

YPA General Meeting Minutes
July 10th, 2018 6:04-7:01 pm, BCMM 206/208

Chairs: 5 min

Nadia

- **New format for the meeting:** Instead of going around the room and everyone introducing themselves, when you are going to speak say your name, department, and how long you've been at Yale

Daniel

- **New Treasury Coordinator Susree Modepalli**
- **Two new Secretaries, Ryan LaRanger and Leandra Figueroa-Hall.** They will record files, organize meeting minutes, and enforce the agenda schedule.
- Also have Mentorship committee will implement successful mentorship practice. Has 2 new coordinators (Mancy and Ekaterina).
- **New Advocacy Committee Coordinator Will El-Khoury**

Nadia

- **Call out for Assistant Art Director:** This is a good opportunity to get involved in the YPA by making fliers and putting our logo on things. Email a Communications Committee coordinator (Maikel.boot@yale.edu or alexandre.jourdon@yale.edu) if you are interested.

Secretaries: 5 min

Ryan and Leandra

- **Roles and responsibilities of the Secretaries overview**
 - In charge of taking minutes.
 - If members have any concerns can voice during YPA meetings.
 - Will be ombudsman to ensure meetings go smoothly. If you have any issues or concerns, please feel free to reach out to them.

Advocacy: 10 min

Will

- **Last month's training events were well attended.**
 - Dean Lattimore- Unconscious Bias training. ~ 60 people.
 - Advanced bystander training ~ 20 people
- **NIGNS-NIH Request for Information (RFI);** improve global competitiveness, YPA would like to generate a response and send to NIH, and have our ideas and thoughts counted. If anyone would like to be volunteer, please see us afterwards. Deadline is July 20th
 - They are very interested in getting feedback from the YPA community on what programs or events would fit our needs.
 - Question: Asked for Advocacy to draft a short paragraph about the RFI for Facebook.

Xiaohui

- **Imposter syndrome event to be planned for next semester.** Want to invite speaker to do a workshop. Haven't gotten response from speaker that I reached out to. If she doesn't reach out will look for someone else
- **Brainstorm to set up strategy for postdocs on reporting challenges** in daily life and developing a communication strategy to make it possible to share and report this information. The postdoc office has said this is something which they need.
 - Note: This would not be a system for addressing individual concerns as it is currently being conceived. Instead it would be a tool to find and address trends.
 - Contact form: share with postdoc office and higher ups

Question:

- Asked whether the YPA is writing a joint response regarding the message from President of Yale on how to enhance science. Letter was emailed about 2 weeks ago. Yale Science Strategy. This is time sensitive. Not all postdocs are staff members.

Mentorship Committee: 10 min

Mancy-2nd year postdoc. Obstetrics department

- **Overview of the new committee.** Two main branches: 1) mentor circles, peer to peer mentoring, mentoring to undergraduates.
- Mentorship is an important part of our professional development.
- Talking to different offices at Yale. Stay behind after the meeting to talk to them if interested in joining the committee or email them.

Ekaterina- 3rd year postdoc in Pharmacology

- **Postdoc Buddy program:** started to help incoming postdocs and transition into Yale. Pairing incoming with current postdocs at Yale. Stated in June 2017.
- Created webpage in December 2017
- Currently recruiting new members for the Mentorship Committee. They are also recruiting for someone to run the Postdoc Buddy Program. Anyone that is interested in either position please email mancy.tong@yale.edu or Ekaterina.kuzina@yale.edu
- Questions:
 - How many people do we have in program?
 - Answer: Around 70 postdocs incoming postdocs were helped since infancy of program

Treasury Committee: 5 min

Kelson

- **Letter to the Postdoc Symposium Sponsors.** The Treasury committee will be drafting a letter to the sponsors for the Symposium. Idea: we may consider including the "stairs photo" from the Symposium with the thank you card and potentially include the slide with logos to show we thanked our sponsors.
- Will need the names of funders and contact information.
- Idea to mention what funding was used for

Professional Development Committee: 5 min

Alka,

- **Overview of Committee.** Committee delivers events and link to resources that will help with career inside and out of academia
- **Fall Events to plan:** Oriented towards non-academic due to survey. 10 people voted. 5 international job search, Salary negotiation, 1 tips for non-academic job search
- **Informal vote:** salary negotiation (9), non-academic search (6), international job search (3)
- **Minutes of meeting with OCS (Office of Career Strategy)**
 - Organizing a lot of stuff for postdocs to come. How to start looking for a job if know you are transitioning outside of academia, what kind of help can you get from them, time line. Will be more this summer.
- **Career Café podcast:** They have a lot of material so will make a podcast. Need volunteers to listen to materials. Email Alka if interested. First will reach out to committee and then send email to general postdocs

Community and Networking Committee: 5 min

Sam

- **Ongoing events.** Many ongoing events occur every month
- **The Carillon tours** in June (the 19th and the 25) filled up quickly were a big success.
 - They are currently recruiting a Carillon Tour Liaison and plan to do another of these events in August, but September works better.
- **Pumpkin Picking event in collaboration with OISS:** Later in fall.
- **Tea, Cookies, and Crafting** may undergo a location change in the near future.

Rado

- **Planning a Paint Night** in September
- **July Happy hour at Christies**
- **Visit to the Yale Club of New York.**
 - Sandeep is in charge-1st year department of radiology
 - On the 24th of July Sandeep will discuss with director to find an available date for this event. +1s is controversial; they may be available depending on space and demand.
 - Suggestions:
 - Open registration for 5 days and then if leftover spots open to plus ones?
 - Hold another survey of the postdocs at the general meeting as we did in the past year to decide whether we will allow a plus 1.

Request

- Some Postdocs are looking for the organization of family friendly events. Let us know if any events for families are available.
- Jesse is taking over planning of the Last Saturday at the Museum ongoing event

Communications Committee- 5 min

Maikel

Yale Italian Association interested in hosting cooking events/looking for precedent. This is a student organization that is willing to work with the YPA.

- Questions
 - Do they have facilities? What if anything would they need from us?
 - Answer- They have money and so are willing to sponsor the event. We will need to rent a venue and potentially equipment.
 - Are there spaces which are appropriate for this event?
 - Answer- Yes, there are, and they are affordable
 - Did they contact Steve Bloom?
 - Answer- they did contact him and their space was not available for this kind of event.

Alex

- **YPA email strategy:** Two ways to get emails about the YPA: Mailing list that sent by YPA specific for YPA events, also postdoc mailing list sent by Grace for postdoctoral affairs.
- To be added to mailing list need to register at bottom of YPA website
- Questions
 - How do we increase sign up?
 - Feature a subscription link on top of OPA Postdoc Newsletter sent by Grace. Ask Grace to at the top of her email and to send to incoming postdocs
 - Next steps: Ask grace to send out a dedicated email to register for mailing list
- **Website data**
 - Since symposium 619 views out of 846 sessions
- **Newsletter** - read by 23% of people who received it

Drago

- **National Postdoc Appreciation Week** coming up in 3rd week in September
- 2 years ago, we sold t-shirts
- Last year had town hall
- Asked what is the YPA planning for the 3rd week of September?

Questions/Comments

- Question regarding the extra questions that are asked in order to join the YPA Facebook group, which people may not want to answer
 - Answer- The questions were written a while ago and can be edited. We will leave the question about department and email address and take out the extra questions.

Suggestion: Move taking the photo to the next meeting.