

Meeting Minutes

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| Committee | Postdoctoral Affairs Advisory Committee | Date | Friday, March 23, 2012 |
| Facilitator | Kim Pace | Time | Called to order at 3:06 P.M. |
| Location | 239 Tigert Hall Provost's Conference Room | Scribe | Gaura McLeod Office of the Provost |
| Attendees | Kim Pace, Teresa Balsler, Brian Harfe, Thierry Dubroca, Aaron Dossey, Sohba Jaishankar, Alvina Mehinto, Gaura McLeod | | |

Key Points Discussed

| No. | Agenda Topic | Highlights |
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| 1. | Review/Approval of Minutes | Meeting minutes were approved |
| 2. | Information: Postdoc Orientation | <p>New Postdoc Orientation is scheduled for Wednesday, September 19, 2012 during National Postdoc Appreciation week. It will be held at Emerson Alumni Hall. The Orientation will be a half day event and the plan is to have a speaker after lunch. The speaker event would be open to the public. The New Postdoc Orientation would be similar to the New Faculty Orientation, with presentations from the Office of Research, Human Resource Services, UF International Center, General Counsel's Office and others. All presentation materials and resources would be made available on the Web site following the event. It was suggested we have a poster session for postdocs at the Orientation and perhaps a social event could be scheduled after the Orientation.</p> <p>Kim will pursue the issue of an ethics class or some kind of ethics training to be made available to postdocs and others on campus.</p> |
| 3. | Review and Feedback: March 19 and 20 Grants Workshops National Postdoctoral Association Annual Meeting | <p>Kim gave positive feedback on the annual National Postdoctoral Association (NPA) meeting held March 15-17 in San Francisco. Due to the benefits and resources provided with an NPA membership, it was decided to provide institutional membership to the NPA at UF.</p> <p>The IFAS grants workshop received a very positive assessment. Kim attended the NSF CAREER awards workshop on the 20th and Ashley, Celine, Thierry, and Aaron attended the March 19 workshop.</p> <p>Kim will meet with John Hayes, IFAS Interim Dean for Research, about structuring a plan for assisting UF postdocs to attend the grants workshop next year. It might also be possible to provide a half-day workshop with the speaker that would be less expensive for postdocs who cannot attend the full-day workshop.</p> |
| 4. | Discussion: Mentoring Postdoc Survey Results | <p>Mentoring was affirmed as an issue that the Postdoc Office should address. Three programs that the Office will work on implementing:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Kim will meet with the Distinguished Professors group on April 17 to see if they would be interested in a mentoring program with postdocs. The Distinguished Professors group does speaker |

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| | | <p>events, and Kim will check to see if they would be willing to do a panel discussion or workshop for postdocs to provide information and advice on careers in academia.</p> <p>2) The Office of Postdoctoral Affairs should provide an Individual Development Plan (IDP) for use by mentors and postdocs. This can be part of a larger mentoring toolkit that the Office can work to develop.</p> <p>3) An awards program for Outstanding Postdoctoral Mentors would recognize and reward those faculty doing a great job mentoring their postdocs. The award winners would form a core of mentoring experts to help with develop mentoring resources and a mentoring toolkit. Postdocs would need to be part of the selection process.</p> |
| 6. | Postdoctoral Needs Assessment Survey | <p>Survey results: The Office will continue to work on issues brought up in the survey. The new health insurance plan (self-insurance) is still being formulated and should be in place in fall 2012.</p> <p>Social Events and Social Networking Opportunities: Many postdocs expressed feeling isolated on campus, and expressed a desire for social networking opportunities. A UF Postdoctoral Association made up of postdocs would be helpful in planning and carrying out social activities for postdocs. It would be beneficial to revive the old postdoc association and have something to inform postdocs about at orientation.</p> <p>A Postdoc Research Symposium is a possibility for the spring, where postdocs can present on their research. Other opportunities for postdocs to present should be explored. As well as other opportunities for professional networking.</p> |
| 7. | Future meetings | April 16, 2012, 3:00pm, 239 Tigert |

Meeting adjourned at: 4:28 P.M.