March Social: Lunch and Leadership

We enjoyed a lively and thought provoking social with Roger Wakimoto, NCAR Director, and Rick Anthes, UCAR President on March 3rd. Rick and Roger took some time to provide us their thoughts on leadership and what makes a good leader, and then took questions from postdocs and graduate students.

Some of the discussions centered on the difference between a good leader and a good manager and whether or not one could be both. Are leaders born or made? How does intelligence vs. emotional intelligence play into leadership? We had some great conversation and everyone walked away with something to think about. Thank you Roger, Rick and all of the postdocs and graduate students who attended for such a lively and engaging social.

For more great discussions, seminars, and career advice, don't miss the Thompson Lecture Series, April 19-21 with Dr. John Seinfeld of the California Institute of Technology.

Watch the email list for more information, or go to the Thompson Lecture Series Wiki at https://wiki.ucar.edu/display/aspthompson08/Home.

March Fellows Socials

The Fellows Association Social Committee is happy to welcome Marielle Saunois to their ranks. If you are interested in officially working with the social committee, please contact Jasper Kok, Marielle Saunois, or Julie Theriault. Remember, you can always use the Fellows email list to organize any kind of impromptu gathering or event for your fellow Fellows.

The Social committee is planning a night of playing pool on Monday March 15th, and a happy hour gathering on Thursday March 25th.

More information will follow by email.
Proposal Writing Workshop Online

In April 2006, Al Cooper gave a proposal writing workshop to postdocs, graduate students, and members of the Early Career Scientist Assembly. Al Cooper was the former ASP director who spent time at the NSF as a program manager. He is now the HIAPER chief scientist. To view the workshop, you will need Real Player. Look for the link to Al’s proposal writing workshop at the ASP “about” page:
http://www.asp.ucar.edu/about.php

Research Highlights

For those of you who attended the retreat in February, you’ll recall that Rachel Hauser spoke about the need for Research Highlights. A research highlight could be anything from a new research finding to a new paper, or anything that may be of interest to people both inside and outside of NCAR and to our sponsor, the National Science Foundation. The ASP Office will be soliciting research highlights from ASP postdocs quarterly. For those of you who are not in ASP, please be sure to keep Rachel informed of any interesting developments that you think might make a good research highlight. This is a great way to elevate awareness of your work and ensure that your research is included in NCAR reports or even highlighted on the NCAR homepage. Rachel’s email address is rhauser@ucar.edu.

The Tipline: Working Too Much is Unproductive

In her article “Mind Matters: In Defense of Downtime,” December 04, 2009, in Science Careers, Irene Levine argues that workaholics are likely to be less productive and less content with their jobs. This is not just her opinion—she cites a study recently published in the Harvard Business Review, by Perlow and Porter, as well as multiple other studies and observations. The prevailing view seems to be that having predetermined time off or an end-of-the-workday tends to increase focus and efficiency, and overall, enhances the ability of individuals to work well with his or her colleagues. Vacations are good, but not sufficient.

To view the entire article, please see http://sciencecareers.sciencemag.org/career_magazine/previous_issues/articles/2009_12_04/caredit.a0900149

Reprinted by permission from the University of California Postdoc Newsletter, December 2009

Note: The tipline is a vehicle for fellows and their mentors to share some best practices that foster the most rich and rewarding experience for all postdocs and grad students at NCAR. Newsletter editor, Paula Fisher, welcomes contributions of 200-300 words. This month’s tipline comes from the UCAR Communications Office

• If you are interested in joining the ASP Team for the Bolder Boulder, please contact Paul Winkler (pwinkler@ucar.edu) by the end of April.

• For those of you who are new to the U.S. and may be unaware, you will need to complete a Federal and State tax return by April 15th using your W2 form found on the timecard system. For more information, please see http://www.fin.ucar.edu/hr/foreignvisitors/visa_income_tax.html

• Remember to move your clocks an hour ahead on Saturday March 13th as Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday March 14th.

I suppose leadership at one time meant muscles; but today it means getting along with people.

--Mohandas Gandhi