

UWPA General Assembly Notes

Mon, Feb 3, 2020 (9am): Loew 310

Attending	Unknown if Attending	Cannot Attend
Rebecca Bluett Alexis Kaminski		Karla Herpoldt

Start time:

**1. Event Updates**

- a. **Headshots** – went well, good turnout. Captive audience increased participation in prof dev book/event idea raffle (see end of agenda for list).
- b. **Elections** – Rebecca Bluett is new co-chair. Alexis willing to take either secretary or treasurer role off Rebecca’s plate. Rebecca wanted to make some clearer onboarding documentation for treasurer before passing it on, so Alexis will be secretary as of the March meeting.
- c. **Post-resource fair reception** – People stuck around – seems like this kind of social aspect with a professional reason to get there to begin with gets the most participation from PDs.
- d. **Postdoc Academy Local Session** – had 2 of 6 meetings so far. Useful in terms of adding accountability & taking the online class a little more seriously. Also connects a few postdocs together. Probably will offer again (class goes live 2 more times this year).
- e. Immigration Info Event? Alexis will email guy directly early March.

**2. Newsletter**

- a. Revamp format - set up with columns to put more things on top & possibly increase engagement by reducing *scrolling strain*?  
Professional...Community/Social...Personal/Individual?  
Opportunities...Information...Community? HELP.
  - i. **POTENTIALLY USEFUL IDEA BUT REQUIRES MAILCHIMP UPGRADE OR SOME CODING EFFORT.**
- b. Any known awards/grants/jobs/PD to highlight? WRF postdoc fellows announced
- c. Google Doc of questions to have people highlighted for new careers included below. **Additions? Kim’s addition from December goes in this month**
  - i. Please send out questions to anyone you know and we can stockpile them for slow release!

- d. Survey from Anzela/eLife ambassadors – “The career development initiative of the [eLife Ambassadors](#) would like to assess the resources and opportunities for STEM trainees interested in diverse career options. To do this, a survey was crafted to identify the strengths and weaknesses in the system to more efficiently and accurately support the futures of those who work in STEM. Every response counts! Thanks for your participation.  
[Take the eLife Career Development survey!](#)”

### 3. Website

- a. **Does this email apply to us? Should we do things about it?**

“UW Shared Web Hosting is getting better with updates that will improve the security of your website and provide additional database features you may find useful.

The backend web development programming script, PHP, will be upgraded with security patches and bug fixes on January 27 at 10AM. There won't be any downtime and there's nothing you need to do. You can get more details at the PHP website.

If your website uses a database, you might want to upgrade to the new, improved version of MySQL. While you don't have to upgrade, you may like the improved security and other features. You can get all the details of this improved version on the MySQL website. Learn how to upgrade to the new MySQL database on IT Connect.”

**We're good. The things Tapo did last month may have been related to this.**

- b. Would still be cool if we could get people to write random blog posts about postdoc things for the website. Maybe we could convince Julie to write something about making her personal website? Anybody have any other ideas? Advertise w/ some possible ideas & as a way to demonstrate your broader impacts.

4. **Union updates?** They're working on an equity survey that they need everyone to take.

### 5. AOB

- a. **Budget: \$5,447.42.**
- b. Have ~2k extra to spend, ideally would like to increase PD engagement. Need ideas. Perhaps smallish community-building events?
  - i. Got several ideas for this from raffle – **would LOVE volunteers to handle organizing random events that sound fun to you.** For things that cost money, we'd want to just subsidize costs so that people who sign up would be more likely to show since they contributed as well.

## 6. Next meeting

### a. March 2, 4-5PM Loew 310

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#### Event ideas from raffle:

##### Professional

1. Strategies for increasing diversity in STEM (undergraduate and graduate student mentorship, difficult conversations with faculty/colleagues)
2. **A workshop or talk about being a new faculty member as a POC; what sorts of considerations does this group need to take into account that non-POC faculty don't need to – try and do 2-3 along the same vein as a recurring series (with PDA).**
3. **scientific speed dating**
4. postdocs only slack channel
5. write your perfect cv type of thing
6. quick 3 min presentations on random topics
7. mock interviews
8. informational interview tips/mock
9. **"growing up in science" - series inviting people to talk about failures in career path**
10. research idea generation workshop

##### Community-building

11. Inner creative day!! ( Person express their innerself, like painting, singing, acting)
12. beer club
13. bowling night/Events where childcare is provided
14. game night
15. escape room
16. distillery/winery tour
17. eating out
18. postdoc skiing/hiking social group
19. postdoc backpacking group, other social
20. night at the berke
21. guided walking tour around seattle
22. postdoc social hike/other outdoor activity
23. laser tag

Summer seminar series around each piece of faculty application. Events where meet deans or vp research, assoc deans for research – people w/ high up view of research depts?