

Minutes of the November 7, 2001 meeting

Meeting Location and Time: GSA Lounge South Silo, 6 PM

Meeting Attendance: 6

Meeting called to order 6:00 PM, PSA Chair Tom Peavy presiding

1. Participants signed in. Meeting agenda handed out.

2. Minutes from previous PSA meeting not on hand for approval

3. Issues discussed

(a) Science Next Wave subscription, which as been funded by the Chancellor's office since 1998, came close to lapsing. The new Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor, Virginia Hinshaw, has agreed to support our subscription to Science's Next Wave. This was a result of a request to support the subscription from PSA Chair Tom Peavy. Dr. Peavy previously met with Provost Virginia Hinshaw in September to discuss the needs of Davis postdocs which included the following: 1) PSA funding 3) additional staff to implement the needs of postdocs 3) travel awards and 4) career services (including the Next Wave subscription).

(b) Graduate Council progress on implementing the PSA's list of recommendations at the Davis campus. Graduate Council approved a list of recommendations submitted by the subcommittee Academic Planning & Development which incorporated most all of the PSA's recommendations. Graduate Council's recommendations for immediate and long-term goals have been forwarded to the Academic Senate & Federation and faculty committees for further input. The Graduate Council will wait for responses before implementation of the recommendations.

(c) UC-wide Council of Postdoctoral Scholars. Tom Peavy is also the chair of the UC-wide Council of Postdoctoral Scholars, Tom Peavy. Tom reported that a letter was drafted outlining the council's recommendations for creation of new postdoctoral title codes. The letter was submitted to a Council of Graduate Deans subcommittee meeting in November in which administrators were addressing postdoctoral title codes. Cristina Gonzalez, chair of the Council of Graduate Deans, has stated that this is one of their goals for this academic year. Creation of postdoctoral title codes addresses issues such as salary minimums, benefits, written contracts and grievance policies. In regard to full benefits, UCLA and Irvine postdocs have an independent insurance contract. Would it be possible to contract UC-wide for Postdocs? The contractor pitched a package and this proposal is now at office of president.

(d) Discussion of Future Goals and Activities of our PSA

Major concerns regarding PSA were brought up: the loss of active members and apathy for implementing career development programs

PSA has a \$3000 budget for this year and there was discussion as to the best use of this money to support PSA goals and activities.

-Some suggestions were to fund speakers and to rent buses to take postdocs to career days in the Bay Area.

-The use of some of the budget money to purchase a copy of "Compensation of Life Scientists 2001" for \$147.50 was approved by the attending members. It was also agreed that it would be appropriate to keep this resource at the Career Center.

- There was also some discussion as to whether to use this money or go "potluck" for picnics and other social activities involving the PSA.

- Postdoc Resource Fair at MU II. PSA could organize the Resource Fair and provide refreshments. It was suggested that this might take place in March and will be discussed at the next meeting to organize.

-Travel Awards. There are some travel awards available through Grad Council and GSA. The issue is that these would be small awards and the difficulty of evaluation of the award applications.

4. Other Issues

(a) Dick Walters at the Teaching Resource Center (pedagogical training) contacted Tom Peavy about offering training for postdocs. Recently there was a survey of postdoc interest in the availability of courses through university extension so there is the possibility of courses offered through university extension services as well.

The next PSA meeting will be announced as to time and date.

Meeting adjourned: 7:00 PM, PSA Chair Tom Peavy presiding