

UWPA General Assembly Notes

Mon, July 1, 2019 (4pm): Loew 310

Attending	Unknown if Attending	Cannot Attend
Rebecca Bluett Hannah Horowitz Cristi Proistosescu Anzela Niraula		Julie VanDeWeghe Karla Herpoldt

Meeting time: 4:03p-4:50p

1. Events Debrief

- a. Anything newsworthy from the award ceremony last month? Very inspiring – people gave talks about how postdocs make a big difference in the lives of their mentees.

2. Website

Menu bar should be changed to stand out better.

3. Research symposium

- a. Location: South Campus Center Room 316, chairs for 120 classroom style
- b. Date: Friday, September 20, 12pm-6pm
- c. Updates/planning – seems like we should be starting to try and solicit abstract submission for the poster session soon.
- d. Keynote or panel ideas:
 - If you leave academia where do you go – esp useful if could get somebody from Microsoft or someplace non-academic where they might be hiring UW postdocs. What are they looking for?
 - Panel of people who went into non-academic careers.
 - Could do a panel about diversity/MeTooSTEM/NASreport working group/SafeCampus – a lot of people around UW doing harassment & diversity things – could pretty easily form an interesting panel. This is the present landscape, here is what we're doing to improve, what do we need to keep working on.
 - Tuba Ozkan-Haller from OSU could be interesting – diversity-related.

4. Union updates

- a. Ratified contract – about 590/900 postdocs voted yes; one of the strongest ratification votes of similar unionization:

<http://www.uwpostdocsunited.org/tentative-agreement/>

- b. **Critical for PDs to join membership** – important for future negotiation (there’s a clause to revisit salaries if NIH increases their suggested PD payscale, which based on last year could be as soon as August) – per Union emails: “Yes, Union membership comes with dues (1.44% of your salary). For details about dues and how they are spent, see the attached FAQ and visit our homepage: <http://www.uwpostdocsunited.org/dues/>.”
Over 400 of our postdocs WERE being paid under NIH scale.
- c. **The numbers are really important here in terms of the power dynamic with UW administration. Also important within the Union structure itself – the more members we have the more representation we get on the union board. We suggested the union have a place/time for people to come drop the membership forms off b/c figuring out where to physically return the forms is a hurdle that may be discouraging people from joining.**
- d. **The fully subsidized UPASS doesn’t seem like it went into effect yet, even though it was supposed to go into effect today. Some other people are being ‘deemed ineligible’. Union is getting into it since that is technically a breach of contract.**
- e. **If anybody’s PI is trying to give them a raise now in order to make up for lost wages from wage denials & the 2% increase not going into effect yet & they’re being told that they can’t – CONTACT THE UNION b/c that should not be denied.**

5. Updates from postdoc diversity alliance

- a. Any more details on July 8 diversity statement workshop to include in newsletter?

6. Newsletter

- a. Publication highlight?
- b. Any known awards/grants/jobs/PD to highlight? – Grad mentorship award from last month
- c. Google Doc of questions to have people highlighted for new careers included below. *Additions? Caitlin Hudac for this newsletter. (190625 JCV Winnie Ho & Atom Lesiak agreed to interview- have not received responses yet)*
 - Please send out questions to anyone you know and we can stockpile them for slow release!
- d. PD to follow on twitter – more volunteers?
 - Stephanie Brewer [@stephkbrewer](https://twitter.com/stephkbrewer) : Postdoc in UW Dept of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences with an interest in improving implementation of evidence-based treatments and promoting equity in mental health care
- e. Request to plug F32 Peer mentoring group

- f. **Make sure plug union sign-up. Also mention that if people are interested in helping or in getting involved with union leadership, they should contact the union ASAP.**

7. AOB

- a. **Budget: \$3,642.32**

8. Next meeting

- b. **August , 9-10AM Loew 310**
(are we up to date on reserving the room, or do we need to book more dates?)