

THE YALE POSTDOCTORAL ASSOCIATION MONTHLY MEETING



Yale
Postdoctoral
Association

Tuesday, September 10, 2024 | 6:00 PM

Attendees: 25

CHECK-IN

OPEN FORUM SEPTEMBER

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 AT 6:00PM



<https://cglink.me/2dA/c2276339828163359>

<https://vale.zoom.us/j/94114445723>

Chairs [5 min]

- Executive board participated in an Inclusive Leadership Workshop on August 30th with Karina Gonzalez and Darin Latimore.
- NPAW is coming up, Sep 16th to 20th. Make sure all your events are advertised. Submit them to the newsletter.
- YPA FY25 approved for \$44,100, increased of 14.5% compared to FY24.
- YPA Bylaws meeting after Open Forum, 7pm, hybrid.
- Mention the accessibility of your event on Yale Connect (Access routes, allergy warnings and alternative dietary options, age restriction).

- Executive Handbook has been updated with help from OPA.
- New YPA Website has been launched. (<https://ypa.yale.edu/>)

Secretaries [1 min]

- We are still cleaning up the YPA drive (especially the: ‘my drive section’). We will reach out via slack if we have any questions about what committee each orphan documents belong to.
- Please send agenda points to secretaries with enough time for the secretaries to prepare the agenda and send it out to the Yale postdoc listserv.

We still need a second new co-coordinator and new members for the committee, so please reach out to Jess (jessica.sherry@yale.edu) or Harshini (harshini.sureshkumar@yale.edu) if you are interested!

Treasury [4 min]

- Budget updates for the fiscal year 2024-2025.
 - Updated approved total budget for next year and the allotment of each committee’s expenses.
 - The OPA has agreed to separate belonging committee from advocacy committee and their respective budgets will be updated via email/slack by next committee meeting.
 - The expenses for September 2024 were discussed.

Contact Cooekoo (khuleshwari.kurrey@yale.edu) or Cristina (cristina.decavoli@yale.edu) if you have any questions, or would like to get involved.

Community and Networking Committee [5 min]

Recent Events:

- YPA Kayaking in East Rock Park – August 17th
- YPA Book Club – August 22nd, “I who have never known men”.
- Hiking

Upcoming Events: (all info available on Yale Connect)

- Happy Hour (Postdoc appreciation week) – September 18th, Gryphon’s Pub
- [YPA Book Club](#) – September 26th, “Welcome to the Hyunam-dong bookshop”.
- YPA Board Game Night at the OISS (Scheduled for Sept 26th, link to register [here](#))
- Improvisational Theater
- DIY paint (Digital painting event, link to register [here](#), family welcome)

In Preparation:

- Halloween party
- Book club for October. [Link to register here.](#)

October Community and Networking Committee meeting:

6-7 pm, location TBD

Contact Nicolò (nicolo.mangraviti@yale.edu) and Hongyu (hongyu.li.hl953@yale.edu) if you have any questions, or would like to get involved.

Professional Development Committee [5 min]

Upcoming events

- We will host the next edition of the Pint of Postdoc event on September 19th at the Trinity Bar Pub with 2 speakers during the Postdoc Appreciation Week. The event is on Yale Connect. Speakers interested in participating in future editions are directed to contact Luis Mestre (Luis.mestre@yale.edu) and Shannon Duffy (Shannon.duffy@yale.edu)
- We will co-host an info session with the Nucleate New Haven organization on September 26th to promote an activator program that allows candidates to work on the commercialization of their technical ideas.
 - Nucleate is also launching a lunch event on sept 18th – details will be posted on Slack later.
- We will host a lunch event with a representative from Sanofi (Dr Gopinath Nageshwaran) on October 3rd in the context of a Career Café to gain valuable knowledge about the work of scientists in the industry. The event is on Yale Connect.

Events in progress

- We will post an event on “How to prepare your resume on LinkedIn” with Maikel Boot (Potential date: end of September).
 - Tentative date is Oct 21
- We intend to host another workshop on grant writing strategies with a focus on NIH (e.g., K99/R00) and European Research Grants (e.g.: MSCA-postdoctoral fellowships and ERC).
 - Moved to spring.
- We are planning a Career Cafe Event with Holden Thorp, chancellor of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Editor-in-Chief, Science Journals. This event is targeted for early October and as a Zoom Event.
- The visit to the Cold Spring Laboratory in NY, with a possible collaboration with OCS, has been postponed to the spring due to unforeseen circumstances occurring in the Cold Spring Laboratory team. New tentative date is around ~ March/April.
 - Not possible to host this event in fall due to unforeseen circumstances in cold spring harbor lab.
- We intend to start having regular company visits, with a visit offered in each semester. We are in contact with a representative from Pfizer. This would be a joint venture with OCS and other graduate student associations. We highly recommend postdocs to also recommend names of companies, ideally within the Connecticut region, where such visits can be organized.
 - Looking for companies in Connecticut to make transportation easier to coordinate.

The **next PD committee meeting** will be on September 26th at 6 pm via Zoom.

To attend and discover more about the PD committee, please contact Amit (amit.aji@yale.edu) and Michela (michela.notarangelo@yale.edu)

Communications Committee [3 min]

Events

- Meet the YPA event – September 10th at 5:30 pm.

General

- Comms committee is looking for **new members!**
- **Website:** Please send requests to Sarah (sarah.j.smith@yale.edu) directly, as the Google form is not yet working.
 - Currently some of the links are not working, particularly links to the subpages- committee members are working on it.
- **NPAW: Social media raffle**
 - Social media raffle will be conducted on Instagram – People can enter by commenting or sharing the posts.
 - 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes will be awarded, with 1st place receiving a Yale sweater.
 - Anne and Jennifer excused themselves from being awarded any prizes – The chairs don't mind if they need to be excluded as well.
 - Some of YPA mugs and other merchandise that are left over from previous years will be used as prizes for NPAW events.

Coordinators: Anne-Marie (anne-marie.rickmann@yale.edu) & Jennifer (jennifer.j.park@yale.edu)

Committee meetings: Next in-person meeting October 4:30 pm (exact date TBD).

Symposium Committee [4 min]

- Introducing co-coordinator nomination – Adati Tarfa
 - There were no objections, so Adati was welcomed as Symposium co-coordinator!
- Symposium survey is now live on YaleConnect.
 - Plan to send it to previous members/participants for feedback.
- Committee is seeking new members.

Next committee meeting: September 16th, at 6 pm on Zoom.

Please reach out to coordinators Jay (dhananjay.bhaskar@yale.edu) and Jacob (jacob.orkwis@yale.edu) if you are interested in joining the symposium committee, or if you have any questions.

Mentorship Committee [3 min]

- Jacob Orkwis will be taking over leadership of the Buddy Program.
- NPAW Mentorship Event brief overview:

- From Postdoc to Professional Beyond Academia - A Discussion Panel with Former Yale Postdocs
- September 18th, 2024, at 12 pm.
- Open to the NPA Community (beyond Yale). [Registration on Yale Connect is open to non-Yale members.](#)
- Update on Faculty-Postdoc Mentoring Program:
 - Registration for Postdocs open until Sep 15th, 2024.
 - 18 registered mentors
 - Introductory & Meet up Event in mid-October 2024
- Stay Tuned for OPA's Fall Workshops & Events on Mentorship!

Next Committee Meeting in late September 2024 (most likely via Zoom, exact date to be determined)

Reach out to coordinators Dasha Zigackova (dagmar.zigackova@yale.edu) and Paris Filippidis (paraskevas.filippidis@yale.edu) if you would like to get involved or have more questions.

Advocacy Committee [4 min]

NPAW Events:

- DOGA, Tuesday Sept 17th, 4:30-5:30 pm, SHML 115
- Navigating Difficult Situations, Erin Heckler Tuesday Sept 17th, 5:30-6:30 pm, Sterling Memorial Library.
- Unhappy Hour: Advocacy Meet and Greet, Wednesday Sept 18th, 5:30pm to 8pm, The Rose Garden, Sterling Hall of Medicine.

Compensation Policy efforts:

- Our survey reached 178 submissions:
 - [185 submissions and the total yale postdocs numbers are around 1200.](#)
- Over 80% of postdocs are unsatisfied with their compensation.
- Please fill-out this survey and share it with others:



- Postdoc representation on compensation meeting with the Administration & HR and OPA

Grievance procedure:

- OIEA has a dashboard with report data: <https://oiea.yale.edu/discrimination-harassment/oiea-data-dashboard>.
- Complaint resources: <https://postdocs.yale.edu/resources/complaint-procedure-and-support-resources>

Other ongoing advocacy includes working with Chairs/OPA to push for:

- Increase our annual PTO and secure consistent recess days.
- Improved Yale shuttle experience and routes.
- A postdoc rate for Payne-Whitney gym

Contact us if you have other issues or suggestions and we'll look into them! You can reach us at alaz.ozcan@yale.edu and rishi.tripathi@yale.edu.

Committee meeting for August is TBD, usually on Zoom.

New members are always welcome!

Note: If you are struggling with any concerns, such as disability accommodation, bullying, etc., please get in touch with the advocacy committee and we will advocate for your needs.

Belonging Committee [6 min]

- **YPA Postcard**
 - Advocacy, OPA and Belonging are in the same page about postcard. OPA has a template and consulted advocacy and belonging about it.
 - **YPA postcards were distributed to attendees.**
- **Meme Competition**
 - More categories: Meme, photography and painting
 - Rules to promote inclusivity:
 - Should be original.
 - Should be respectful but funny.
 - Made by the contestants only.
 - Only one entry per person.
 - If selected, will agree to publish it on a YPA postcard (talked to OPA about this possibility).
 - Theme of the meme/photography/Painting will be based of Yale life or postdoc life?
 - Prompt:
 - Postdoc Life or Yale Life
 - What does belonging to Yale means to you?
 - Goals
 - Can help to know what we are doing as committee (Belonging)
 - How to communicate with all postdocs if we are in different campuses and departments?
- 2024 NPAW: Postdoc Town Hall: Connect with Community to Foster Change (URL: [National Postdoctoral Association](#))
- NPAW Parenting Event
 - No update so far

- Scheduled to be hosted on next Friday virtually at 12 PM with Angela Reese from Work-life Balance at Yale
- Tentative plan: NPAW (any day but Wednesday), catering.
- Collaborating with other committees like Professional Development, Advocacy and Symposium
 - PoP NPAW - Co-Sponsoring with Professional Development
 - Coffee/Chat event with OPA
 - Introduce different groups and organizations.
 - How to get involve with and outside with belonging (15 min talk about the committee)
 - Fundraising/ Winter Drive
 - End of October planning to organize a bystander intervention event - Usually hosted twice a year.

We are looking for new members—join the Belonging Committee!

Contact Sabrina (sabrina.ghadaouia@yale.edu) or Luis (luis.maestre@yale.edu) for details.

And reminder that you can always find the [DEI Toolkit here](#).

Associate Provost for Postdoctoral Affairs, Erin Heckler [5 min]

- OPA is working with the Chairs and the advocacy committee to increase PTO days. The request is with provost for final approval.
- Yale Shuttle request – Erin recommended combining the efforts with grad students for effective outcomes.
- OPA is working on implementing reduced gym prices for postdocs and postgrads - should be approved by end of fall.

NPAW events:

- [Lunch](#) for West Campus Postdocs, Friday, 9/13, 12-1pm
- [National Postdoc Association: Owing Your Career](#), Monday, 9/16, 1pm-2pm via Zoom (to sign up for your free NPA membership, select “Affiliate Individual Member, Postdoc”)
- [Coffee and snack grab-and-go](#), Monday, 9/16, 3-5pm, Med Campus (TAC Lobby)
- [Coffee and snack grab-and-go](#), Monday, 9/16, 3-5pm, Science Hill (Kline Tower Mezzanine)
- [Professional Development for Scientists: Mental Health and Creating an Environment of Appreciation](#), Tuesday, 9/17, 4pm via Zoom.
- [Navigating Difficult Situations as a Postdoc at Yale](#), Tuesday, 9/17, 5:30-7pm, SHML 115 and Zoom (HYBRID EVENT)
- [Industry Success for international Engineering Postdocs](#): a panel of postdoc alumni in industry roles and industry recruiters, Wednesday, 9/18, 2-3pm ET via Zoom
- [National Postdoc Association: Postdoc Town Hall: Connect with Community to Foster Change](#), Thursday, 9/19, 3pm-4pm via Zoom (to sign up for your free NPA membership, select “Affiliate Individual Member, Postdoc”)

Additional Upcoming Programming:

- [Coffee with The Office for Postdoctoral Affairs: Let’s Talk Mentorship](#), Tuesday, 9/10, 4-5pm, TAC lounge.

- Via OCS: [STEM PhD Pathways: Navigating Career Paths in Early-Stage Biotech](#), Tuesday, 9/10, 5-6pm via Zoom.
- Via OCS: [STEM PhD Pathways: Navigating the Faculty Job Search in Chemical, Physical Science and Engineering](#), Thursday, 9/12, 1-2pm via Zoom.
- [Practicing Leadership: A workshop series for postdocs and PhD candidates](#), 9 sessions starting on Tuesday, 9/17, 2-3:30pm in person, HQ 136.
- Equitable Teaching in the Social Sciences & Humanities: A seminar series in pedagogy for postdocs and graduate students, 6 sessions starting on Tuesday, 9/24, 10am-1pm in person, Poorvu Center - [REGISTRATION](#) OPENING SOON.
- [Postdoc Fundamental Mentorship Intensive](#), Friday, 10/4, 9:30am-5pm in person, TEAL Room 17 Hillhouse Avenue.

Questions or issues with registration? Please reach out to Victoria (victoria.hallinan@yale.edu)

Open Forum - Questions/Comments [15 min]

- The decision was made to combine the social media raffle and meme event organized by the Communications and Belonging committees.
- To sign up for YPA newsletter, you need to become members of YPA on YaleConnect.