

NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL SCIENCE MASTER'S ASSOCIATION
100 INSTITUTE ROAD, WORCESTER, MA 01609
(508) 831-4996 * WWW.NPSMA.ORG

NPSMA to Participate in BIO International Convention



The 2009 BIO International Convention <http://convention.bio.org/> will feature a breakout session on the PSM degree entitled, “*Developing Highly Effective Partnerships with University Workforce Development Programs.*” Among the speakers will be NPSMA board member Don Peters of BD-Biosciences and founding board member Jung Choi of Georgia Tech.

Working with our PSM collaborators, the NPSMA has created a unique flyer promoting the PSM degree which will be distributed to employers in the biosciences during the session.

We have also created a new web link to be hosted within our webpage which will be launched prior to BIO where employer attendees may visit for additional information on PSM degree programs in the biosciences.

We are receiving tremendous support from the Biocom Institute <http://www.biocominstitute.org/> which will create a parallel web link as well as host a reception at BIO to help us promote the PSM degree.

NPSMA June Workshop to be in Nashville



June 18-19
Nashville Hilton
Downtown

The NPSMA's second Quarterly Workshop of 2009 will be held in Nashville, TN on Thursday, June 18 and Friday, June 19 at the Nashville Hilton Downtown.

The event will begin with a PSM Networking Social on Thursday evening. It will be followed by a day-long series of panel discussions on Friday.

The first panel will be on Best Practices: National Science Foundation PSM solicitations; outcomes measures to evaluate programs; modeling for startup costs, operating expenses, and tuition; and branding issues.

The second panel will include local employers leading discussion on issues such as working with industry clusters and state technology councils.

The third panel will include a sharing of student and alumni experiences.

The Quarterly Workshop online registration will be open any day at <http://www.npsma.org/quarterlyworkshop.html>.

NPSMA to Initiate Nationwide Outcomes and Employment Survey of PSM Grads

Within a few weeks the NPSMA will begin the first-ever study examining the employment outcomes of the approximately 2100 PSM degree graduates. The purpose of the study will be to create a self-reported profile of the hiring, salary, and promotion patterns of PSM grads.

The survey instrument was designed by Eleanor Babco of the Council of Graduate Schools and Sheila Tobias. Over the winter, the survey was piloted at the University of Connecticut by Linda Strausbaugh with her alumni.

PSM program directors will receive an email and instructions which they will be asked to forward to their graduates through whichever ongoing communications vehicles that they have in place with their alum. The graduates will be directed to a portal on the NPSMA website and requested to voluntarily respond to a brief online survey.

The findings of this research project are very important to NPSMA's ongoing dialogue with its collaborators, policymakers, employers, and legislators.

NPSMA National Advisory Board to meet

The NPSMA's Advisory Board of senior business leaders, university presidents, and graduate education advocates will be having its 2009 meeting on April 30 in Boston. The Advisory Board was designed to further the connection between industry, government and academia in support of the PSM degree.

Members of the Advisory Board are:

John Baldoni, sr.vice president, preclinical development, Glaxo Smith-Kline

Dennis Berkey, president and CEO, Worcester Polytechnic Institute

William Fitzgerald, vice president, global operations, GE Aviation

Paul Gaffney, president, Monmouth University

Pam Gao, senior vice president, Putnam Investments

Carol Lynch, senior scholar in residence, Council of Graduate Schools

Ed Ray, president, Oregon State University

Susan Sloan, director GUIRR, The National Academies of Science

William Pulleyblank, vice president, IBM Business Consulting Services

Michael Teitelbaum, vice president, Alfred P. Sloan Foundation

Sheila Tobias, author and consultant, NPSMA academic liaison

"The National Professional Science Master's Association is very impressed with the level of commitment that the National Science Foundation is placing on graduate education in the sciences. Program officers from the NSF recently participated in an NPSMA workshop to engage attendees on how best to allocate line item funding for Professional Science Master's programs. The NSF has continued its dialogue in the professional science master's community to gather information and clarify details before announcing solicitations later this spring."

(from www.dailykos.com)

- Stephen Lemire,
NPSMA
Executive Director

PSM Products from around the Nation

"Other than proofing the final copy, the work is entirely theirs, and to be honest, I think they are amazing students!"

- Marian Cothran
Program Coordinator,
Professional Program
in Biotechnology
Texas A&M University

"I foresee an important benefit of this program to be a closer and better connection between the industry and an academic institution."

- Rana Khan,
Program Director,
Biotechnology
Studies, UMUC

The students in the Professional Program in Biotechnology at **Texas A&M University** have begun to produce their own newsletter entitled, *BT Transit...from School to Industry*. A copy of the most recent issue may be viewed at http://www.npsma.org/assetlibrary/TAMU_nl.pdf. The students should be commended for their initiative as well as their quality publication.

In 2008, **University of Maryland, University College (UMUC)** was awarded the FIPSE Grant from the U.S. Department of Education to enhance its Professional Science Master's (PSM) programs in its Graduate School of Management and Technology by developing an industry guided, web-based, professional development plan that will initially be integrated throughout its PSM biotechnology degree program.

Under this program, which will pilot in fall 2009, students will be assigned a professional mentor who will offer professional and career guidance and insight from the time they begin the program until they graduate. The new online program involves students, mentors, and mentor assistants who will work together as a team to help UMUC Biotechnology students better understand biotechnology workplace options and better prepare their course/specialization selection and class projects to achieve their professional goals. Students will have access to a number of online tools, including an electronic Industry Guided Professional Action Plan (E-PAP). In the proposed collaborative model, industry professionals will play an active role in shaping each student's skills and knowledge, thus helping them gain a competitive edge as they enter the workforce.

NPSMA Becomes Amazon.com Associate; Joins Twitter

The NPSMA website has a new Resources Page <http://www.npsma.org/resources.html> where you can find useful books that are used in PSM degree programs and from the National Academies Press. Through the NPSMA's new relationship with Amazon.com, these texts may be purchased online through the NPSMA website.

If you have suggestions for additional books that you would like to see added to the Resources Page, please send the text's information along with a quotable recommendation to slemire@npsma.org.

Under the guidance of Communications Committee Chair Kevin Sightler of the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign the NPSMA has joined Twitter. We invite you to participate with us at <http://twitter.com/npsma>.

From time-to-time in this space we like to provide you with a piece of information about the NPSMA office (which we call World Headquarters) here at Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Massachusetts. Recently, Forbes.com ranked Worcester 9th in its listing of "America's Most Livable Cities."

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ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

(The NPSMA is a 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Organization; Tax ID # 20-8766099)

PLEASE CHECK APPROPRIATE CATEGORY

_____ Business, Industry, Nonprofit, Government Employer		\$4,000
_____ Academic Institution		\$2,000
(1 member per PSM program)		
(PSM alumni that enroll in Alumni Network - 1 year FREE)		
_____ Academic - Employer Partnership		\$5,000
_____ Academic System	(3 to 5 campuses)	\$5,000
	(each additional campus)	\$1,000
_____ Individual		\$ 50
_____ PSM Alumnus		\$ 50
_____ PSM Student	1 st year - FREE; 2 nd year	\$ 25

PLEASE PRINT, COMPLETE FORM AND INCLUDE WITH PAYMENT TO THE **NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL SCIENCE MASTER'S ASSOCIATION**. PAYMENT IS DUE UPON RECEIPT. THANK YOU FOR YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

QUESTIONS: STEPHEN LEMIRE, (508) 831-4996, SLEMIRE@NPSMA.ORG

PLEASE PROVIDE CONTACT INFORMATION BELOW

Name of Business or Academic Institution _____

Address _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Individual Information (Academic Institutions may provide one contact person/PSM program)

Name _____

Title _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Name _____

Title _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____