

The Postdoctoral Association (PDA)



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF POSTDOCTORAL AFFAIRS



What does the PDA do?

Our mission:

- **Represent postdocs across all units** (colleges/departments)
- **Advocate for policies to improve postdoctoral experience** (training, orientation, PI engagement...)
- **Advocate for policies that improve postdoc conditions** (benefits, minimum salary, parental leave...)
- **Facilitate community building and networking by organizing postdoc events** (training, socials, networking...)



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Meet your PDA representatives!

We are here to help you and make FSU Postdoctoral training better.



Mohammad
President
Mathematics



Luna
Vice-president
COAPS



Nuria
Senior Advisor
FCRR



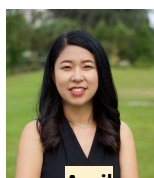
Carolina
Social Chair
Psychology



Jayasankar
Social Media
COAPS



Man
Mathematics



April
Humanities



C.J.
Psychology



Havalend
Coastal & Marine



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Email: opda-info@fsu.edu



What has PDA done for you so far?

- Definition of a postdoctoral scholar (defines the length, 4-5 years, and the mentored training)
- Teaching postdoctoral scholars (~15-25 postdocs)
- Preparing future faculty certificate
- Minimum salary (\$47,658) and retirement and benefits
- Termination policy
- Travel awards
- Attend National Postdoctoral Association events
- Postdoc meal plan (\$120 for 20 meals)



• **Recently accepted:** paid time off policy

• **Working project:** paid parental leave

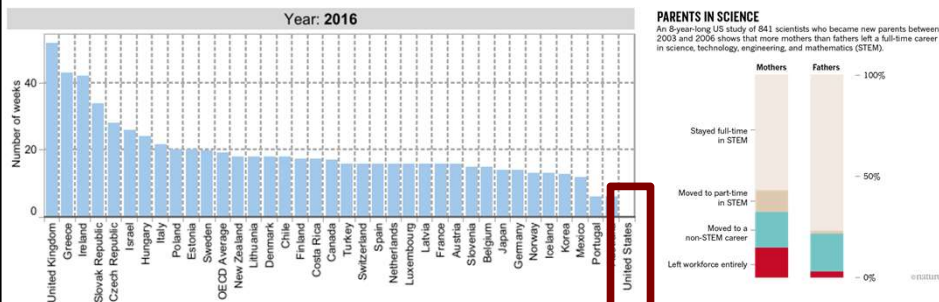
• **Working project:** Mental health for postdocs



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Fighting for Paid Parental Leave



- At the moment, postdocs at FSU can take 12 weeks **unpaid leave** when they give birth.
- We want to change that!
- 72% of Top 25 Public schools have some paid parental leave.
 - Median paid leave (for mothers and fathers) is 4 weeks.

OUR GOAL: 8 weeks of paid parent leave

Estimated costs ~ \$7000 per postdoc, with a projection of 4-5 postdocs (2%) requesting leave/year



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Buddy program

Buddies, your fellow **FSU-Postdocs**, will be paired up with the **incoming postdocs** to share their recent experience in Tallahassee and help you settle in.

<https://opda.fsu.edu/fsu-pda>

FSU | OFFICE OF POSTDOCTORAL AFFAIRS

ABOUT US | **FSU PDA** | IN THE NEWS | POLICIES AND HIRING | EVENTS & WORKSHOPS | RESOURCES | FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS | JOB POSTINGS

FSU Postdoctoral Association Buddy Program

The Postdoc Buddy program is designed to help new postdocs get acquainted with FSU activities and life in Tallahassee. FSU fellow postdocs (Buddies) will be paired up with the new postdocs and share their recent experiences in Tallahassee (e.g., their favorite spots, restaurants, social groups, hikes).

Are you a new postdoc at FSU? Do you want to know more about working at FSU and life in Tallahassee? Join the FSU Postdoctoral Association Buddy program to get first-hand advice from a fellow postdoc! Your buddy will share their experiences with you and help you settle in. Your first meeting will be virtual, and then you can decide how much to be in contact – from a few emails, to skype calls, to meetings in person. If you're interested in finding a Buddy, sign up below. Your buddy will contact you within 1-2 weeks to schedule your first virtual meeting.

Click HERE to Find a Buddy



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What has PDA done for you so far?

- Definition of a postdoctoral scholar
- Teaching postdoctoral scholars
- Preparing future faculty certificate
- Minimum salary and retirement and benefits
- Termination policy
- Travel awards
- Attend National Postdoctoral Association events
- Postdoc meal plan



• **Recently accepted:** paid time off policy

• **Almost completed:** paid parental leave

• **Working project:** Mental health for postdocs

Do you have ideas for activities, recruitment, career development, initiatives or just want to help us in our initiatives?

Join us, together we can make it happen!



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PDA Spring Event

2022 Spring Event:

PLANNING YOUR CAREER AFTER A POSTDOC

May 6, 2022 / 1 PM – 5 PM EST

Free event
Online + group watch at Florida State University

Going from Postdoc to Academic & Non-Academic Jobs

Dr. Chris Smith
Virginia Tech



One Postdoc's Journey on the Academic Job Market

Dr. Kenneth
Hanson
Florida State University



How to Transition to Non-Academic Jobs

Dr. Tracy Costello
University of South Florida



ACADEMIC PANEL

Dr. Francesca Bernardi
Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Dr. Erminia Fardone
University of Miami

Dr. William Dewar
Florida State University

Dr. Trelani Chapman
University of Alberta Edmonton

Dr. Symone Alexander
Auburn University

NON-ACADEMIC PANEL

Dr. Nathan Crock
Director of NewSci Labs

Dr. Anne Kradok
Career Coach, Founder of Practical Workplace Advice

Dr. Troy Lowry
Research Analyst, Institute for Defense Analysis

Dr. Tracy Costello
Career Coach & Postdoc Consultant

Dr. Jesse Dunietz
AAAS Science & Technology Policy Fellow

More info + register at fsupdaspringevent.github.io



FSU PDA SPRING EVENT
Office of Postdoctoral Affairs
Florida State University Postdoctoral Association



- 11 speakers
- ~100 participants from all over the US
- Hybrid event open to all postdocs
- Great feedback from participants

If you want to join the 2022 Spring Event reach out to us.



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PDA Networking opportunities, Social events

Welcome happy hour in August!



Sumudu and Tiglet met at the Spring Event 2017, it turned into a collaboration and a paper!

SCIENTIFIC REPORTS

OPEN Single crystal elasticity of natural topaz at high-temperatures

Sumudu Tennakoon^{1,2}, Ve Peng³, Mahabub Moosherjef⁴, Sergio Speziale⁵, Geetha Manthilake⁶, Tiglet Benzer⁷, Luis Andreu⁸ & Fernando Rivera⁹

¹Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado, USA

²Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado, USA

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⁹Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado, USA



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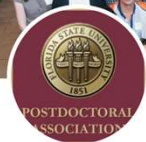
→ FOLLOW US ON TWITTER!!



@FSUPostdocs



FSU Postdocs
674 Tweets



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The Florida State University Postdoctoral Association (PDA) and the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs (OPDA).

Tallahassee, FL opda.fsu.edu Joined November 2016



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→ SIGN UP TO GET THE UPCOMING FSU POSTDOC NEWSLETTERS

Go to: <https://opda.fsu.edu/>

Scroll to the bottom of the page and subscribe!

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* indicates required

Email Address *

First Name *

Last Name *

View previous newsletters.

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What does it mean to be a PDA member...

- **Propose initiatives or changes in postdoctoral policies.**
- **Give your opinion and ideas on the topics discussed**
- **Help organizing events:**
e.g., Spring and fall events, happy hours, picnics, workshops,
etc.

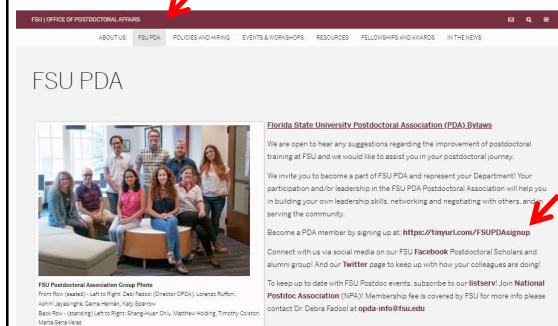
**Duty: Attend the monthly meeting (usually 1h-1:30h) currently by
zoom**



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JOIN the Association!

<https://opda.fsu.edu/fsu-pda>



FSU OFFICE OF POSTDOCTORAL AFFAIRS

ABOUT US FSU PDA POLICIES AND HIRING EVENTS & WORKSHOPS RESOURCES FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS IN THE NEWS

FSU PDA

Florida State University Postdoctoral Association (PDA) Bylaws

We are open to hear any suggestions regarding the improvement of postdoctoral training at FSU and we would like to assist you in your postdoctoral journey.

We invite you to become a part of FSU PDA and represent your Department! Your participation and/or leadership in the FSU PDA Postdoctoral Association will help you in building your own leadership skills, networking and negotiating with others, and serving the community.

Become a PDA member by signing up at: <https://tinyurl.com/FSUPDAsignup>

Connect with us via social media on our FSU Facebook Postdoctoral Scholars and alumni group! And our Twitter page to keep up with how your colleagues are doing!

To keep up to date with FSU Postdoc events, subscribe to our [listserve](#). Join **National Postdoc Association (NPA)**. Membership fee is covered by FSU for more info please contact Dr. Debra Fadool at opda-info@fsu.edu

FSU Postdoctoral Association Group Photo
 From left (seated): Leticia Ruffin, David Patton (Director OPDA), Leticia Ruffin, Justin Jayasinghe, Gema Menela, Katy Scammon
 Back Row (standing): Leticia Ruffin, Dongmei Chen, Matthew Hocking, Timothy Carson, Maria Serna-Velasco



- Leadership skills
- Collaborations across campus
- Socialize with other PD
- Organize events
- Multitasking and organizational skills



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