

NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL SCIENCE MASTER'S ASSOCIATION  
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## NPSMA Survey Looks at PSM Enrollment and Graduation Data



*Loida Escote-Carlson chaired Best Practices Survey.*

During the first quarter of 2008, the NPSMA conducted its first Best Practices Survey. Under the leadership of Loida Escote-Carlson, who chaired the initiative, the comprehensive survey was designed to capture student and graduate data as well as design issues for existing and planned programs.

With 72 programs responding: 51% of enrolled students are male; 70% are US citizens or permanent residents; and approximately half are working professionals. With 69 programs reporting: 50% of graduates are male; and 73% of graduates are US citizens or permanent residents. In addition, 90% of graduates are employed; 7% are seeking further degrees; and 3% are unaccounted.

Other findings will be released in this newsletter and on the website.

## NPSMA Annual Conference Agenda Begins to take Shape

The NPSMA Annual Conference will be held on Thursday, November 13 and Friday, November 14 at the Georgia Tech Hotel and Conference Center in Atlanta. The purpose of the conference will be to provide PSM program representatives with best practice tools which they can use to expand their existing programs or to continue to develop their planned programs.

The format for the conference will be a series of breakout sessions designed to encourage networking and sharing of experiences. Suggested topics will focus on areas such as encouraging employer participation, financial considerations for start-up programs, program marketing and communications, student recruitment efforts, and program sustainability.

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*"Best practices, student recruitment, and program sustainability are all suggestions for breakout sessions."*

*Ursula Bechert, NPSMA Vice President.*

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## NPSMA Member Ranks Quickly Growing

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*“The growth of our membership reflects the need for professional networking opportunities and the desire to share best practice information.”*

Stephen Lemire, NPSMA  
Executive Director

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EMPLOYER & NONPROFIT MEMBERS	INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS
Alfred P. Sloan Foundation	Cynthia Bainton
	Sheryl Baldwin
<b>UNIVERSITY MEMBERS</b>	Ursula Bechert
Arizona State University	Dagmar Beck
Keck Graduate Institute	David Bieber
University of Illinois	Lisbeth Borbye
University of North Texas	Greg Buck
Worcester Polytechnic Institute	Loida Escote-Carlson
	Lily Chen
	Jung Choi
<b>ALUMNI MEMBERS</b>	Elizabeth Friedman
Barbara Belmont	Lawrence Fritz
Caryn Lehner	Eric Kennedy
	Albert Kern
	Syed Kirmani
<b>STUDENT MEMBERS</b>	Heather Kornacki
Shannon Hoffman	Shirley Kovacs
Fredrick Michael	Alaina Levine
Priyadarshini Pusapati	Thomas Loughin
Tara Paulsen	Sheila Tobias
Joseph Perrone	Sally Veregge
Trang Vu	Bogdan Vernescu
	Ching-Hua Wang
	Peiru Wu

## NPSMA to Conduct Market Audit to Promote PSM Programs

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*“What do you think the NPSMA should do to help promote the PSM degree more?”*

Terri Davidson of  
Davidson  
Communications

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The NPSMA has contracted Davidson Communications of Massachusetts to explore ways in which the NPSMA can help universities promote their existing and planned PSM degree programs. During the next few weeks, Terri Davidson will be interviewing select representatives of the NPSMA’s various constituent groups.

The focus of the audit will be to examine PSM degree visibility, competitive factors, communications issues, and overall perceptions. The NPSMA will use the information collected to produce promotional material for the association and for individual PSM programs.

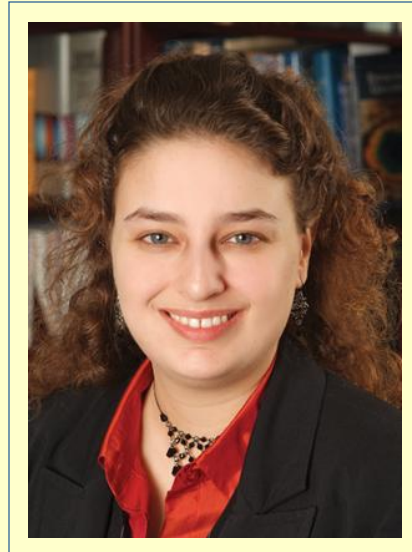
This material, which will be designed to compliment existing pieces produced by the Council of Graduate Schools, will allow those in the PSM community to have a consistent branded presentation about PSM’s, the universities which offer them, and the associations which represent them.

## PSM Alumni Networking Planned for BIO

The NPSMA Alumni Network is planning to host a networking social in Monday, June 16 in San Diego as part of the BIO Conference. All PSM graduates that in southern California or will be attending BIO are welcome to attend.

PSM program directors are encouraged to spread the word to their graduates about the Alumni Network and its planned event in June. For further details, you may contact Alaina Levine [alaina@npsma.org](mailto:alaina@npsma.org).

The NPSMA Alumni Network provides career opportunities and professional development for PSM graduates and markets PSM alumni to prospective employers.



*Alaina Levine is the Director of the NPSMA Alumni Network.*

### NPSMA OFFICE

The NPSMA office (a.k.a. World Headquarters) is located in the Salisbury Laboratories Building on the campus of Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) in Worcester, MA.

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