

TUPA Business Meeting Agenda – October 21, 2020

Attendees: Emily Abbott, Battuya Bayarmagnai, Sarah Beganskas, Emily Booth, Achinta Bordoloi, Antonia Chroni, Gabriele Floris, Elliott Johnson, Kathy Keefe, Helene Khalid, Anna-Mariya Kukuyan, Alyssa Leystra, Jason Pattis, Inés Quésada, Brooke Rumper, Alex Wermer-Colan, Jennica Young, Mary Tresa Zanda

Agenda (planned agenda in black; outcomes in blue)

1. Introductions
 - a. Alyssa Leystra, Education Coordinator from Fox Chase Cancer Center – Battuya
 - i. Alyssa is a postdoc and Academic Affairs Coordinator at Fox Chase Cancer Center (FCCC)
 - ii. She has information on/connections for opportunities to collaborate with FCCC trainees and to enhance Temple-FCCC communications
 - b. Everyone else on call – Sarah
2. Approve last month's meeting minutes – Sarah
 - a. Approved
3. Budget update: State of accounts – Helene (TUPA Treasurer)
 - a. Housed under OVPR with Dr. Masucci
 - b. Business manager is Matt DiMarco, Assistant Director of Finance and Accounting (OVPR)
 - c. OVPR provides annual \$5000 budget; unused funds will carry over
 - d. As of 10/21/20, balance is \$5200 [\$5000 from OVPR, \$500 from ISSS, \$200 from BioEng; \$500 disbursement for Interactive Career Workshop from Dr. Vania Cao]
 - e. **\$87 Free the Ph.D. workshop upcoming. Send name and email to Helene for payments along with justification for needing funding. If already paid, keep receipt for later reimbursement. Bulk discounts available, speak with Vania Cao with number of people attending**
4. Brainstorming future professional development events – Sarah
 - a. Potential to set up program for small individual grants for conferences, courses, etc.
 - b. Possible future ideas: another virtual speaker, headshots for postdocs, collaboration with FCCC
 - c. Alex suggested pooling our resources for specific skills development workshops (coding, etc.)
 - d. Emily A. suggested training on how to run an effective virtual meeting/conference
 - e. Antonia is in a group that helps provide writing feedback for grants, papers etc., called the Penn Editor's Association (PEA). Send Antonia an email if interested.
 - i. PEA statement: "PEA handles all sorts of scientific write-ups: manuscripts, grants, conference abstracts etc. We do not review the scientific content, but rather checking the language, grammar, flow. Even though the PEA started editing biomedical research, it is not restricted to that anymore. If a text comes up from physics or chemistry or whatever, it will still be accepted by the editorial board."

- f. Battuya suggested a workshop she heard of for LinkedIn (\$2500)
 - i. Possible to pool with other postdoc associations for something higher-cost like this
- g. Alyssa says FCCC has free talks that are generally biomedically focused, but some are potentially of broader interest (grant writing, giving short research talks, LinkedIn, etc.). She will keep us updated on the calendar and TUPA will do the same.
- h. Please reach out to TUPA if any other ideas come up**
- 5. Funding subcommittee – Sarah
 - a. First meeting early November. 1 meeting/month
 - b. Subcommittee will discuss ideas for using our funding and oversee funding requests from postdocs (2 received already for Free the PhD Career Summit)
 - c. Poll results: 50-50 split of people interested in joining the funding subcommittee**
- 6. NPAW events debrief - Jennica + Kathy
 - a. Joint event with Jefferson went well, future joint events were planned
 - b. Non-academic career workshop with Dr. Vania Cao was well-received
 - i. Potential interest in accountability group?
 - ii. Battuya and Cristina Wilson are working on revamping the existing accountability group to be broader than just writing, with a google sheet for goals etc.
 - c. Career summit (10/25/2020, \$87) will have many speakers and opportunities to network
 - d. Sarah says you can create a free account with FreethePhD for resources and Q+As
- 7. Upcoming events & planning - Jennica + Em
 - a. Zoom lunch 10/23, 12-1pm
 - b. Joint Halloween social with other Philly postdocs 10/30, 5-7pm
 - c. November social: virtual game night 2.0 (**help welcome to plan along with Sarah**)
 - d. December social: ugly sweater party (**help welcome to plan along with Jennica**)
 - e. Email tupa@temple.edu for interest in hosting socials/event ideas**
 - f. Kathy may be able to contribute some games/hosting for a game night
 - g. Battuya requests a how make cocktails social, and suggested another open-mic night
 - h. Helene might know a Zumba instructor for a social
 - i. Alex suggested asking other schools/departments to chip in for a larger event
 - j. Alyssa said there were some Fox-Chase events but they stopped after quarantine. There may be interest in participating, but nobody wanted to coordinate—she may be able to bring people in to participate. TUPA can send Alyssa an email if we have an event we might like more people at, with the following:
 - i. -What is the name of the group?
 - What is the purpose of the group – how does participation benefit the participants?
 - How long/frequent are the meetings, and what are the time commitments between meetings?

-Who do interested people contact to learn more?
Alyssa.Leystra@fcc.edu

- k. **Still seeking co-Events Coordinator! Email tupa@temple.edu for more info**
- 8. Subcommittee updates
 - a. Outreach subcommittee - Sarah + Jennica
 - i. Met with OVPR to improve website
(<https://sites.temple.edu/k12resources>)
 - ii. The K-12 resources project is on the way to wrapping up
 - iii. Please share link to K-12 teachers
 - iv. **More resources are still welcome for the spreadsheet, plus sharing website to teachers and help managing Google group community— email Sarah or Jennica if interested**
 - v. Ayssia says that Fox-Chase doesn't have big projects at the moment, but did pre-quarantine (ex. an outreach project with a school in Roxborough)
 - vi. Encouraged to connect with Skype a Scientist virtually, together with TUPA
 - b. Antiracism subcommittee update - Sarah
 - i. Recent actions: compilation of list of resources, hosted discussion after a webinar on bias in the workplace, created anonymous form for postdocs to reach out to TUPA, organized group donation to BLM Philly
 - ii. Relatively low engagement from outside the committee so far. **Follow up survey is still available** and will help the subcommittee better serve the postdoc community
 - iii. **Next meeting: 10/28 at 1pm. All are welcome!**
- 9. TUPA social media update – Em (new Social Media Coordinator)
 - a. **Please send along anything to update the social media platforms (professional achievements or personal developments)**
 - b. TUPA is on Whatsapp, Slack, Twitter, LinkedIn
 - c. Achinta and Battuya are creating a Slack channel to share resources with other international postdocs on how to petition for permanent residency
 - d. Anna-Mariya said there is a biomedical Whatsapp group, and will add a channel to Slack as well. That will need to be advertised so people know about it.
 - e. **Open to new ideas/feedback**
- 10. COVID update – Battuya
 - a. Battuya will be following up on transparency/surveys to include postdocs as staff, to demand that we be included in these conversations
- 11. NPA Annual Conference, April 2021 in Philly - Sarah
 - a. There will be a virtual information session about this—at present it is unclear whether the event is intended to be virtual, hybrid or in-person. TUPA officers will attend the meeting for information before deciding our level of involvement.
- 12. Other comments, ideas, questions, feedback?
 - a. /

NEXT MEETING

Wed., November 18, 5:00-7:00pm, on Zoom