a success.
   • ~100% DCPDA’s 2009-2010 budget has been spend.
3. DCPDA Presidency:
   • Kris Hill will continue in her role as President through September.
   • Salvador Almagro-Moreno (micro/immuno) will shadow as President Elect with a view to taking over as President in September.
   • Alex will continue in her supportive role as Vice President.
   → Kris, Melanie, Salvador, Cindy Tobery, and Liz Blanket are scheduled to meet at the Provost offices next week to discuss DCPDA.
4. Treasurer:
   Aubrey Frank (Biology Department) is stepping up to fill the position of Treasurer.
5. The continued service of active officers confirmed:
   Nicole Smits (Secretary), Amorette Barber (Outreach/Teaching), Dawoon Jung & Katja Koeppen (Career Development), Aurelie Deveau (International Affairs). Ian Street has done an excellent job as Social Chair, but would like to share/pass on this role.
6. DCPDA Travel Award 2010:
   • Ian Street, with the support of Kris Hill and Salvador Almagro-Moreno, will be responsible for launching the 2010 DCPDA Travel Award.
   → We will contact last year’s judges and ask if they would be willing to serve as judges again, and/or provide feedback on the judging criteria etc.,
We began discussing ideas to increase participation/incentives, and will discuss ideas in more depth at August meeting.

7. Mock grant panel:
   • This would involve enlisting faculty members who have served on grant panels to review a couple of grants and provide an “insiders view” to the process and what they consider strength and weaknesses.
   • We liked this idea as a workshop to host early this Fall.

Katja will discuss this idea with Dawoon.

8. We discussed potential ideas to increase our effectiveness, and general awareness of our mission and postdocs at Dartmouth. Suggestions included:
   • Contacting department secretaries to ask them to forward announcements.
   • Actively engaging with the Graduate Student Council and more.
   • Recruiting new PIs from various departments to serve as advisors/contacts.