

Minutes of Einstein Postdoctoral Association (EPA) - Meeting on March 6th, 2012

Total number of postdocs present: 11

**Carola Wilczek
Komal Rasaputra
Valeria Antico Arciuch
Fernando Bruno
Melissa James
Marika Russo
Ulrich Kadolsky
Natalie Silmon de Monerri
Thomas Jandl
Christophe Lemetre
Jeannine Gerhardt**

Missing: Regina Hanstein, Brian English, Cristina Caescu, Deepak Jayakumar, Paul Bacchus, Zoi Tampaki, Sanal Madhusudana Girija, Sonja Schaezlein

Topics discussed with all the reps:

1. Poster for National Postdoctoral Association Meeting-

The draft of the poster to be presented at the NPA meeting in March by Carola was sent to every one before the meeting. During the meeting everybody gave his/her suggestions on the poster which will be incorporated and then presented at the NPA meeting. It will also be shown to Jon and Mary Anne. Later this poster will be displayed in the hallway in Forchheimer next to the cafeteria.

2. **EPA webpage-** In order to maintain our independent webpage a fee of \$10 has to be paid. Everyone in the meeting agreed on contributing towards it as we want to keep the website independent. Ulrich and Christophe will be updating the webpage as much as possible before the NPA meeting.

3. **Inviting Jon and Mary Anne-** The idea of inviting the Director of Belfer Dr. Jonathan Backer and Mary Anne to one of our EPA meetings was approved by all. Based on every ones convenience we will organize the meeting.

4. **Interdepartmental Seminar-** The first interdepartmental seminar presented by Marika was a great success! More than 20 postdocs participated. The second seminar is lined up for March 15th, the presenter will be Sanal. The reps were reminded about the seminar and its advertisement.

5. **Future projects-** To implement any new ideas during the course of the year some amount of money has to be involved. Since the budget has to be discussed at the beginning of the year, Belfer suggested that the EPA comes

up with a budget for any prospective projects. We updated all the reps about this and encouraged them to let us know if they have any new ideas.

So far we already have the annual BBQ, the interdepartmental seminars and the NPA meeting in the budget. We would like to have the Welcome mugs included in the budget from now on as well as money for the candies that will be placed inside them.

General-

- All the reps were encouraged to attend as well as to let other postdocs know about the senate meeting to be held on March 7th, 2012 at 4 pm. The senate will be voting on a new non-tenure track position called Research Assistant Professor. Also we encouraged everyone to participate in the Town Hall Meeting at March 8th 2012, 5:30pm to 7:00 pm in Riklis Auditorium about security issues and housing.
- Taxes: Belfer bought the new code for the tax program Winstar. Everyone who would like to use Winstar needs to send an email to Mary Anne to get the code for it. Taxes have to be filed until April. Maybe a reminder should be sent to the postdocs.
- Everyone voted on the final name for the survival/welcome kit, and the majority supported the name "**Survival Kit**". Therefore we will keep this name from now on.