Caltech Postdoc Association

Team 2023 - 24
Postdoc Orientation, April 16th 2024
Our Mission for Our community

The Caltech Postdoctoral Association (CPA) seeks to foster a **sense of community**, provide resources for **career and personal development**, and provide a framework for **representation** on campus and in the **local community** for postdoctoral scholars from all departments of the Institute.

Also serve: JPL and Carnegie affiliates
Board & Organization

Chair
Nivedita Mahesh, PMA

External Affairs & Communications Chair
Hanxun Jin, EAS

Secretary
Treasurer

Career
Diversity
Advocacy
Outreach
Social
Childcare & Support

Division Representatives

Caltech
Career

- Interfaces with CALE & CTLO
- Demystifying Faculty Hiring Process
- Networking opportunities with Industries
- Workshops:
  a. LinkedIn
  b. Teaching statements
  c. Design your postdoc life

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Manu Tom, JPL
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Danial Panahandeh Shahraki, EAS
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Outreach

Vision: Connect postdocs with our larger community!

Reviving our pre-pandemic programs:

○ CPA for STEM
  In talks with Polytechnic school
○ Explore Caltech: a Caltech open house with booth tables and short talks by grad students, postdocs and faculties with over 5000 participants from the community pre-pandemic.

Marziye Jafariyazani, PMA
jafari@ipac.caltech.edu
Social

Here to bring us all together :) We do an event every month, based on YOUR responses to our survey.

Upcoming events:

○ New Postdoc Meet & Greet + Happy Hour (April 19)
○ JPL Visit (TBD)

Juni Singh, HSS
jsingh7@caltech.edu

Aditya Khullar, JPL
aditya.r.khuller@jpl.nasa.gov

Caltech Spouse club Social

Diwali Celebrations

Hiking Trip
Diversity

- Ongoing Disability in STEM seminar series
- Cultural food events: Potluck!
- Ongoing Social Justice in LA seminar series
- Drag bingo
- DEI-themed movie nights
- LA Pride Parade float

Any other ideas from the postdoc community are welcome!

Riccardo Caniato (PMA)
rcaniato@caltech.edu

Sofia Fatigoni (PMA)
sofiaf@caltech.edu
Advocacy

The CPA advocacy committee is here for you, and we are here to ensure your academic experience at Caltech is fulfilling. So, in line with that:

• We have set up weekly a CPA advocacy listening helpdesk: a space for sharing concerns, issues, specific requests regarding (but not limited to) housing, healthcare, safe work environment (we follow an anti-bullying policy and we ensure protection especially for international postdocs) and anything else that may have come up at Caltech. The helpdesk is open once a week (Friday at 10am) in Caltech hall 907. Every single session last for 15 minutes and the helpdesk is open for 1h.

• We are working closely with the Postdoctoral Scholars Office and the Institutional Research Office.

• The minimum salary for postdocs is $68,000/year. If at any point you are being paid less than that, reach out to us.

If you have any other questions or concerns, reach out to the advocacy co-chairs.
Childcare & parent support

- We work closely with Caltech Spouses club ask us about joining!

- Goals for this year:
  - Understand & quantify postdoc parents’ needs!
  - Advocate for better Childcare Policies
  - Work with CEC & CCC for better allocations and plans for postdoc parents
  - Advocate for improved family health insurance plans + housing
  - Better support for international postdocs & families

We’d also love to get to know the new parents so please reach out to the co-chairs!

^Credit to the kids who’s drawings these are at CEC next to caltech : )
What’s Next!

CPA and BBE present
Spring social & trivia night

Please join us for a fun trivia night. Thai food and drinks will be provided!

19th April, Friday
6 pm -10 pm
Dabney hall

Caltech Postdocs Launch
Every other Friday 12 pm Caltech Hall

Sponsored by
Caltech Postdoc Association, Caltech divisions and Caltech Library
Contact:
ppt@caltech.edu, tridip@caltech.edu

• Cross-disciplinary speakers,
• Candid QnA session,
• Free Lunch for attendees,
• Gift cards for speakers.

Next and final seminar of this season on April 26, 2024
Next season will be back sometime in July/August 2024
Division Representatives

Act as Liaisons between the Division and CPA.

Identify areas and issues to work on with CPA
Help CPA organize:
- Cool Ales
- Writing sessions
- Postdoc L(a)unch

BBE
- Emma Boxer
- Pallavi Panda
- Sayan Dutta

CCE
- Prabhat
- Prakash

GPS
- Junjie Dong

PMA
- Sridip Pal

HSS
- Tessa Rusch
- Zeynep Turan

EAS
Get Involved in the capacity that works for you!

Attend our events
Join our advocacy efforts
Share your brilliant ideas
Connect with Us
Communication

- Responsibilities:
  Disseminating information, managing communication platforms, event announcements, external requests, etc.

- Get connected! All our channels:
  a. Mailing list: cpa-announcement@caltech.edu; postdoc-announcement@caltech.edu.
  b. Slack
  c. Instagram (follow us @ caltechpostdocs)
  d. Facebook (Caltech Postdoc Association)

More information:
https://cpa.caltech.edu/about-the-cpa
https://cpa.caltech.edu

Caltech Postdoctoral Association

Sign-up/Join
Mailing list: cpa_announcement
Slack
Instagram
Facebook

Email
Nivedita Mahesh (Chair)
nmahesh@caltech.edu

Contact
Any CPA member or Division Representatives

Thank you!