

DoLS POSTDOC COMMITTEE

Thursday 20th September 2018
12:30 – 2:00pm
G68 Sir Alexander Fleming Building

Minutes

Present: Angrisano, Fiona; Aulino Campos de Lima, Melina; Aw, Rochelle; Ba, Wei; Estacio Gomez, Alicia; Marbiah, Masue; Nowell, Reuben; Vincent, Crystal

Apologies: Aldersley, Andy; Bradley, R; Grob, Alice; Haghghat-Khah, Roya.

| Agenda Item | Action |
|---|--|
| 1 Apologies | |
| 2 Minutes of the last meeting No issues | |
| 3 Social Media Update. R. Bradley updated the Committee website with the changes discussed in previous emails. He asks members to check if the information displayed is correct and if additional information needs to be uploaded in the website. Due to his absence in this meeting, he has asked to postpone the discussion of how to use Social Media platforms to advertise the Committee events. | All members, R. Bradley |
| 4 Pizza and beer update. Next talk after the Summer break is scheduled for 27 th September. Speakers for following talks have been arranged, and drinks have been purchased as well. Pizzas' ordering is linked to A. Grob phone number. A reduced number of pizzas should be ordered if less people come, since it was pointed out that there were left overs in the last Pizza and beer event. We decide to get name badges to wear them in this event so new Postdocs can easily recognise us. | A. Grob, F. Angrisano A. Estacio Gomez. |
| 5 Equality Diversity and Inclusion Committee Update R. Haghghat-Khah, the new Rep for the EDI, has scheduled a meeting with S. Curry, (Assistant Provost EDI), to discuss how the new EDI strategy will be applicable to Postdocs in the Department. Members would like her to ask about paid maternity leaves, and nursery space within the College campuses. A. Estacio Gomez has been approached by the Department to obtain information about how many male/female participants we have in our events. Along these lines, we discussed whether we should include gender as one of the criteria to select for speakers. Some members disagree with this, pointing out that it is quite difficult to get voluntary speakers. | R. Haghghat- Khah |

6 **Silwood Park update**

R. Nowell points out that there are only 20 Postdocs in Silwood Park and so it is difficult to engage with them, having around 3-4 Postdocs that participate in their events, 10 as the maximum. They have been hosting a weekly Postdoc event consisting on informal chat/socialising, without a scheduled talk. Some members suggest whether it would be possible to pair these Postdocs events with other ones already scheduled, such as Departmental talks. R. Nowell will investigate about the possibility of having a designated coffee room space, or coffee morning. A Estacio Gomez will ask Tika Masters whether this can be provided by the Department. About organising workshops there, it is mentioned that the last event hosted there needed a minimum of 15 participants. A Estacio Gomez suggests to host a EDU workshop on how to obtain Associate Fellow of HEA certificate.

R. Nowell,
A. Estacio
Gomez

7 **Future events update**

C. Vincent would like to organise two events. The first of them as an Open Forum so Postdocs within the Department can meet the members of the Committee and also communicate their interests. We agree on using the time slot of October Pizza and Beer. Ideally all members of the Committee should be present, but a minimum of 4 is required. The second event is scheduled for February, to promote potential collaborations between Postdocs. It will need 1 hour, plus possibly extra time to socialise.

C. Vincent,
All members

8 **Student Engagment Activities**

R. Haghghat-Khah and A Estacio Gomez have been contacted by several Teaching Fellows and Huw Williams, the UG Director studies, in order to discuss possible activities to increase the interaction between UGs and Postdocs.

R. Haghghat-
Khah, A
Grob, A
Estacio
Gomez.

Some members of the Committee had participated in the 'Meet the Researchers' event organised by the Department, and would be happy to do it again. However, the Committee does not feel comfortable about organising more events only dedicated to UGs, but it is willing to participate in the ones organised by the UG Teaching team and others.

R. Haghghat-Khah is keen on creating activities to engage UG with Postdocs, and so she will email Postdocs in the Department to seek out possible volunteers.

The Committee has been contacted by Ester Buchaca-Domingo. She is organising the 2nd Research Showcase of the Faculty of Natural Sciences. A Grob, R. Haghghat-Khah and A Estacio Gomez have agreed on judge the posters of the participants.

9 **DoLS Undergraduate teaching committee**

R. Haghghat-Khah has been contacted by Huw Williams, the current director of the UG studies, to invite us to sit in the UG teaching committee. W Ba has agreed on being our Rep in this Committee. R. Haghghat-Khah will email Huw Williams to inform him about this. Till we find a replacement, W Ba will also be the Postdoc Rep in the Health and Safety Committee.

W Ba

10 **Infrastructure and Facilities Committee**

A Grob has been invited to sit in it, and she has been named Facilities user. They have a meeting on the 2nd October.

A Grob

11 **Membership update**

R Aw and Masue Marbiah will leave the Committee on 30th September, and so we are currently 10 members. The guidelines of the Committee allows us to have up to 12 members, so we will do an open call to recruit two new members, one of them to sit in the Health and Safety Committee.