

YPA OPEN FORUM

Chairs: [2 min]

Welcoming remarks

- Maikel: Say 'hi' if you're new
- Maikel: Cc Maikel and Sam in YPA communications (emails)
- Maikel and Sam: Introduce yourself if you say something during the meeting

Treasury Committee: [8 min]

1. Expense reimbursement, record keeping, and cataloguing supplies

- Alex: Ask him if you want to know how much money you have; each month, budget will be updated; as committees start purchasing common items, there is a general budget that can be used for that and we should also keep an inventory of common items
- Would we like to know usage of consummables? Maikel – no, but we should know monetary usage
- Sam: ask if you need plates, cups, etc., because they are available
- Chantal: add these things to inventory so we know that they are there
- Summer: Slack post has baseline; Google Drive inventory just started in treasury folder
- Maikel: anyone can be added to Slack who wants to be in the loop

Communications: [10 min]

1. Recent updates in communication strategy, flyer, a new floor standup, new website, New staff LaShaunda Russell is new Assistant Director of OPA

- Sheng-Nan: flyer to distribute to many people; will print and give to coordinators; next week when you have NPAW events, put it on the table, then people can easily follow our social media
- New floor standup will arrive next week – can be used for CV peer review, etc. Will let people know where it will be kept, likely in the OPA basement
- New website – Viktor is expert in html who designed the new website, better than before, some issues remain but they are working on it, making home page more inviting – clickable icons, should be ready by Nov/Dec
- Grace left OPA; new staff member – LaShaunda Russell
- New registration form for advertisement requests – will be included in weekly, monthly newsletters; let them know if we have any suggestions

2. Stats report

- Lina: increased audience of 940 that received newsletter, but percentage opened was 40.9 (vs 57.6 last month) – maybe due to time and day (sent at 10 pm on Labor Day, so this may be why)
- Increase in post reads, etc. on Facebook

3. HAPPY program

- Lina: Help and Advice Program for Postdocs at Yale – Google Form where you can ask for advice, services, reagents you may need during research. Has been live for some time (but in the shadows somewhat) – Maikel: opt into this group to get requests; Summer – maybe do this on Slack?

- Maikel: comms has been doing great

Community and Networking Committee: [10 min]

1. Ongoing activities: HH, Social, Last Saturday at Museum, Yale Philharmonia concert, Creative Writing Session
 - Pepe: Survey for happy hour – covered for next two months; to communications – please post in future for continuing feedback
2. A psychodrama group to explore challenging experiences we have as researchers
 - Bekir – counseling/psychotherapy, difference between psychodrama and therapy is that in drama one acts out and navigates space; we may have moral/ethical dilemmas, other challenges, relationships that can be worked through
 - Sam – add this as a question in a Mail Chimp email? For communications; or Facebook poll – Anderson
 - Lina – are there professionals to manage? Bekir – no there aren't, only in NY. Has read the manual and can direct it
 - Maikel – how many are in a group? Bekir – ideally no more than 10
3. Organizing mixers between postdocs and students in the art programs at Yale for future collaborations
 - Bekir – Maikel and Bekir will attend a collaborative event and wanted to collaborate with postdocs in other groups
 - Dana Karwas (director of CCAM?) – enthusiastic about arts and research campaign
4. Winter party
 - Will be held on the 6th of December, \$500 budget and will be hosted in Gryphon's Pub.

Professional Development Committee: [2 min]

1. NPAW CV open house event
 - Eric – if anyone is available next Tuesday from 3-5pm – free-form open house to bring CVs – small groups to get various people to look at your CVs; this afternoon got an email from Brian Frenette to include resumé review in this event
 - Alex- can send to OCS for professional critique at any time

Mentorship Committee: [5 min]

1. Meet a Mentor Tea (help needed!)
 - Summer: a tea version of the meet a mentor lunch; industry and Yale mentors; discuss your issues/questions career-wise; 40 RSVPed; 10 cocktail tables and covers ordered (will be in OPA storage after);
 - Need help with setup and clean up, about 5 people, maybe someone with car for catering/coffee
 - 3-5 pm in Cohen Auditorium, next Thursday
 - Spreadsheet on the drive – sign up to help out! Hada can help!
2. Storage update
 - We now have storage in a corner of the OPA basement; cardboard box (need to label); two drawers in filing cabinet upstairs as well
 - Do not put food in basement
 - 55 College St
 - Open during business hours with ID
 - Basement door is unlocked
 - Can use back door to get in
 - Maikel – still looking for a designated storage space where we could also keep perishables

Advocacy Committee: [10 min]

1. Postdoc Town Hall and Forum:

- Date set for 10/23/19, 12-2 (let them know if you want to help, including leading discussion sessions, everything is on slack for now)
- Finalized Panelists List:

Brian Smith	Deputy Dean for YSM scientific affairs for clinical departments
Michael Crair*	Deputy Dean for YSM Scientific Affairs for basic science departments
John Alvaro	Office for Postdoctoral Affairs
Parker Emerson	Associate Director, Office of International Students and Scholars
Merle Waxman	Associate Dean and Ombudsperson
Danielle Casioppo	Health Educator, Being Well at Yale
Lisa D'Angelo	Assistant Provost for Research

- Waiting to hear from Janet Lindner but suspect she's not on board at this point.
- *Michael Crair will likely attend – still waiting on his final RSVP.
- Will the results from the National Postdoc Survey be available before 10/23?
 - Likely national postdoc survey won't be available for a while
- Erin: bringing back this event; last time was 2 years ago
- Panel with people who influence postdoc life at Yale
- Can ask them questions and let them know what we need
 - Parenthood at Yale, visas, mental health
- Sean – Discussion is before the panel so we know what to ask the panel
- Cohen auditorium; backup is this room (BCMM 206/208)
- Maikel – ask for preliminary data from National Postdoc Survey

2. Mental Health first aid funding options

- \$500 for trainer (can be \$350 with smaller group)
- Erin/Jessica – mental health professional can help you understand if someone is in a mental health crisis, and how to provide first aid
- Out of budget right now
 - \$20/person for materials.
 - Potential funding options?
 - Since it's out of budget how might we fund this?
 - Can we ask departments
 - Maikel – ask Office of Provost, Magellan; maybe combine with Lisa Brandes from the McDougal center, combine with graduate student committies
- Maikel and Sam would advocate for this

3. NPAW pop-up coffee tables

- All committees welcome to table with us to promote your committee
- Science Hill: 9-10 AM 9/17 Sterling Chemistry Lab Main Entrance
- West Campus: 9-10 AM 9/17 2nd floor lobby of West Campus Conference Center
- Med Campus: 9-10 AM 9/18 TAC Lobby
- Will we have the new banner by 9/17?
 - Can also use previous one
 - Maikel – have location included in inventory
- Erin – inviting anyone to be at the tables – can recruit people to committees, let her her know or show up

Open Forum Questions/Comments: [10 min]

- Maikel: ideas for events? Questions?
- Maikel: pasta workshop was a lot of fun; want to organize another pumpkin-themed pasta workshop in October/November
- Sam: if anyone has any ideas – join us, we can help you make it happen! Can also resurrect previous events. There is no approval process or anything. Just join and start it!
- Chantal: Are we organizing another symposium next year; who sets this up? Sam: Was its own committee last year, should do the same next time, especially because it now has its own budget (no fundraising necessary); Maikel: will meet October 22nd (Anne will send meeting), previous chairs will kickstart it and then new committee would form
- Victor: 60 people at last happy hour! Next Friday is next happy hour, and will be organized in a different way. Various tables have discussion points/prompts to encourage discussion; will have food
- New members: Susan – just started; can help with visual stuff; Marie – can help with things on West Campus, on drama team with Lina, can help with performance-based stuff; Krishna – West Campus liason
- Include West Campus? Mixer? Event? Sam – Zoom cohort on West Campus?
- Jessica – interested in Advocacy Committee