

PdOC Society

Minutes 11 February 2015

Minutes of the meeting held at The Postdoc Centre, 16 Mill Lane at 6pm on Wednesday 11 February

Present: Maya Ghoussaini (President), Nicky de Battista NdB (Treasurer), Joy Warde (Secretary), Alice Hutchings, Natalia Bulgakova NBu, Brian Krummel, Johannes Hjorth, Paul Bennett, Adina Feldman, Tariq Masood, Nicky Blanning NB, Antonis Kanellopoulos, Tariq Masood, Clare Simpson, Severine Mollard,

1. **Apologies:** Jean-François Mercure (Vice-President), Paul Coxon, Marko Tainio

2. **Minutes** – minutes of the meeting held on 21 January (**2015_01_21 minutes**) were approved as an accurate record.

3. **President's Report (MG)**

3.1. Format of PdOC ctte day on 7 March

MG outlined various options for and outcomes from the committee day on 7 March. There was general agreement that the afternoon should help us to

- build a strong cohesive team
- provide an opportunity to reflect on the growth of PdOC and outlook for the future
- generate some longer term PdOC policies.

There was a desire for a relaxed feel to the day since everyone was giving up part of their weekend.

Action: AK/JW to lead on organising a getting to know each other/ training portion of the afternoon with the help of Geraint Wyn-Story (external facilitator).

Action: AF/AK/JW to lead on PdOC reflection and forward planning activity.

Action: AF to formulate questions for consideration on 7 March. This will relate to future PdOC policies which could be presented at the AGM

Action: MG (and JFM) to book College room at St. John's or Hughes Hall.

Action: JH to book catering

4. **Treasurer's Report (NdB)**

4.1. NdB provided a written summary of the PdOC accounts (**PdOC statement 15-02-09.pdf**). The current effective balance currently stands at £6402.90.

4.2. The new Society account is now up and running with Barclays. There will be a transition period between the old and new accounts.

4.3. NdB and JW presented the proposals for allocation of the OPdA donation. To date, £2k is allocated to future activities.

Action: All members with further ideas should contact JW and NdB.

4.4. JW proposed the purchase of a small leaving gift e.g. engraved paperweight for retiring committee members. In principle this was agreed by the committee.

Action: All to send ideas to JW for a personalised gift.

5. **PdOC Constitution Working Group (AF)**

5.1. A working group has been formed consisting of AF, MG, PC, JFM and JH. This working group will consider the definition of PdOC member in the Constitution and will make recommendations on changes before 2015 AGM. (**PdOC_ConstitutionWG_minutes_20150115.docx + PdOC_ConstitutionWG_minutes_20150206**). The working group is considering the following 3 issues relating to membership

- Who is eligible to join PDOC?
- How does someone become a member of PdOC?
- What does membership mean?

Action: AF to report back to committee in due course

6. Communications and Marketing report (PB)

6.1. PB reported on the actions of the Communications and Marketing sub committee. The sub committee minutes and full action list are available (**PdOC_CommsAndMarketing_Minutes19012015.pdf**). It was proposed to add a 'blog' feature on the PdOC website to include a 'Meet the researcher' and 'Meet the PdOC committee' feature building towards the AGM in June. Additional actions:

Action: JW to send letter and powerpoint template to PB/SM

Action: PB to link to newsletter archive from the newsletter footer.

7. Welfare Report (MT)

Postponed until next meeting.

8. Events report (AH / BK)

8.1. BK and AH summarised the previous and upcoming PdOC events (**2015_02_08 PdOC events summary**).

8.2. CS is working on a series of family friendly events to build on the success of the joint NVS/PdOC xmas party. CS has requested £200 to be reserved to subsidise future family events for 2015.

8.3. AH and BK are working on a Garden Party at Emma immediately after the AGM on 17 June. Committee members expressed concerns about whether we had adequate time for the AGM in advance of a Garden Party. The garden party will be a ticketed event whereas the AGM is open to all postdocs at Cambridge at no cost. The AGM business needs to be completed within the AGM agenda.

Action: AH/BK to get dates/timings for the garden party and circulate to ctte for decision.

9. AOB

9.1. AH informed the Committee that she has been nominated for the vacant class c position on University Council. All members of Regent House are eligible to vote. Voting period runs 20 Feb – 2 March.

9.2. JW has written to the Assistant Registry to enquire as to why some RAs are members of the Roll of Regent House whilst others are not. JW reported that she has written to 3 Faculty Secretaries to enquire about Faculty membership.

Action: JW to report more fully at a future meeting.

9.3. ALL are invited to the next DPCCN meeting, 6-8pm, 26 Feb in the Postdoc Centre.

Action: Email JW if you would like to attend.

9.4. OPdA Management Committee 10.30-12, 26 Feb. MG and JFM to represent PdOC.

9.5. 2 PdOC members are invited to attend a postdoc dinner at Emma on 4 March. MG and AF will attend.

9.6. PdOC Scarves are not currently on sale on the PdOC website.

JW to liaise with PC/NdB to get the scarves sale up and running!

10. Date of future meetings – 11 March, 22 April, 13 May, 17 June