ARO Education Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, May 27,202

Time: 4:00-5:00 PM ET

Attendance:

Cathy Sung, Jarnail Singh, Pankaj Bhatia, Mahesh Nayak, Sumana Ghosh, Jason Brant, Tong Shan, Peter Santa Maria

Minutes:

ARO Seminar Series Update

An update was provided on the ARO Seminar Series. It was noted that the final speaker for the current series, which focuses on the auditory cortex and thalamus, has been confirmed. Planning for the next seminar series on the auditory brainstem and midbrain is underway, with all four speakers confirmed.

Career Transition Support for PhDs

The committee explored a proposed initiative to support PhDs and postdocs transitioning into careers outside academia. This initiative aims to include recurring informal coffee hour sessions featuring industry professionals from fields such as clinical research, project management, and medical writing.

The sessions would offer practical advice on topics including CV development, networking, and job applications. Clarification was provided on how this initiative differs from existing spARO sessions. It was explained that it will offer a broader perspective on diverse career paths and will be shaped based on survey feedback from interested participants.

Planning of Initiatives and Coffee Hours

The committee reviewed ongoing and upcoming initiatives, focusing on three main areas. For the Coffee Hours initiative, plans are underway to develop a consistent structure using outreach templates and a shared document to support networking efforts. Regarding Cutting-Edge Techniques and Models, progress continues with an upcoming session confirmed for July 10th, which will feature a machine learning toolbox for human research. Additional planning meetings are scheduled to refine and enhance this initiative further.

The JARO Special Edition remains in the early stages, with planning ongoing and further discussion anticipated. Committee members were reminded to complete the initiative interest survey, if they had not already, to ensure effective task assignment and engagement across all projects.

Next Steps

- Committee members who haven't submitted the initiative interest survey to fill it out before the next meeting.
- Sumana and Jarnail will coordinate efforts to support the new coffee hour initiative by creating a shared Google Doc for committee members to contribute industry contacts, developing a standardized outreach template for contacting professionals, and compiling a preliminary list of potential speakers.
- Cathy to assist in distributing the industry contacts request to the broader committee, spARO, or ARO Council when Sumana and Jarnail are ready.
- Tong to update the committee on improvements for the cutting-edge techniques and models initiative after next week's meeting.