

MUPA COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

September 17, 2008

8:00 -9:00 AM

372 Life Sciences Center

Attendance: Jenny Zhang, Craig Emter, Todd Jones-Farrand, Dr. Sheryl Tucker, Shekhar Deo, Kia Dalili, Elizabeth Hoyos

I. MEETING GOALS:

- a. **Event Planning**
- b. **Recruitment**

II. Website → Shekhar

1. **Robin oversees the publicity and marketing side of MUPA's website**

Did not discuss.

2. **Qi Qi (graduate student) is our new webmaster**

Need to develop a regular schedule for updates (e.g., minutes, CDS announcement & pictures)

3. **New phase of website update started in September**

Still looking for folks to put in the "Postdoc Spotlight"

Dr. Tucker will create a list

4. **Phases for website update**

III. Events & planning:

1. **CDS Planning → Kia**

Robin Walker on Grant Writing (tomorrow)

Kia will begin planning for October after this week's CDS

2. **Future events: Brainstorming.**

We will repeat the Tax Seminar this year and can repeat the Immigration Seminar if needed.

We could also do the Community Of Science (COS) workshop again.

Elizabeth suggested one on Lab Notebooks/Record Keeping/Data Management.

Might be better as a CDS?

Linda Blockus might be a good person to lead this.

Dr. Tucker suggested we co-sponsor a workshop she is planning on the FICA issue.

This would be an open forum Q&A session with key folks, including

Administration, Benefits Office, and consultants (law firm). Purpose would be to

clarify the current situation and clear up misinformation. Timing may be an issue;

we may get a very short notice. Our task will be to raise awareness among postdocs and advisors.

3. **Future outreach targets**

- a. Healthy for Life
Did not discuss.
- b. MU Library System
Jenny has talked to folks at the Library and they are willing to give a presentation on use of Library Tools. This could be modeled on the program for the Chemistry Graduate Students.

4. Travel awards

Craig is still waiting for a response from 2 previous award winners to act as judges. Deadline is 9/25. Review will be conducted on 10/3 and winners will be announced on 10/6.

IV. Administration

1. Recruitment → Jenny

Membership sign-up form on website

Primarily for generating a list of current post-docs and alumni

Need to clarify benefits of membership

Restrict travel grants to members?

Require meeting attendance?

2. Newsletter → Doug and Arka (Not present. Jenny filled in)

Doug was not present but Jenny announced he needed submissions ASAP.

It was suggested that we require/persuade recipients of Travel Grants to write a short piece about what they used the money for.