

## July 2008

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### Postdoc Pub Night

July 25th - 9:30 pm

Q's Billiard Club

11835 Wilshire Blvd..

Everybody is welcome!

### New SoPS VPs

We would like to welcome Scherise Mitchell, our newly elected VP of the Career Development Committee and Abtine Tavassoli our newly elected VP of the Social Committee. We also wish Lynn Talton the best of luck as she vacates the VP position for Advocacy to oversee Postdoctoral Affairs for the Medical School/Life Sciences.

### New SoPS Server

Thanks to Ajay Gopal and IT support at UCLA, the SoPS website was completely redone and it is now hosted on a faster server that is supported by the graduate division. We hope to use these upgrades to stream more seminars over the web and to get more information to postdocs.

### FitSports for UCLA Faculty and Staff

A number of fun athletic activities are available through UCLA Recreation's FitWell program, including soccer and basketball. For more information go to [www.fitwell.ucla.edu](http://www.fitwell.ucla.edu).

## Possible Unionization of most UC Postdoctoral Positions

UAW has petitioned again to unionize most postdoctoral titles at all UC campuses. This petition was distributed to postdocs and posted on departmental notice boards. It is also available from the SoPS website.

Forum Details: There are a couple of ongoing threads in our discussion forums (where you can add comments anonymously without login), and you can also start new ones if you login or register as a new SoPS member.

<http://www.postdoc.ucla.edu/node/1424> (New discussion thread - 2008)

<http://www.postdoc.ucla.edu/node/591> (Old discussion thread - 2006)

Other links:

1) <http://www.prouaw.org/home/home.php> (Pro Union Website)

2) <http://www.gdnet.ucla.edu/gss/postdoc/pdunion.htm> (Official, neutral and complete UCLA Grad Division Information on Unionization)

3) For neutrality it is noted that at this time there is no known official website with views opposing UAW's petition for UC postdocs. The closest similar case is noted here for parity: <http://www.atwhatcost.org>.

**DISCLAIMER: SoPS is an advisory group to UCLA and is required to remain neutral on this issue.. It is not responsible for the views expressed by individuals in our forums.**

## Responsible Conduct of Research Certification

The first RCR Workshop was offered this month and there are many more scheduled. These workshops arose out of the need to ensure that scientists at UCLA are receiving the proper training in the the responsible conduct of research. The workshops will be on a number of topics that include both didactic lectures and discussions of real case studies. The workshops are sponsored by SoPS and the Graduate Division. Future workshops will be announced in the SoPS Newsletter and the SoPS website.

## Postdoctoral Scholar Orientation

July 31, 2:30-4:30PM 1237 Murphy Hall (Conference Room)

These informal sessions provide an overview of UCLA postdoctoral scholar affairs, and life both on and off campus. Topics covered include a general introduction to postdoctoral policy, useful campus and off-campus services, the Society of Postdoctoral Scholars, and local attractions. Plus, this is a good time to meet and ask questions with other new postdocs as well as with SoPS officers. RSVP at <http://www.gdnet.ucla.edu/gss/postdoc/pdorient.htm>