

## YPA OPEN FORUM

### Chairs: [5 min] (Erin she/her/hers)

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Maikel is out; Sam is here to help

1. YPA Spring Celebration: 6<sup>th</sup> of March, 5 PM, Regal Beagle
  - In preparing budget and meeting administrators, the chairs realized all the hard work everyone has put into the YPA
  - Would like to celebrate the efforts of the YPA and celebrate postdoctoral scholars at Yale
  - This is being organized with the Community and Networking Committee (Peppe)
  - Registration link to indicate interest can be found on Slack – please fill in for accurate head count
2. Chairs section in Newsletter
  - New concept
  - Would like to highlight YPA's achievements and other items that don't currently have a place in the Newsletter
  - Summer – Can you give an example?
  - Ex) Got a lot of responses for the Advocacy poll and would like to say 'Thanks'
  - Summer – This is a great idea to show community and may make people want to come to events in the future.
3. Welcome Aryn!
  - New co-secretary with Soumya

### Advocacy: [5 min]

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1. Wellbeing Workshop poll [Chantal she/her/hers]
  - Advocacy committee chairs had a meeting with Being Well at Yale
  - They offer a diverse range of free workshops (example: diet and nutrition) held by visiting scholars
  - Summer – Are these workshops they already have?
  - Yes, just a matter of setting time and advertising
  - Would like to start off with one workshop/semester if there's interest
  - Can do same or different topics each semester
  - The workshops could be 1 to 1.5 hours long
  - Live polls:
    1. Interest in topics: Highest response: Resilience and stress (other topics: mindfulness and meditation; joy and gratitude; diet and nutrition; sleep)
    2. What time works best? Highest response: 4-6 pm
  - Sam – Previous noon events included lunch – could that be used to entice people to come for the noon slot?
  - They can provide lunch; some groups applied for grants
  - Longer workshop could include lunch
  - Open to other topics – let them know

### Communications: [13 min] (Anderson)

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1. Communications statistics from January

- A lot of people are opening links pertaining to career development and jobs, as well as mentorship
  - Looks like people are interested in looking for more information
  - Audience about 1000, from many states, mostly from CT
  - Opened by 56.8% of audience
  - Twitter:
    - Increased tweets
    - Twitter manager is doing a good job
    - Increased Twitter followers, not as many as Facebook but will likely increase with Twitter manager
    - Audience is broad
    - Summer - What is an Impression?
    - Sam - Tweet was in someone's feed
  - Facebook
    - Increased number of followers and views
    - Alysa – Facebook Reach is the same as Twitter impression
2. Podcast support position - we need new members [Lina]
    - New initiative with Kyle, member of the committee
    - Want to do a podcast with other postdoctoral scholars or invited speakers
    - Looking for someone to help with editing
    - Thinking of having it regularly
    - Everyone is invited
    - Will generate forms to see what people are interested in terms of both topics and speakers
    - Can nominate guests, like established researchers
    - Form for yourself. If you want to talk about your own interests or anything else
    - Talked with Brian (OCS); there is a broadcast center at Yale. They can support us and others. Can upload to Spotify, etc. Anyone can access it, giving us a broader audience.
    - Very excited to start this
    - Feel free to reach out if you have ideas
    - Will give hints in terms of length, interview style, etc.
    - Don't want to completely restrict audience
    - Anna – Could we personal experiences or points of view, such as settling in and other non-academic issues?
    - Lina – Yes, Kyle tell us what you visualize
    - Kyle – Two types of interviews. One would highlight a person (award, on the job market, etc). The other would include an invited speaker. People can talk about anything including adjusting to campus, what is elegant science, etc.
    - Erin – Reach out to OPAC. There are guidelines for publishing media with Yale's name
    - Please respond to forms
  3. Podcasts with postdocs - generate a form and advertise it with YPA to register interest for self-promotion
  4. Podcasts with established researcher - generate a form and advertise it with YPA to nominate candidates and topics of interest

### **Community and Networking Committee: [5 min]**

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1. Ongoing activities January (Peppe)
  - Social @ Regal Beagle; Offering Snacks
  - Happy Hour
    - Just took place
    - Good turn out; had over 25 attendees
  - Volunteering
  - Creative Writing

2. New imminent activities
  - Postdoc Roundtable [Victor]
    - Topics to discuss as postdoctoral scholars
    - Will try to start this month, maybe last Friday of the month
    - Will send out invites
    - Can discuss topics like current events
    - This is a platform to engage in discussion
    - Providing pizza because we have money to spend
    - Plan to hold it every two months
    - Can suggest topics for future iterations
    - First topic: coordinators will come up with a few and see how it goes
    - Chantal: Is this separate from Rivendell?
    - Yes, this is separate from Rivendell
3. Tomorrow will hold meeting to plan trips in spring like Mystic because we have extra money

### **Mentorship Committee: [7 min]**

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1. Updates
  - Peer mentoring program [Hada]
    - First time organizing
    - Was previously held last semester
    - 36 postdoctoral scholars are on board for this iteration
    - They are gathering to meet and get to know what the program is about
    - Goal is to develop career skills for both academia and industry
    - So far, there are 7 groups of about 5-7 people each; 2 groups have an industry focus, rest academic
    - Have surveys to gauge engagement throughout
    - Feel free to ask questions
    - Summer – Trying to integrate getting more feedback from groups
  - Mentorship training workshop [Summer]
    - With John Alvaro
    - This is the first time it will be held on Science Hill
    - Will see how it goes
    - Slower sign ups; took more emails to get people sign up
    - Sam – Might be because people think it's happening in the Medical School
    - Able to get bigger room
    - Difficult conversations will be held at the Medical School next month
  - Meet a mentor lunch
    - One or two more mentors needed; please provide nominations
    - Last Friday of the month – might conflict with the roundtable
    - Lina – Events are on the calendar so we can avoid issues

### **Professional Development Committee: [5 min] (Eric)**

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1. Communication Workshop Series
  - Look out for information on this
  - Will send out poll to narrow down options in the next couple weeks
  - Will also highlight existing workshops held by the Center for Teaching/Learning (CTL)
  - When revamping will make sure that workshops reflect what postdoctoral scholars are most interested in
  - Will also try to pick topics that could help with the symposium such as public speaking

### **Symposium: [5 min] (Anna she/her/hers)**

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1. Speakers for the opening address and the keynote
    - Abstract submission/registration still open
    - Let them know if you know anyone that could be a suitable keynote speaker
    - Have contacted people, but they are currently busy
    - Links in Slack General channel to provide requests/ideas
    - Personal contacts are especially helpful

**Treasury: [5 min] (Alysa)**

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1. FY 2021 budget has been tentatively approved!
  - Final budget is \$20,300
  - Up from approximately \$14,000, so this is a big increase
  - Took a look at the new budget
    - Some committees have much bigger budgets, like Community and Networking and Advocacy
    - Communications gets its own budget
    - If anyone has not used up budget by end of June, please use it up
  - Erin – The finalized budget will be sent to everyone and posted on Slack
2. Budget concerns brought up by the OPA – Have already discussed this with committees
  - Sharing University resources
    - Mainly concerned about Communications
    - Can't use budget for podcast equipment or subscriptions for services because research funds come into this budget, and there are certain restrictions
    - They did give suggestions of other University resources
  - Charity events
    - There are tax implications if we as a nonprofit try to give a charity donation
    - But might be able to work something out with Yale and United Way – We can maybe have individuals give straight to charity instead of through YPA
  - YPA branded items/swag
    - Concerned about the amount of budget proposed for this
    - But have leftover funds from last sale

**Open Forum - Questions/Comments: [10 min]**

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- Welcome to new members, feel free to talk to anyone if you have an interest in helping out or starting something, this is a space for people to bring up topics
- Sam – Is there anyone new?
- One person here for the first time
- Sam – what do you think?
- Would like to attend the roundtable, peer mentorship, Peppe encouraged her to attend open forum; Finished med school and is a postdoctoral scholar now
- Sean - Nice job to the Chairs and Treasury