

Minutes of the College of Veterinary Medicine Post-Doctoral Association  
General meeting  
February 13, 2012

- I. Opening remarks and Introduction—Pam Ferro
  - a. Officers
    - i. President: Pam Ferro ([pferro@cvm.tamu.edu](mailto:pferro@cvm.tamu.edu))
    - ii. Vice President: Sarah Black ([sblack@cvm.tamu.edu](mailto:sblack@cvm.tamu.edu))
    - iii. Secretary: Andrew Steelman ([asteelman@cvm.tamu.edu](mailto:asteelman@cvm.tamu.edu))
  - b. Attendees introduced themselves
- II. Dr. Chowdhary remarks
  - a. Stressed his support for the organization and sought feedback from the attendees regarding the organization.
- III. Meeting discussion/topics
  - a. We discussed the organization, where it's going and what we would like to do. Decided to design an on-line survey in order to attempt to best meet the needs of the group.
    - i. Departmental representatives/Board members:
      - 1. VIBS – **open**
      - 2. VLCS – Kendrick Sudderth ([KSudderth@cvm.tamu.edu](mailto:KSudderth@cvm.tamu.edu))
      - 3. VSCS – **open**
      - 4. VTPB – **open**
      - 5. VTPP – **open**
    - ii. faculty mentors
      - 1. Drs. Chris Seabury and Robert Burghardt served previously and agreed to be involved.
      - 2. Dr. Chowdhary expressed interest in having faculty representatives from each department, he will address this with the department heads.
  - b. Some of the items discussed:
    - i. Opportunities for post-docs to present their research
      - 1. Some possibilities:
        - a. Partnering with the CVM-GSA symposium
        - b. A college wide post-doc symposium
        - c. A campus wide post-doc symposium
      - 2. Speaker exchange with NC State—Andrew presented what he has been working on in this regard and is working on drafting the proposal. This idea was met with positive feedback. Concept: abstracts would be submitted and brief presentations given to local group. Abstracts would then be sent to partnering group (in this case NC State) and they would select one researcher and one DVM to present at their meeting/symposium. We would reciprocate. Have not ironed out all details yet, are working on it.

- a. Discussion arose about critiquing the talks as feedback for growth and development as an oral presenter as well as to select speakers that would well represent the respective organizations and institutions to foster future opportunities.
    - b. Need deadlines for abstract submission.
  - ii. Future meeting topics
    - 1. Mock grant review—similar to what was done in the past, only this time would need to separate into two groups: one USDA geared the other NIH geared.
    - 2. Alternative careers (alternatives to academia as well as opportunities beyond R1 institution)
    - 3. How to get teaching experience
      - a. Perhaps compose a list of faculty willing to let post-docs teach a class for them during a semester.
    - 4. Shared the HSC-PEP calendar, topics of interest from there were:
      - a. Job search
      - b. Alternative careers
      - c. Faculty selection process
      - d. How to balance career in science and a personal life
      - e. Alternative funding sources (not listed on PEP calendar, but topic of interest from discussion)
  - c. Discussed a post-doctoral directory and listing.
    - i. In process of creating the webpage
      - 1. Each person can edit their own page, thus each person needs to update (or at least check) their webpage.
      - 2. In process of getting with Larry Wadsworth regarding: pictures for the directory—will update everyone when have specific info/instructions.

IV. Closing remarks:

- a. We are in the process of restructuring, so any input, suggestions, thoughts, or recommendations are greatly appreciated. Please contact any of the officers with any comments.
- b. We have not yet scheduled the next meeting, will do so after the survey and when we have a topic selected.

This organization is for YOU, therefore your participation is essential for success!