

# Postdoctoral Affairs Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

April 3, 2013

4:00pm, 239 Tigert Hall (Provost's Conference Room)

Attending: Martin Cohn, Brian Harfe, Allison Kinney, William Puszyk, Ashley Seifert, Kim Pace

The meeting was called to order at 4:06pm.

## **Review and approval of minutes:**

The meeting minutes from the January 23, 2013 meeting were distributed for committee review. The minutes were approved without changes.

## **Updates:**

**Mentoring Award Winners:** The Postdoctoral Affairs Advisory Committee welcomes mentoring award winners Dr. Martin Cohn, Dr. Kevin Folta and Dr. Chris Hass to the Advisory Team. The Office of Postdoctoral Affairs welcomes the input and advice from the three faculty awardees as we work to improve mentoring and the postdoc experience in general at UF.

**Postdoc Research Symposium Update:** Scheduled for Monday, April 8, 2013 at Emerson Alumni Hall at 1pm. Postdoc Mentoring Award winners will be recognized at the event, and will be assisting with judging both oral and poster presentations. Additionally, the Department of Pathology, Immunology and Laboratory Medicine will be recognized for outstanding postdoc engagement for having the largest number of postdocs submitting their abstracts for Symposium consideration. There will be 10 oral presentations judged and 10 poster presentations judged. Approximately 35 other posters will also be on display. Poster boards, easels and clips will be loaned to us from the Center for Undergraduate Research. Many postdocs and committee members, chaired by Will Puszyk, have worked very hard to make the event a success.

**National Postdoctoral Association Recap:** Meeting was March 15-17 in Charleston, SC. Our Office of Postdoctoral Affairs is doing a number of things that other postdoc offices are doing. Discussion at the meeting centered around the oversupply of Ph.D.s and dearth of opportunities for postdocs. The meeting closed with discussion of the possibility of the National Postdoctoral Association becoming an accrediting agency for postdoc offices.

**Postdoc Workshops:** The last postdoc workshop on March 27 addressed the topic of immigration issues for postdocs. Immigration attorney Aaron Blumberg, and members of HR and the UF International Center were on hand to answer questions. The next postdoc workshop is slated for April 18, 4pm, in 282 Reitz Union and will have someone from HR's Training and Organizational Development team lead attendees through a Management and Supervisory Skills workshop.

**Discussion:** In response to a request to the OPA for assistance with NRSA grant applications, the group decided a postdoc workshop providing some of the expertise in our office would help both faculty and postdocs dealing with NRSA, T-32 and other training grant applications. Brian Harfe and Marty Cohn have volunteered their assistance in heading up the workshop. A separate workshop to deal with K99s would be helpful as well. Thierry Dubroca will coordinate.

Another faculty inquiry about more centralized data and information for PI's for grants was brought up and will continue to be discussed to determine possible solutions.

The meeting concluded at 5:16pm.