

NIH Fellows Committee Agenda

Thursday, December 1, 2011

Wilson Hall, 3rd floor, Building 1

Welcome New Members

Introductions of Committee At-Large

October Minutes approval

Remarks:

- a. FelCom Officers
- b. Office of Intramural Training and Education (OITE)

OITE highlighted several upcoming events of interest to NIH fellows, including:

A special viewing of “*Race: Are We So Different?*” on December 15, 6pm at the National Museum of Natural History.

OITE invites all trainees to join them for their annual Holiday Party, December 14, from 1-4pm in Building 50 room 1227.

- c. Office of Intramural Research (OIR)

OIR is still seeking 1-2 fellow volunteers for the Communication Committee

Hot topics

GSC: The Graduate Student Symposium is being held Jan. 11, 2012; as in past years, the GSC is seeking fellows to volunteer to judge the symposium’s two poster sessions held between 11am – 2pm on that day. The GSC is seeking ~30 volunteers as lead judges. If interested, please be on the look-out for the link forthcoming on FELCOM-L.

Social: The FelCom Holiday Party has been rescheduled for Jan. 12th, 2012 at the FAES house, and will celebrate the new year with the holidays. The Social committee is also seeking volunteers to help out on the night of the party; please contact the co-chairs if you are available.

IC Reports: A suggestion was raised of incorporating the off-site IC reports into the rotation schedule with the on-site IC reports, resulting in 1-2 reports/year rather than

the current monthly reports off-site ICs produce. However, the majority opinion of the off-site IC reps polled was that they prefer the current setup, which allows them to stay more connected with FelCom & its events. No objection was raised to continuing on with the current setup.

Call for participation: FelCom co-chair Matt Wenham requested that any subcommittee desiring new members contact him, as he plans to issue a “Call for Participation” to the NIH fellow community via FELLOW-L.

FMLA: A question about what extent of FMLA (Family and Medical Leave Act) leave NIH fellows are entitled to was raised. Another Felcom rep answered that, according to the NIH Postdoc manual, fellows are entitled to 8 weeks of paid leave for situations “equivalent” to those the FMLA applies to.

Travel: A question was raised whether there is any NIH-wide policy governing travel for fellows/trainees, or if individual ICs are free to make their own rules. No-one in attendance was aware of any NIH-wide policies; the conclusion was that it is likely that individual ICs are responsible for making their own rules regarding fellow travel policies.

IC Reports

- a. NIDCD
- b. NEI

FelCom Subcommittee and Liaison reports

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| a. Animal Research Advisory Committee | <i>Lara el Touny</i> |
| b. Career Development Committee | <i>Emily Cordas & Ranjini Prithviraj</i> |
| c. Child Care Board Liaison | <i>Adam Lee & Nirali Shah</i> |
| d. Clinical FelCom | <i>Christina Hines & Srinivas Vourganti</i> |
| e. Committee on Scientific Conduct & Ethics Liaison | <i>Meredith Fox</i> |
| f. FAES Liaison | <i>Caroline Jochems</i> |
| g. FARE Committee | <i>Ryan Petrie & Lindsey Garver</i> |
| h. Graduate Medical Education Committee | <i>Banidele Adesunloye & Jose Franco</i> |
| i. Human Subjects Research Advisory Committee Liaison | <i>Paneez Khoury</i> |
| j. Job Networking Committee | <i>Mark McDermott & Phoebe Lee</i> |
| k. Medical Executive Committee Liaison | <i>Srinivas Vourganti & Anita Kohli</i> |
| l. Mentoring Committee | <i>Sauna Clark</i> |
| m. National Postdoc Association Liaison | <i>Matt Wenham</i> |
| n. Publicity & Publications Committee | <i>Christina Hines & Julien Senac</i> |
| o. Service Outreach Subcommittee | <i>Shu Chen & Julien Senac</i> |
| p. Social Committee | <i>Anna Sundborger & Christiane Kuschal</i> |

- q. Training Directors Committee Liaison
- r. Visiting Fellows Committee
- s. WALs Committee
- t. Women Scientist Advisors Committee Liaison

*Mawadda Al Naeeli
Pablo Moya & Xiao-Li Du
Chan-Ying Zheng & James Keller
Sarah Rhodes*

Elect New Membership secretary
Adjournment

Next meeting: Thursday, January 5, 2012. IC reports for NIDCR and NINDS.

FELCOM November 2011: IC REPORTS

NIDCD: National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders

James Keller

The NIDCD is a small institute that has been in existence for about 23 years. In addition to studying hearing and deafness, the institute does research involving balance, stuttering, language processing, smell, and taste. Labs are currently located at the main campus in Bethesda and at 5 Research Ct in Rockville. The labs in Rockville will be moved to main campus sometime in the next couple of years when the new neuroscience building is completed. Dr. Andy Griffith is the scientific director and Dr. Jim Battey is the director. Post Doc orientation and career development are done via OITE and FAES. Post Doc travel to conferences is encouraged, but varies by lab.

Events at NIDCD in 2011:

- 1) Monthly seminar series
- 2) A 2 day retreat at Rocky Gap lodge.
- 3) A summer picnic
- 4) Post Doc Research Presentations
- 5) Joint University of Maryland and NIDCD symposium (upcoming)
- 6) Winter Holiday luncheon (upcoming)
- 7) A new lab under the direction of Dr. Lisa Cunningham was opened this year.

NEI: National Eye Institute

Basic Science rep: Preethi Chander

The National Eye Institute, established in 1968, was the first government organization dedicated exclusively to examining visual diseases and pathologies. The NEI intramural program currently consists of about 120 fellows in 28 sections & units that carry out basic and clinical research toward prevention and treatment of diseases of the visual system. Fellows are mostly located in Bldgs 6, 10, 49, and some individual sections in 35 and Twinbrook.

The IC training points of contact are Dr. Sarah Sohraby and Dr. Cesar Perez-Gonzalez.

NEI fellows' activities this past year include:

- Fellows retreat
The NEI "Focus on Fellows" was a 2-day event held during the last week in October at Twinbrook. This year about 87 fellows were registered. The event consisted of scientific presentations by fellows and sessions towards career development. The fellows' presentations, judged for style and content, are presented with awards that

help toward their career development. We also have invited speakers from within NIH and local to the area, who present overview of their research area and latest developments in their field. This year we have David Landsman from NCBI, Minoru Ko from NIA, Victoria Connaughton from American University and Bob Wurtz from NEI. Lunch sessions include networking among fellows and with experts to discuss topics ranging from planning research projects, writing grants, choosing your step to careers away from the bench for scientists. This year for the first time we also had a work-life panel discussion that addressed issues faced by fellows.

- Fellowship Renewal process
An annual progress report has been integrated as part of the annual renewal process for fellows. This includes one-on-one discussion with fellows and PI and provides an opportunity to discuss future career plans. Fellows are required to list two upcoming conferences and two training courses renewal year. An updated resume is part of the process, allowing fellows to get help to work on their resume and to keep it updated and available for prospective job openings.
- Meeting of fellows and training director
Quarterly meetings with Dr. Sohraby and Dr. Perez-Gonzalez now include a “chalk talk” where fellows present a 5-10 minute description of their research work. This is hoped to help fellows describe their research to people from varied backgrounds.
- Basic Scientists meet Clinical Scientists
As part of efforts to bridge the gap between these two groups, visits to the NEI clinics are organized 2-3 times a year, including one for summer students during their time at the NEI.
- Several NEI fellows volunteered at the NEI booth at the annual meeting of the Association for Research in Vision & Ophthalmology (ARVO) held in May at Florida.
- NEI grant writing workshops
A three-part series that consists of overview of the grant process (held in February), RO1 grants (March/April) and K99 grants (June) is offered to fellows. This is conducted in collaboration with the NEI division for Extramural research.
- Brown bag seminar series
Held every other month, fellows participate in these lunch time seminar series where NEI staff – bench scientists and non-bench scientists talk about their expertise to the wider NEI audience.
- The NIH Office of the Ombudsman will be talking to the fellows in December about general issues in the scientific research and ways to resolve them.
- Visiting fellows

In December/January, NEI visiting fellows who wish to return to their home countries and continue a research career get to learn about the Global Research Initiative Program (GRIP) from Fogarty International Center.

- Clinical Science rep: Wendy Smith
- Current number of clinical fellows: 4 (2 uveitis, 2 medical retina)
- Length of fellowship: 2 years (after completion of medical school and ophthalmology residency)
- Fellowship program directors:
 - Uveitis: Dr. H. Nida Sen
 - Medical Retina: Dr. Emily Chew
 - Ophthalmic Genetics: Dr. Brian Brooks (no fellows in 2011-2012)
- Clinical Fellowship Activities:
 - Patient Care: outpatient clinic 3-4 days/wk, on call one week per month
 - Academic Activities:
 - Present at NEI morning conferences & grand rounds (on average once a month)
 - Develop clinical research protocols
 - Conduct clinical research projects
 - Submit abstracts to ARVO (The Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology)
 - Review manuscripts for ophthalmology-related journals
 - Write chapters for textbooks or review books
 - Give presentations at national meetings (for example: Wills Retina Club, American Uveitis Society)
 - Attend national ophthalmology meetings (i.e. American Academy of Ophthalmology Annual Meeting, ARVO Annual Meeting)
 - Teach ophthalmology residents
- Concerns: Not many postbacs are aware of what Felcom. Efforts are underway to make an organised postbac group with help from the training director's office.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Animal Research Advisory Committee: *Lara el-Touny*

I have set up access to an email account: ARACFellow@mail.nih.gov that Jacqueline Newell-Hunt, the Associate Director & Training, Education and Program Liaison of the Office of Animal Care and Use, who sits in on ARAC meeting as well as had created a while back. I or any future ARAC liaison to FelCom would be able to access the inbox of this email as well as send out emails from it.

Possibility of putting that email under: <https://www.training.nih.gov/felcom/liasons>, after the paragraph describing ARAC:

The Director NIH has delegated authority to the Deputy Director for Intramural Research (DDIR) to effect compliance with all applicable laws, regulations, and policies regarding the humane care and use of animals in the intramural research program. Dr. Michael M. Gottesman, Deputy Director for Intramural Research (DDIR) serves as the Institutional Official for the NIH Intramural Research Program. The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) Chairs constitute the Animal Research Advisory Committee (ARAC) which meets regularly and advises the DDIR on trans-NIH animal care and use issues.

To contact the ARAC liaison to FelCom: ARACFellow@mail.nih.gov

Discuss the possibility of setting up a quarterly e-newsletter with updates that are pertinent to animal research conducted by NIH fellows. The purpose of this e-newsletter would also be to provide some useful contact information (list of animal program directors, links to OACU and LASP websites for useful forms and guideline available training schedules, ...) in addition to any regulatory changes that affect animal research at NIH.

Career Development Committee: *Cory Lago (NHLBI), Ranjini Prithviraj (NINDS)*
Members: Lori Conlan (OITE), Paul Keller (NIAMS), Brenda Kostecky (NICHD), Cosima Kretz (NIDDK), Adeola Makinde (NCI), Amanda Melillo (FDA), Nesrin Rechache (NCI), Sarah Rhodes (NIMH), Julien Senac (NHGRI), Ashley Kennedy (NIDA), Hui Cheng (NIAID), Chien Nguyen (NHLBI)
GSC Pathway Members: Wesley Stepp (NIAID), Vandana Sekhar (NIAID)

- The Career Development committee met on December 1st, 2011. The rest of the 2011-2012 panel series will be finalized with the help of a few new members and their ideas.
- Additionally, our upcoming seminar topics for the 2011-2012 season are:
 - December 13, 2011 (Lipsett): Science Writing
 - January 10, 2012 (Bldg 50): Science Policy
 - March 13, 2012: Biodefense
 - April 17, 2012: Patent Processing
 - June 12, 2012: Entrepreneur/Business

Childcare Board Liaison: *Adam Lee (NLM), Nirali Shah (NCI)*

The NIH Child Card Board did not meet in November.
Next board meeting will be held on Thursday December 8 morning.

Clinical FelCom (ClinFelCom): *Christina Hines (NIMH), Srinivas Vourganti(NCI)*

We did not meet since our last FELCOM report. We continue to work on focus groups to address results from the ClinFelCom survey. We are also organizing panel discussions and “dating-format” meetings with premedical students to provide them an opportunity to ask questions regarding life as a physician.

Committee on Scientific Conduct & Ethics: *Meredith Fox*

The Scientific Conduct and Ethics Committee did not meet this month, so there is nothing to report.

The liaison position to the Committee on Scientific Conduct & Ethics will be opening up after Jan. 2012; if you would like more information about the position, please contact the current liaison, Meredith Fox.

FAES Liaison : *Caroline Jochems*

Member: Leslie Marshall (NINDS)

There have been no meetings of the FAES board since the FAES bi-annual Board Meeting was held on October 18th, and no further developments regarding their search for a new director.

The FAES together with R&W kindly sponsored a viewing of the PhD Comics movie on November 16th, organized by FelCom, and this was very successful. Approximately 350 fellows and graduate students attended the movie screening, and many went on to socialize at a Happy Hour at BlackFinn in Bethesda afterwards.

FARE Committee: *Ryan Petrie (NIDCR) & Lindsey Garver (NIAID)*

Members: Hannah Arem (NCI); Sheena Aris (NCI); Nicolas Cuburu (NCI); Leslie Hoh (NIA); Kim Jacob (NIA); Madhu Lal (NIA); Oliver Ou (NCI); Iain Scott (NHLBI); Carole Sourbier (NCI); Brajendra Tripathi (NEI).

Recruitment for the FARE 2013 committee is underway. Our goal is to have 15 committee members and we currently have 12 (including the co-chairs). We encourage any Felcom members who are interested in joining FARE 2013 to please email Lindsey or Ryan. Our first meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 13th to familiarize the committee with the FARE process and discuss changes suggested at the conclusion of FARE 2012.

The FARE subcommittee has reached its recruiting goals in the time since the above report was submitted, and is now ready to begin planning for FARE 2013.

Graduate Medical Education Committee: *Bamidele Adesunloye & Jose Franco*

Nothing newsworthy to report.

Human Subjects Research Advisory Committee: *Paneez Khoury*

No report. HSRAC did not meet.

Job Networking Committee: *Mark McDermott (NHLBI) & Phoebe Lee*
Members: Ravikiran Bhairavabhotla (NIAID), Jinxi Li (NHLBI), Jahda Hill (NHLBI), Jonathan Lamb (NHLBI), Tiffany Tuyen Nguyen (NHLBI) OITE support: Lori Conlan and Shawn Mullen

The Job Networking sub-Committee held a successful networking event at Blackfinn in Bethesda on the 8th of November in conjunction with the Career Development Committee. Around 30 fellows attended the event and discussed careers in consultancy with representatives from a number of different consultancy companies.

Medical Executive Committee: *Srinivas Vourganti*

Status of 2-Factor Authentication for Remote Access to NIH Computer Systems—
Two-factor authentication for remote access to NIH computer systems has been required since October 3. Employees have been accessing CRIS, ESA, or CC Casper Citrix from home or another remote (non-NIH) site by using their badge reader and PIV (Personal Identity Verification) cards. An external exception site, described as a temporary “bucket,” has been set up for those who rotate here for 45 days or less. They will need only username and password to log into CRIS. If temporary fellows or residents who need this exemption are expected, DCRl should be informed. A home computer with a badge reader (available for about \$22 from places such as Best Buy) is all that is needed; it does not have to be an NIH-owned computer.
The same dual-factor authentication be required for on-site access beginning December 15, 2011 with implementation by March 15, 2012. The Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) is looking for technical options to facilitate use for care-givers going from room to room. They expect the NIH system to be complete by June 2012, although Clinical Center implementation may take longer and need to get waivers to ensure continued safe patient care. DCRl will work closely with Nursing and Patient Care Services to pilot implementation, since nothing similar has been implemented previously in a clinical care area.

Update on the Bench to Bedside Awards Program

The proposal for a new Bench-to-Bedside program will complement the existing budget in the form of a request for applications (RFA) for a renewable, 3-year award of as much as \$500,000 per year. Supporting money will come in 3 streams: the external investigator, the intramural investigator, and the Clinical Center. Awards must result in activity at the Clinical Center. Each Institute will decide whether it wants to participate. The intent is to have an easier application than for the typical grant.

The usual funders of the existing Bench-to-Bedside Awards program have expressed intentions to fund the program, if their budgets allow. The expectation is to fund between \$4 million and \$4.5 million. Numerous letters of intent (188) have come in from 300 different investigators representing over 180 institutions around the US. This demonstrates an interest in intramural/extramural partnerships at the CC. The clinical and scientific directors are reviewing those letters of intent. Only ten to sixteen awards will be given, so the directors are asked to narrow the field before they letters go to the Review Committee in January.

Status of Procurement of Liability Insurance for Clinical IRTAs

The clinical directors have identified collectively about 150 clinical Intramural Research Training Award (IRTA) employees with patient contact duties. Rates for liability insurance for them will probably be between \$300 and \$500. Dr. Pao will share the information she has gathered with FAES so they can pursue a contract to provide the insurance.

Mentoring Committee: Aurelie Neveol

Members: Kara Lukasiewicz (NICHD), Gila Neta (NCI), Joan Schwartz (OIR)

The Mentoring Committee has not met this month.

We are currently recruiting new members and trying to schedule a meeting for next week.

NPA Liaison: Matt Wenham (NIDDK)

Fall POSTDOCKET newsletter available

The Fall issue of *The POSTDOCKET*, the newsletter of the NPA, is now available. This issue includes stories on advocacy, balancing work and family responsibilities, and parental leave. Available on the NPA website.

Postdoctoral Entrepreneur Awards – deadline extended

The deadline for the 2012 Kauffman Foundation Outstanding Postdoctoral and Emerging Postdoctoral Entrepreneur awards has been extended to December 12, 2011 at 11:59 p.m. EST. The Outstanding Postdoctoral Entrepreneur will receive a \$10,000 honorarium and a travel stipend. The Emerging Postdoctoral Entrepreneur will receive a \$2,500 honorarium and a travel stipend. Presented in San Francisco during the NPA 10th Annual

Meeting, the awards recognize exceptional former and current postdocs who are working to commercialize research. More details are available through the NPA website.

NPA Leadership changes

(From the Fall POSTDOCKET newsletter) The NPA leadership has been undergoing a number of transitions since the start of 2011. Each NPA membership committee (Advocacy, Meetings, Outreach, and Resource Development) is led by a Chair and Vice Chair. In addition to these committees, there are two Diversity Officers and two International Officers. Chairs, Vice Chairs, and the Officers agree to serve in their positions for at least one year, with the average length of service typically being two years. There were transitions within all of the committees as well as for both Diversity Officers. The Chairs and Vice Chairs spend 10-20 hours per month volunteering for their respective committees, during which time they are gaining invaluable experiences. The NPA encourages all postdoctoral scholars and postdoctoral administrators to consider applying for leadership positions, with many of the positions requiring no previous experience.

Publicity Committee: *Christina Hines (NIMH) & Julien Senac (NHGRI)*

The FELCOM flyer was grossly outdated. Over the past 6 months, the publicity committee edited the content of the flyer and submitted the new text to medical arts. We have decided on several color combinations to start with: Violet/yellow (moving), red/black (professional), and burgundy/gold (traditional). The flyer is currently in the queue for production. When printed, we plan to show the drafts to FELCOM to get your input.

We continue to update our new FELCOM website. As usual, remember to update our FELCOM membership secretary, with updates to your membership status.
<https://www.training.nih.gov/felcom/members>

As always, we seek new members for the publicity committee. Over the next several months, we will select a new co-chair for this position, as Christina's term will end. Now is a good time to get involved. Please email Christina and Julien with questions on how you can get involved.

Service and Outreach Subcommittee: *Julien Senac & Shu Chen Clark, Shauna (NIH/NIDDK) , Cordas, Emily (NIH/NIDDK) , Fontainhas, Aurora (NIH/NIDDK) , Makinde, Adeola (NIH/NCI) , Mitra, Suman (NIH/NHLBI), Rhodes, Sarah (NIH/NIMH)*

SOS will be having tree planting in DC with Casey Trees this Saturday. We have all slots filled and look forward to reporting on the outcome.

There is nothing else to report as all of our monthly meeting won't be till Dec 13.

Social Committee: *Anna Sundborger (NIDDK) and Christiane Kuschal (NCI)*

Members: Aurora Fontainhas (NIDDK), Katiuchia Sales (NIDCR), Shu Hui Chen (NIAID)

In November

1. A *Careers in Consulting* Happy Hour at Blackfinn on the 8th.
2. A screening of “The PhD Movie” in the Masur Auditorium on the 16th.
3. A Happy Hour at Blackfinn on the 16th.
4. Karaoke night at Tommy Joe’s on the 29th.

In December, we plan to have:

1. Happy Hour at Pizzeria Di Marco in Bethesda on the 12, 13, or 14th.

Holiday Party.

As we mentioned in a previous report, we planned to have a FelCom holiday party in Dec (on the Dec 15th to be exact). Due to scheduling conflicts with an OITE event this will be postponed until Jan 12th. *So spread the word to all your friends!*

Training Directors Committee: Mawadda Al-Naeeli (NIDDK)

Nothing to report. The TDC committee have not met since October.

Visiting Fellows Committee: Pablo Moya & Xiao-Li Du

Nothing to report.

WALS Committee: Chan-Ying Zheng & James Keller

Alika Maunakea (OD), Julie Wu (NHLBI), Kristina Lu (NHGRI), Sally Davis (NIAID), Shan He (NIDCD)

1. The WALS committee has completed its host duties until the spring. If you would like to have a chance to meet speakers and get extra opportunities at the post doc lunches with the speakers, **join the WALS committee. We need members.**
2. Nominations for the next WALS session have begun. The official announcement was sent out via email yesterday. They will last until January 16th. If you want to nominate someone to speak, going through us increases your chances of having your nominee invited. The submissions from the WALS committee will be heavily weighted because it reflects a “consensus opinion”. I am currently corresponding with the interim WALS contacts to determine how they want us to handle our nominations. Once I have that information, I will be sending an email to the Felcom listserv. I should have an answer by the time you read this, so start thinking about who you would like to hear speak at the NIH. Hopefully, I will also also flyers to give you at the December 1 meeting.
3. We have a new co-chair, Shan He.

The WALS subcommittee is currently in discussions with the contacts who administer the WALS about how to handle Felcom WALS nominations. In previous years fellows have

used the same submission website as all other WALs nominations, now WALs is suggesting fellows submit individual nominations to FelCom for pre-screening. Since FelCom has no system in place for collecting nominations, the opinion of the committee is that the system from previous years should stay in place, or we should seek assistance from the WALs administration in setting up an alternate submission system or email address. James Keller will update FelCom reps when more information or a conclusion is reached with WALs.

Women Scientist Advisors Committee: *Sarah Rhodes*

The WSA has not met between now and the last FelCom meeting. Nothing to report.

NCI-Frederick: *Jason Stagnos*

We have had great turnouts for our biweekly Postdoc Seminar Series, evident in the fact that all of the pizza has been eaten by the end of the seminars. We have been advertising the Friday before and the day of using the Seminars, Frederick Fellows, and CCR Postdocs listservs. Everything is going smoothly, and Frederick FYI Steering Committee members have been very generous in supporting this seminar series. We have also had good turnout at new-fellow orientations: 7 in October and 4 in November.

NIA-Baltimore: *John Delaney, Irene Avila, Ipolia Ramadan*

Nothing new to report.

NIDA-Baltimore: *Natasha Lugo-Escobar & Ross*

With NIA, we jointly hosted FARE day on November 4, at which we had talks and paneled discussions with NIH alumni, on topics related to career development. This Friday we have our monthly happy hour, as well as the Bayview poster symposium.

NIEHS-North Carolina: *Sonika Patial & Emily Zhou*

1. We will have our Fellow's coffee hour this month on 11/30. We will host this event at our new office to showcase this new space. We can use it for practicing phone interviews, interview talks etc. Awards include: Best Poster Presentation, Best Oral Presentation, Paper of the Year Award, Early Career Award, Mentor of the Year Award, Outstanding staff scientist.

2. OFCD

Diane's position is now in the hands of Human Resources. They will be posting it for a limited time.

3. We hosted a Brown Bag Lunch covering Industry Research careers with two speakers, one from big pharma and the other from a small biotech. It was well received. Our next Brown Bag Lunch will host two speakers from two local teaching universities.

On Nov 3rd we celebrated science day. This was a whole day event, which involved poster presentations as well as oral presentations by fellows concluding with an awards ceremony at the end. Awards were given in the following categories:

Elections

Membership Secretary

Why I want to be membership secretary:

I got my PhD in Neuroscience at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, Sweden, moved to DC and started my fellowship in a structural biology lab at NIDDK. Nov 1st marked my 1-year anniversary at a postdoc. Hence, I'm fairly new to the community. So far it has been great. I want to be more involved and feel I have the dedication, time and organizational skills to be a good membership secretary. I am currently Co-chair of the Social subcommittee, which is something I enjoy very much. The role of membership secretary fits well with this position and I would gladly accept the responsibilities and challenges that comes with this post. I hope I have your support.

Sincerely,
Anna Sundborger

Anna Sundborger was confirmed as the new FelCom Membership Secretary, with no objections.