

## THE YALE POSTDOCTORAL ASSOCIATION MONTHLY MEETING



Tuesday, February 8, 2021 | 6:00 PM |

### Chairs [3 min]

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- TAC updates
- Trainee Accommodations meeting → Azmi and Krishna have been working on flexibility for postdoc working hours, reach out if you continue to experience these kinds of issues ([ypa@yale.edu](mailto:ypa@yale.edu))
- COVID-19 policies:
  - Yellow level as of 02/11/22
  - Food and drink policy changes as of 02/21/22
  - In-person YPA events (links provided below)
  - <https://covid19.yale.edu/campus-life/events-gatherings-meetings>
  - <https://covid19.yale.edu/visitors-policy>
- University-Wide Committee on Sexual Misconduct (UWC)
  - Looking for applications/nominations for individuals to join
  - There is a post in General on Slack about it but reach out to Anna or Krishna at [ypa@yale.edu](mailto:ypa@yale.edu) for the application

### Racial Justice Subcommittee [10 min]

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- We are recruiting new members for the subcommittee. We meet monthly on the last Friday of the month. We're in the process of planning events for the next several months -- come hang out and get involved with us!
  - New coordinators → Dani and Paul
- We have a new Twitter account! Follow us at @YPA\_RJS to get updates on events and initiatives
- Upcoming events:
  - Bystander Intervention training (date TBD, likely the end of Feb)
  - We have an Israel-focused event Wednesday 3/9 at 6pm. This will consist of watching some short videos, small group discussions, and sharing of personal experiences. Official flyer to come.
- Other relevant events:
  - Throughout the month of February, the Office of Diversity Equity and Inclusion at Yale School of Medicine are putting on the 1st Annual Black History Month Film Series. Each film will be followed by expert-led discussions on the themes raised in the films. We tweeted out a link to register for those interested
    - Information might be sent in YPA newsletter
  - YPAA has planned a (free to attend) Black Trivia Game Night on Feb 18<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-6:45pm.

### Community and Networking Committee [5 min]

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- Virtual Social (2-17-22 @ 6-9pm)
  - Last month's virtual social went well → a good number of people attended
- Valentine's Day Event (2-14-22)
  - On Monday they will be holding contact-free goodie bag pick-ups in Science Hill (little lawn outside of Yale Science building) and a location by the Med Campus
  - Can stop by a table and pick up stuff and go
- Hiking Event (postponed)
  - Probably planned next month with changes to COVID-19 guidelines
- Book Club – (*tentative*)
  - Will be meeting but the date is TBD

### Advocacy Committee [6 min]

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- New coordinator nomination (Roozbeh Yousefzadeh) for approval
  - Still looking for more members → reach out to Azmi or Roozbeh
- Return to work and general wellbeing survey ready on YaleConnect
  - Will be open for 3 weeks
  - Results published before next forum
    - Survey just went live today (02/08/22) & will be open for 3 weeks until 03/01/22 → survey is anonymous
    - Return to Work & General Wellbeing Survey: <https://cglink.me/2dA/s63009>
    - There was a survey during the first wave so results will be compared with an aim to see if there's a change of perception and any general issues or issues related to mental health
    - At the end there is a general suggestion box so feel free to put anything you think will be helpful
    - This will be communicated through comms (weekly newsletter, etc)
- Mental health first aid training.
  - Course offered Feb 24<sup>th</sup> and registration closes Friday the 11th.
  - Possible additional course if there's interest
    - This is a 6 hour workshop (2 hours of pre-training) with a certification that lasts 3 years
    - Still ~10 spots left → deadline is this Friday to sign up
    - Email Danielle from Being Well to sign up
    - Clarification on Comms: this will be directly communicated to Orchid and do not fill out the form ATM Comms

### Mentorship Committee [5 min]

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- New member: Animesh
- Mentoring Awards (faculty + postdoc) nominations open on 1/20/2022.
  - So far there is 1 complete faculty nomination and 6 complete postdoc nominations (Erin Heckler)

- o For the Postdoctoral Mentoring Award, see the nomination guidelines (Link: [shorturl.at/bBKO1](https://shorturl.at/bBKO1)) and submission (Link: <https://bit.ly/3req6TX>) here.
- o For the Undergrad/Post-graduate Mentoring Award, see the guidelines (Link: [shorturl.at/agosB](https://shorturl.at/agosB)) and submission (Link: <https://bit.ly/3s0KxTw>) here.
- o Rubric here (Link: [shorturl.at/biGQ1](https://shorturl.at/biGQ1)).
- o Deadline on 2/20/2022 (by 11pm ET). Decisions will be announced on 3/31/2022. Questions can be sent to Dr. Erin Heckler, Associate Provost for Postdoctoral Affairs

### **Professional Development Committee [5 min]**

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- February 16<sup>th</sup>, @ 4-5pm – PreScouter meeting  
During the PreScouter x YPA event, three former Yale Postdocs will talk about research consulting, about PreScouter, and the type of projects that are run at PreScouter. In addition, in smaller breakout groups, the PreScouter team will answer any questions you may have about research consulting as well as share their experiences in moving out of academia into industry. Among the participants, we'll raffle 6 Grubhub vouchers worth \$50!  
([https://yaleconnect.yale.edu/event\\_details?uid=bea5df522bfb534e0ae3fd10f7e049c8](https://yaleconnect.yale.edu/event_details?uid=bea5df522bfb534e0ae3fd10f7e049c8))
  - o Talk about consultancy opportunities for Boston-related group (remote working)
  - o Positions aren't announced openly so people will learn about them by attending the event
- February 23<sup>rd</sup>, @5-6pm - Career Café Academia with 3 speakers: Dr. Brett Shook - Assistant Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Medicine, Assistant Professor of Dermatology (Secondary); Dr. Rado Janostiak - Junior Group Leader, BIOCEV, Prague; Dr Joseph Fauver - Assistant Professor, Department of Epidemiology, University of Nebraska Medical Center(<https://cglink.me/2dA/r1501056>)
- February 24<sup>th</sup>, @5-6pm, Pint of Postdoc, speakers Madeleine Stenersen with a talk "Police Harassment and Violence Against Transgender and Gender Diverse People: Results from a Nationwide Dataset" and Animesh Upadhyay (topic TBA)  
([https://yaleconnect.yale.edu/event\\_details?uid=a300edf7172a1994f4d5a0e543776f70](https://yaleconnect.yale.edu/event_details?uid=a300edf7172a1994f4d5a0e543776f70))

### **Communications [3 min]**

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- Platforms for communications, and their timelines
  - In terms of advertisements, please fill out the form
  - Form will be modified to add how long you want the ad to run for and when to stop
  - Ads will be run for 3-4 weeks or up until the deadline
  - Trying to set up the job postings section of the site
    - If you come across any ads for postdocs (assistant professorship, etc) email them to Orchid Allicock
- New members and Coordinators for Comms
  - New co-coordinator → Nupur Nagarkatti

### **Symposium [5 min]**

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- New committee members - Siraj Md Afjalus (Saeed), Stéfany Lopes Lucas Empke, and Farzin Haddadpour
  - Trying to recruit more members
- Waiting on venue confirmation from Yale administration before announcing date
  - 05/19/22 → 1 day event held at Marsh Hall in the lobby
- Working with Yale IT/Broadcast Center to have a hybrid format (in-person and via Zoom)
- Planning to open abstract submission/registration later this month
  - In the next 2 weeks or so & update the website
- Keynote speaker to be announced soon
  - Finalizing keynote speaker & panel discussions to make sure they can meet all COVID-19 policies

### **Associate Provost for Postdoctoral Affairs, Erin Heckler [2 min]**

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- Discussion of flexibility message that went out to postdocs and all faculty
  - Key message: it's hard for leadership to address issues they don't know about → if someone is encountering inflexibility let YPA & Erin know
  - Want to make sure the message is being heard by the people who need to hear it and people are getting what they need to be able to work
  - All postdocs have access to employee systems program, support system with YPA, health care, etc
  - Krishna asked about issues of confidentiality/retaliation
    - If it rises to a requirement to be reported (federal or university policy). it needs to be reported but Erin works with faculty director to try to work with postdocs and trainees and figure out how to best proceed
  - Confidential reporting → can be done to DICE
    - There are discrimination coordinators for different groups/faculties
    - Yale School of Medicine has one and professionalism
  - Krishna suggested to include more information about how to go about approaching issues, information about confidential reporting, etc in next YPA newsletter with the goal of helping people feel more comfortable reporting

### **Open Forum - Questions/Comments [16 min]**

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- Chris Cameron: want to thank mentorship committee (Hada + Erin) collected humanities and social sciences postdoc emails which is helpful
- Hada: if you know any postdocs in humanities/social sciences let her know but they aim to keep **access to the list** as small as possible
- Azmi: can't address problems we don't know about → please fill out survey