Hi postdocs,

Last month was all about appreciating your hard work, but October is about thinking where to go from here as you move forward. The academic job market is at its busiest this month, so make sure you check out what your future can hold! We wish you good luck with all your applications!

Yours truly,

PDA Council

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**Networking and Social Events: October**

**Coffee Hour** (every 1st Wednesday of the month):

Next date: October, 4th

**Locations:**

UPC: Illy's at the Annenberg building @ 2PM
HSC: Starbucks @ 2PM
CHLA: Aroma’s Cafe in the HBO Cafe @ 9AM

**Hike** (every 2nd Sunday of the month): Leones Canyon
Next date: October, 14th
Location: 566 Los Liones Dr, Pacific Palisades, CA 90272
We will hike in the Leones Canyon which offers spectacular views of the coast. The hike will take about 2.5 hours and involves moderate incline. We will meet on 566 Los Liones Dr. at the entrance to the trail. Nearby there is a church (Of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints). which can be used as an orientation point.
For more information, visit the MeetUp website.

**Happy Hour - Oktoberfest edition**
Next date: October, 26th
Locations: TBA

For more events, check out PDA’s calendar.

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**Important information**
Office of Postdoctoral Affairs and the PDA selected and notified the winners of the Postdoctoral Travel Awards for the period May-December 2017. Please, check your e-mail to see if you have earned this coveted award.

Find below opportunities to add lines to your CV
Learn how to prepare your CV and other documents by attending one of the two workshops organized by the USC Graduate school this month:

1) Research Statement & Teaching Philosophy - October, 2nd
2) Cover Letter, CV and Resume - October, 5th

For more information, go here.

Break the mold and enjoy a time out in and around Los Angeles

Food fuels postdoctoral research. Go international at the International Food Truck Festival on October, 26th, between 4.00 and 7.00 pm at the O’Neal lot (Norfolk & Soto street). Deliciousness organized by Dr. Rohit Varma, dean of the Keck School of Medicine.

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Funding opportunities

**Changes at NIH**: NIH is going to use new forms for their grants applications, which will be accessible through the program announcements. Other changes might be coming as well, so keep a close eye out for them if you are planning on submitting an NIH grant application in the future.

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Postdoc Publications

**Check out this video from** the Postdoc Journal, a Journal of Postdoctoral Research. Postdocs can now submit a 20-second video of their thoughts about the journal. A consolidated video will be shared among researchers to spread the awareness of what we are, and what our objectives are. You can also join their editorial team.

**Want your research featured here? Send an e-mail with the reference to**

uscpda@usc.edu!

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FEATURED POSTDOCS
Sara Rivero-Calle
USC Postdoctoral Association Council - Treasurer

Dr. Sara Rivero-Calle is a postdoctoral researcher in the Department of Marine and Environmental Biology. Sara is interested in the intersection of biology and physics and how this affects global biogeochemical cycles and Earth’s climate. Her work at USC has focused on the fine scale variability and bridging the gap between the spatio-temporal scales of phytoplankton physiology processes (hours and micrometers) and the scales used to monitor and model the global ocean (days to months and kilometers to degrees). It is computationally too expensive to include this level of resolution in Global Climate Models, so the question is: can we quantify our error? Is it even relevant? Sara is currently working on estimating ranges of biological and physico-chemical variability in the ocean using phytoplankton pigments, satellite imagery and ARGO floats to compare this with future projections from Global Climate Models at different levels of resolution.

To learn more about Sara and her research, visit:
https://sites.google.com/site/sarariverocalle/
http://dornsife.usc.edu/labs/levine/group/

Life as a postdoc: A commentary

• It has been a growing experience because I’ve got the opportunity to look at the scientific question in a different way, making me more responsible than ever before.
• I’m prone to overwork, creating an improper work life balance, but I don’t know how to stop.
• I’ve had the unique experience to form a close connection with my advisor over a topic we are both passionate about.

If you would like to submit commentary for future newsletters, please email uscpda@usc.edu!
Happy hour and board games at CHLA! Join us again on October, 26th!

Pizza party at UPC during NPAW
Catalina trip in September! 12 postdocs go to an island...
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