

DoLS POSTDOC COMMITTEE

Monday 17th October 2016
12 – 1:30pm
213B Sir Ernst Chain Building

Minutes

Present: Aw, Rochelle; Briggs, David; Grob, Alice; Marbiah, Masue; Pang, Poh-Choo; Storch, Marko; Vincent, Crystal; Mombrikotb, Shorok

Apologies: Haghighat-Khah, Roya; Matias, Miguel; Yu, Joe

	Agenda Item	Action
1	Apologies Apologies received from Roya Haghighat-Khah, Miguel Matias and Joe Yu	
2	Minutes of the last meeting No issues	
3	Beer and Pizza Update Joint meeting worked well, and D. Briggs received comments from different PIs to say how much they enjoyed the event. Agreed that it would be good to have joint events like this a few times a year. Whilst the African drumming was well received and enjoyed it was a shame that people abruptly left once it began. Suggested that next time good to keep up a partition so that people can remain socialising so they do not feel that they have to leave. Beer and Pizza event to continue as per usual, A. Grob has speakers organised until end of February.	
4	Silwood Park events Beer and pizza for November will be replaced with New Postdoc Welcome. S. Mombrikotb to check with Angela Kehoe that all postdocs may attend this event (as there is currently only 1 new postdoc due to start). New postdocs will be introduced with an email from Tim Barraclough and drinks organised in the SP bar to welcome new starters. For events because of limited number of postdocs at SP, introductory speed talks, practice conference talks and mini courses (20 min tutorials) will be organised as opposed to the 10 minute talks that are run at SK. To date 3 beer and pizza events have been run, although it was noted that no one was filling out doodle polls (similar case at SK).	S. Mombrikotb
5	Speed Mentoring Summary Well received event with good feedback received from both PIs and Postdocs. 8 PIs and 8 Postdocs participated. For consideration for future events a bigger room would be required if numbers were to increase. One	

Postdoc from Silwood Park came, in the future would be worthwhile investigating organising a bus from SP to SK so that more postdocs can attend. Discussed whether to hold this event again, decided that this would be a maximum of once a year event. D. Briggs has list of PIs who would be willing to be involved in the future if we decide to run the event again.

6 DoLS Postdoc Symposium

Date scheduled as Thursday 30th March. Department will provide funds between £800-1000 to cover expenses, additional funding of £250 can be requested from PDC (R. Aw to apply). Day will be split into 3 sessions, with a two keynote speakers for the two morning sessions and a panel of different career options for the afternoon session. At present, keynote speakers will be given 25 minutes plus questions, postdocs will be given 15 minutes plus 3 minutes questions (subject to change) – this means there will be 9 speaker slots available.

R. Aw

Jon Wood (Innovate UK) has agreed to talk. P-C. Pang to ask Alex Andersen to be on the panel. R. Aw to ask industrial contact to speak on panel. Suggested that Prof. Tom Welton could be contacted to be an academic representative on panel.

P-C. Pang
R. Aw

P-C. Pang to contact Prof. Anne Dell to invite her to be a keynote speaker on her plans for the Department (post-meeting note: Prof. Anne Dell has agreed). Prof. Stephen Curry invited to be other keynote speaker on Open Access publishing (post-meeting note: Prof. Stephen Curry is unavailable on the date – a new keynote speaker will be required).

P-C. Pang

Suggested call for speakers to go out in January.

7 DoLS Postdoc Christmas Partt

Suggested dates for 7th, 8th, 13th December. D. Briggs to contact Lenne regarding Department Christmas party date. S. Mombrikotb to advise on Silwood Party date (post-meeting note: this has been confirmed for Friday 15th December). Organise a bus for SP to join us. 4pm start. Quiz is still being considered.

D. Briggs
S. Mombrikotb

8 Equal Opportunities Committee Meeting Update

Meeting scheduled for Friday 21st October. M. Marbiah currently investigating links to a charity that focuses on promoting higher education.

M. Marbiah

9 Health and Safety Update

No update.

10 Research Strategy Committee Update

No update. Next meeting date has not been announced.

11 Update from Royal Society Early Career Researcher Symposium

Focused on science strategy and development. Aims to boost engagement with postdocs. Improving access to funding. Noted that engaging postdocs challenging overall. Imperial PDC used as evidence of what universities should be doing and highlighted that it is important to get our postdocs to engage with it and the training sessions specifically (approximately only 2% of postdocs use the PDC).

12 DoLS Postdoc Handbook

First draft on handbook brought along. It was noticed that there was a space missing for S. Mombrikotb which will need to be amended.

R. Haghighat-Khah

13 Academic Staff Meeting

D. Briggs is unable to attend the next academic staff meeting. Calls for

D. Briggs

volunteers to attend instead. R. Aw to attend, Lenne to be advised.

14 **Silwood Park Management meeting**

Prof. Tim Barraclough has arranged a fortnightly management meeting to which S. Mombrikotb has been invited to attend as a representative of the DoLS PDC. This will be to check that things at SP are running smoothly. Currently investigating the possibility of a teaching fellow at SP. S. Mombrikotb to update DoLS PDC with updates from meetings. S. Mombrikotb

15 **Miguel Matias Replacement**

A. Grob to replace J. Yu on PDC committee. Karen Hinxman to be R. Aw advised.

16 **Next Meeting**