

# Junior Researcher Association – meeting minutes

## Present:

### *Board members*

Alejandra Zaragoza Scherman (president)

Anna Le Gerstrøm Rode (vice president)

Andrew Cassidy (secretary)

And 16 other members.

## Agenda

### 1. THE (NEW) BOARD

The board members present chair the meeting, and introduce themselves.

### 2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The formation, statutes and aims of the JRA are explained. The audience are invited to contribute and explain what they feel the JRA should aim to deliver. Suggestions are included here in order of frequency:

- Help with career progression.
- Provide networking opportunities.
- Provide a platform for discussing and addressing common issues.
- Improve the working environment for JRs by i) addressing stress related issues and ii) by helping newly arrived JRs settle in Aarhus and at AU.

### 3. STRATEGY 2019

The board presents a strategy for 2019 in an effort to include the members in developing a work plan.

- A. Increase awareness of the JRA
  - a. e.g., Encourage representation of JRs at local liaison committees
  - b. e.g., Develop links with groups inside and outside AU (union)
- B. Explore and discuss JRs' identity
- C. Setting JRs' instability on the agenda – working conditions
- D. Increase JRA member engagement
- E. Secure the "JRA" – beyond 2020
- F. Increase collaboration between JRA committees and board

### 4. STATUS 2018 BY THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- A. Events

**Event:** JRA members' meeting

**Date:** 1Mar 2019

**Venue:** Conference room 1,  
International Center, Høegh-  
Guldbergs Gade 4, 8000 Aarhus

**Compiled by:** Andrew Cassidy

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AC summaries 2018 activities: collaboration with AIAS to produce a series of afternoon seminars; information event related to the 2018 strike and lockout; researchers' night and pub quiz

## B. Fundraising

AZS and ALGR summarise the funding received through the C3 / gender project, and elaborate on the impact of that project

## C. Research and development

AZS introduces the members' survey completed in 2018.

## D. Communication

AZS explains the approach taken by the association to social media activities.

## E. Membership

AC explains how the JRA member email list operates.

## 5. BOARD VACANCY

AC explains the method for filling a board vacancy. One candidate, Hüsnü Aslan self-nominates to fill the vacancy.

## 6. COMMITTEE ORGANIZING

Three new committees are formed for 2019

- i) Events committee chaired by Andreas Hansel (a.hansel@eng.au.dk) and vice-chaired by Sarah-Kristin Thiel (thiel@cs.au.dk)
- ii) Communication's committee chaired by Clare Victoria Southerton (cvs@cc.au.dk)
- iii) Liasons committee chaired by Andrea Tóth ([toth@biomed.au.dk](mailto:toth@biomed.au.dk)).

The committee chairs agree to report to the board on a strategy for 2019 at the next board meeting scheduled for late April 2019.

## 7. BEER AND PIZZA

The meeting closes.

### Post meeting

The board (AC, AZS and ALGR) meet to deliberate and fill the vacancy that will arise when AZS steps down. Hüsnü Aslan will be invited to join the board and is expected to participate in future board meetings.

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