

Minutes of Einstein Postdoctoral Association (EPA) - Meeting on Oct 2nd, 2012

Total number of postdocs present:

**Carola Wilczek
Komal Rasaputra
Melissa James
Adrian Santos
Ulrich Kadolsky
Christophe Lemetre
Katie Stiles
Sayani Dasgupta**

Missing: Valeria Antico Arciuch; Brian English; Jeannine Gerhardt; Regina Hanstein; Marika A Russo; Sonja Schaetzlein; Fernando Pereira Bruno; Cristina Caescu; Zoi Tampaki; Natalie Silmon De Monerri; Deepak Jayakumar; Sanal Madhusudana Girija; Thomas Jandl; lisa.scandiuzzi@einstein.yu.edu; Anne-Laure F Surena; Esther Arwert; Soma Rohatgi; Rituparna Mukhopadhyay

Topics discussed with all the Reps:

1. Dennis Shields Postdoctoral Research Prize ceremony: The deadline for the submission of abstracts for participation in the poster presentation at the Dennis Shield award ceremony was decided to be notified to the postdoctoral community using flyers. Adrian has taken the responsibility to design the flyer.
2. The Reps were updated about the recent meeting of the Co-chairs (Carola and Komal) with Dr. Jonathan Backer (director of Belfer) and administrator Mary Anne Clifford. The topics included
 - A new PO number will be generated to order pizza for the Interdepartmental Seminars from Patricia's pizzeria for the new year. Mary Anne will also try to get an open PO number to purchases from Costco for the annual postdoctoral BBQ.
 - Decision to have the minutes of the EPA meetings available online at the EPA website and a link to them from the Belfers' website, as well as a link to the EPA handbook.
 - A feedback is required from the postdocs to decide about the service hours of the security guards at Rhineland housing.
 - The postdoctoral orientation was decided to be held three times a year instead of two.
3. Survival kit: It has been decided that once a postdoc uses a survival kit they could keep the kit for 2 weeks after which the rep should contact them and

make arrangements to get the kit back to the department - completely refilled. Extensions can be made depending on the situation.

General-

- Ulrich has initiated to set up an EPA reps email list to facilitate sending e-mails among each other, he also added country flags to the homepage and asked if everyone agreed with it (yes!).
- It was decided that in the next EPA meeting one rep from each department will get 3 welcome mugs in order to welcome the new postdocs in their department without having to get a new mug each time from the stock.
- The EPA would like to invite Jon and Mary Anne to the next meeting in order to meet all the reps - therefore the next meeting will be announced some days in advance to give everyone the chance to participate in the meeting.
- The reps were informed that one Co-Chair position will be open soon.
- The salary situation was discussed.
- Open letter from John Scatizzi from Scripps Research Institute (CA) to the NPA board of directors was explained and discussed.