

## 05/23/2001 PSA Meeting

Minutes of the May 23, 2001 Meeting

Postdoctoral Scholars Association (PSA) of UC Davis

*Meeting location and time:* Smith Room at the Memorial Union, 5:45 PM

*Meeting attendance:* 5

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

- (1) Participant signed-in. Meeting agenda handed out.
- (2) Minutes from previous PSA meeting (04/23/2001) approved.
- (3) Graduate Council Subcommittee report. The subcommittee on "Academic Planning and Development" (APD) has been meeting weekly. PSA vice-chair and representative to this subcommittee, Christine Hotz, together with chair Thomas Peavy, and Teresa Dillinger (Internship and Career Center), reported on the meetings, where the list of recommendations to improve postdoctoral affairs was discussed. Tom Peavy presented the prioritized version of the list to the subcommittee, revised and approved in our last PSA meeting (03/12/2001).
- (4) Letter to Senators and Congressmen about funding for NIH / NSF. Chair Tom Peavy proposed to send to the listserv a template letter to be submitted to Senators and Congressmen. The letter would indicate our concern on science funding, especially for postdocs, that are lower in priority if an appropriate budget is not approved. Postdocs play an important role and are the very future of research and science. The proposal was approved unanimously.
- (5) Report and discussion on the UC Systemwide Postdoc Meeting (Saturday, May 19, 2001). Chair Tom Peavy was pleased to report on a very successful UC Systemwide Meeting (the meeting minutes will be available at the PSA website at a later date). The only campuses not represented were UC Irvine and UC San Diego, despite repeated efforts of the PSA to recruit representatives. Stanford University also participated as an adjunct member. There were many issues discussed, as there are a lot of common systemwide issues. Postdoctoral organizations can act locally with Graduate Councils and Graduate Divisions (Graduate Deans), but UC systemwide issues (such as title codes) have to be discussed by systemwide committees with representation from all UC campuses. The objectives of the meeting were: (1) to facilitate a coordinated effort by UC Postdoctoral Scholars for systemwide committee representation at the Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs (CCGA) and the Council of Graduate Deans (CoGD); and (2) to create a network of communication among Postdoctoral Scholars UC systemwide. The several campus representatives unanimously decided to form the Council of Postdoctoral Scholars (CPS) of the University of California, and Tom Peavy volunteered to be the interim chair. One of the first immediate objectives of the CPS is to be recognized by the UCOP and to secure funds for the continuity of the organization. Tom will make an official press release at a later date (to be distributed to UC Davis "Dateline", "The California Aggie", and the Office of Graduate Studies "The Gazette").
- (6) Announcements/ miscellaneous:
  - (i) Tom Peavy proposed to have a picnic party for postdocs in the month of June. It would be a barbecue with volleyball and the PSA would provide the food. This event would take place either

at a community park or at the Putah Creek Lodge. The PSA would need volunteers to help setting up the party. The idea was unanimously accepted.

(ii) The PSA will try to look for an office space to leave PSA binders and documents in one central location. Also, a "PSA flier" will be developed in the months to come.

(iii) Our next PSA meeting will be held at a date, time and location to be announced by e-mail at a later date.

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

Prepared by Paulo Verardi, PSA Secretary/Treasurer