Postdoc Orientation:
Doing the right thing!
Facts & figures:

- Located in Louisville, KY (Kentucky Derby)
- Public university (1798) and medical school, established in 1837 - Home of Abraham Flexner
- 22,293 students, 1048 PhD students, 170 Postdocs, 1,649 full-time faculty
- Medical School, ~600 medical students, 160 PhD students, 150 Postdocs
- $77.7 million in federal grants and contracts FY12
- $273 million dollar endowment
Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral studies

- Tom Geoghegan, PhD
  Associate Dean for Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, School of Medicine

- Established in January 2009

- Graduate programs in SOM only
- Postdoctoral office for all postdocs (with assistance from the University’s Office of Executive VP for Research and Innovation, Dr. Pam Feldhoff, Associate EVPRI)

Ms. Judy Hollkamp
Program coordinator

Faculty/postdoc advisory committee
Graduate Students
Why aren’t the postdocs smiling?

a. more serious than graduate students
b. they are jaded
c. we interrupted their work
d. we didn’t say anything funny
e. they discovered there is no secret handshake

They are isolated
How do we turn this

Into this
Engagement

• Ultimate goal – office to engage Postdocs EARLY and OFTEN

What can we provide to do this?
Useful content!!
If it’s useful - they will come - Maybe

**Useful for postdoc**
- What services are available? Where can I access them?
  - Career advice
  - Local PDA
  - Advice on visa’s etc
  - Core facilities
  - Help with writing fellowships
    (or anything else for that matter)
  - Counseling
  - Medical
- What are institutional requirements? Where do I get that training?
  - Compliance
  - RCR
  - Animal care and use
  - Hazardous waste
- How do I meet other postdocs?

**Useful for mentor**
- Some of these
- Most of these
- Not this
Leverage

• Facilitate their research
  – Helps post-doc and mentor
  – Information (where to go to do what)
  – Training (compliance, animal care and use, hazardous waste)

• Identify Services
  • Writing center
  • International center
  • Career center
  • Woman’s center
Visibility
Visibility and utility

Window sign

Door sign
Engagement

• Ultimate goal – office to engage Postdocs
  – No one approach works for every postdoc
  – Useful content (for both postdoc and mentor)
  – Leverage – satisfy requirements (intro to RCR training)

• Multiple methods for maintaining contact
  – Individual meetings
  – Small groups
  – electronic and social media

• Piggy back services
  – Small understaffed offices can do it all
  – Share office space with groups that can provide services
When do you get them

Students
• Before they start
• Once or twice a year

Postdocs
• ?????????????
Maintain contact

• Must start early
• Social media
  – Facebook
  – Twitter
  – Subscription sites
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies

Visit the Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies website.

MEMBERS

Tom Geoghegan  Sheila A Arnold

LATEST ACTIVITY

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What are you up to?

Judy Hollkamp posted a status
"Intro to EndNote Citation Management Software (HSC), 2-3:30 p.m. Oct. 17, Kornhauser Library. Rm 301 Register here: http://tinyurl/PzNZx" Oct 16, 2012
3 Comments

Tom Geoghegan posted a blog post

BIG SCIENCE; LITTLE SCIENCE

I heard Francis Collins Director of the NIH speak recently and remark on the amazing discoveries coming from the ENCODE project (http://www.genome.gov/10005107). ENCODE was carried out by a large consortium of scientists tasked with cataloging functional elements in the human genome, as a follow-up to the human genome project. The results have been remarkable and maybe a little surprising. For example most of us believed that since protein... See More

TOM GEOGHEGAN

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NOTES

WIRITING CENTER UPDATES

The University of Louisville Writing Center will host a Dissertation Writing Retreat in the Spring. Attendance is limited so apply early. Find more information here:
http://louisville.edu/writingcenter/dissertation-writing-retreat.html

For information on upcoming Writing Workshops go here:... Continue
JJ Baruah

Hi, I am an applicant to PhD -Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Program. I need the overnight shipping address to send in my transcripts.

Like · Comment · December 24, 2012 at 9:18am

IPIBS  JJ: all application materials are to be shipped directly to the University of Louisville Graduate Admissions Office, Louisville, KY 40292.

January 2 at 10:23am · Like

JJ Baruah  Thanks!

January 2 at 10:36am · Like

Write a comment...
Engagement

– When to start engaging postdocs?

– Best way to maintain contact?

– Best way to provide needed services?