

THE YALE POSTDOCTORAL ASSOCIATION MONTHLY MEETING



Tuesday, March 8, 2022 | 6:00 PM |

Chairs [5 min]

- Trainee Advisory Committee updates
 - Postdoc Survey didn't have a very large representative population
 - If we can find better ways to reach out to fellow postdocs, we can be better advocates for issues since we'll know what they are

Racial Justice Subcommittee [5 min]

- We are recruiting new members! Our next meeting will be Monday, March 28 at 4PM. Message Paul or Dani Chiaramonte to be added to the calendar invite.
- Our Israel-Palestine event is Tomorrow, March 9, 2022, at 6PM. We have a guest speaker coming in from NYC and it should be a great event. Register at: <https://yaleconnect.yale.edu/click?linkid=c103d881-e1e8-4af1-be75-2f7bf01d7f50>
- We are planning a bystander intervention event for June. More details to come. Plan is for it to be in person.
- Follow us on twitter @YPA_RJS

Community and Networking Committee [5 min]

- YPA Happy Hour at Trinity Bar (Friday, March 11, 6-9PM)
 - Private room reserved until 10PM but we are allowing a short break at 9PM to comply with Yale's 3-hour time frame for indoor gatherings (requirement for a break after 3 hours)
 - More than 50 have registered but only 37 can attend
 - Bring vaccination card
 - Will do a sign in sheet
- Book Club (Date TBD, starting mid-March)
 - Will be in person
 - Choose a book & will be around a month before meeting to discuss
 - Actual location will be TBD closer to the meeting date
- St. Patrick's Day Hike: wear green while enjoying the green outdoors (Saturday, March 19, time TBD)
 - East Rock probably
- Tree ID Workshop in Sleeping Giant State Park (tentatively Saturday, April 2, 9AM-12:30PM)

Advocacy Committee [3 min]

- Return to work and well-being survey
 - 51% in the new survey reported no concerns (vs 15% in phase one) and had increased confidence in safely returning to work
 - 56% report concerns are being addressed by Yale admin (vs 39% phase one; but still 18% no in both)
 - 78% “feel they have access to, and understand, the current Yale guidelines regarding research and gathering during COVID-19” and only 3% responded no
 - Adequate eating space (25% report no adequate space, 25% only sometimes)
 - 48% feel less connected with colleagues since returning to work
 - Dissatisfaction with mental health (25% either dissatisfied or very dissatisfied)
 - 93% are aware of Yale’s COVID testing program and how to sign up for tests
 - 85% have not been mistreated by a faculty member, but 52% don’t know where to reach out if they are mistreated
 - 82% are not aware of the grievance procedure
 - 89% would like to see an ombuds office reopen
- New initiative for collecting postdoc concerns
 - Clarify that we are not able to address the reported concerns
 - We will point out available resources at Yale
 - We will consider forwarding the concerns to appropriate channels at Yale
 - Every few months, we will report a summary of concerns and major issues at the open forum
 - Form will be introduced and advertised regularly
- Poster at NPA
 - Advocacy committee will have a poster there

Mentorship Committee [5 min]

- Welcome new member: Diego (peer mentoring coordinator – industry arm)
 - There is a high dropout rate of peer mentoring within industry maybe due to a lack of people that are interested in doing industry to lead the program
 - New member (Diego) will step in that role
- Member role update: Aman (peer mentoring coordinator – academia arm)
 - Decision to divide peer mentoring program into academia and industry
- Faculty-postdoc Mentoring Program: launched in February 2022
 - Monthly group meetings between Feb-Nov 2022
- Mentorship Workshop for Non-STEM postdocs in April with ads out in the end of March (in plan)
- OPA Program Manager meet and greet with Erin and some YPA members on 03/03/2022
 - Date correction: 03/09/2022
 - Krishna’s suggestion(s): talk about the previous programming they’ve done, what’s going on, how we can collaborate with the program manager and see if there’s stuff that can be done together
 - Erin: meeting will involve YPA mentorship committee, co-chairs and, postgrad association that they’re forming
 - The idea is to get a better picture of what’s important for postdocs and postgrads (program manager is a final candidate)

- o Mentorship award nominations closed in February -> Erin will follow up with YPA about this

Professional Development Committee [5 min]

- Basics of Science Communication (3x2 hours) (50 people virtual & recorded) 5PM-7PM
 - o March 17th – Part 1
 - o March 24th – Part 2
 - o March 31st – Part 3
 - 3-part workshop led by Dr. Angelika Hofmann
 - Still some spots left if anyone wants to register
- Pint of Postdoc – March cancelled
 - o Cancelled because it would have been on the same day as the Science Communication workshop
- Issues with Yale Connect
 - o Coordinators couldn't directly email attendees for Pint of Postdoc and there were issues with communicating with communications so only 2 people attended the February event
 - o Yale Connect sends reminders 1 day before but Cintia thinks it's better to send the day of the event
 - o Cintia lost access managing access from the workshop now and will send Krishna a message to look into it
 - o Erin's suggestion: start printing out flyers and advertising that way (for science communication workshop, etc)

Communications [3 min]

- Platforms for communications, and their timelines
 - YPA Monthly Newsletter by the 30th (edits stop) -> 1st delivery
 - OPA Newsletter by Monday (edits stop) -> send to liaison -> Thursday delivery
 - YPA Weekly Newsletter by Friday (edits stop) -> Monday delivery
 - Website Profile Updates -> 24-48 hour turnaround to be on website
 - Our members have to send multiple reminders to new committee members, please send updates to coordinators by email
 - Statements – proofing by YPA chairs -> 24-48 hour turnaround to be on website
 - Twitter/Facebook – 4 working days minimum
 - Committee would appreciate submitting ads at least a week in advance of the events
 - If ads need to be repeated, please resubmit if it's been more than 14 days or email the comms coordinator
 - May be a timeline on the communications webpage

Symposium [5 min]

- Marsh Hall confirmed for May 19th for Symposium
 - o Will be hybrid format -> 1 day symposium and everyone is invited to register

- Abstract and registration open now on YaleConnect
- Keynote speaker secured
 - Website is now updated (thanks to communications for helping)
 - Announce the keynote later this week to everyone
 - Melanie Sinche (interim assistant dean for academic affairs and director of career development center) will give a talk about career options for PhD
 - Let symposium coordinators know if postdocs are receiving advertisements for the symposium through their departments

Open Forum - Questions/Comments [24 min]

- Erin: will get in touch about mentoring rewards and committee
 - Travel awards are opened for FAS (+ engineering and central campus) postdocs
 - There will be 2 awards, but this will be ongoing according to regular schedule
 - There are no travel awards for YSM (depends on where the money is coming from)
- Krishna: brought up that there were townhalls a long time ago and thinks we should begin them again
 - Difficulties getting people to fill out surveys so this might be a way to get feedback/input