

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

"To further the connection between academia and business in support of the Professional Science Master's degree we are pleased to announce the members of the newly formed NPSMA National Advisory Board."

NPSMA President
Bogdan Vernescu

NPSMA Forms National Advisory Board

The National Professional Science Master's Association announced at its Inaugural National Conference the formation of a national advisory board of accomplished business and academic leaders to provide guidance on matters which impact the PSM movement.

The advisors include:

John Baldoni, senior 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 Sauer Sloan, director GUIRR, The National Academies of Science; William Pulleyblank, vice president, IBM Business Consulting Services; Michael Teitelbaum, vice president, Alfred P. Sloan Foundation; and Sheila Tobias, author and consultant, NPSMA academic liaison.

NPSMA's Inaugural National Conference a Major Success

More than 80 representatives of PSM degree programs, ranging from the well established to those still in the planning stages, participated in the recent two-day Inaugural National Conference of the NPSMA which was held at the Georgia Tech Hotel and Conference Center.

Attendees participated in workshops on program development and sustainability, student and alumni relations, communications, industry connections, entrepreneurship and innovation, and veterans and military benefits.

The keynote focused on the Change Acceleration Process, the plenary on T-shaped scientists, and the panel discussion on the projected future growth of the PSM degree.



*Keynote Speaker
Cindy Larkin,
Horizon Leadership*

NPSMA Releases “PSM Degree Programs Best Practices Survey Findings”

“Program directors bear the bulk of responsibilities for their programs, especially regarding academic advising, recruitment, admissions, and retention.”

- “PSM Degree Programs Best Practices Survey Findings”

“As the Professional Science Master’s (PSM) degree movement continues to grow, it is imperative that we emphasize a high level of quality for our programs and graduates. To this end, we must take stock of the strategies and practices that work to create and sustain successful PSM degree programs. It is for this reason that the National Professional Science Master’s Association (NPSMA) initiated a survey of the current PSM degree programs on various criteria vital to the success of existing programs as well as the development of new ones.”

This citation is from the introduction of the NPSMA’s most recent publication, “PSM Degree Programs Best Practices Survey Findings” which was released at the Inaugural National Conference. This comprehensive study, under the direction of Loida Escote-Carlson, Elizabeth Friedman, Peiru Wu, and Ursula Bechert, begins to highlight to commonalities and dissimilarities from program to program.

To read the report in its entirety please go to the www.npsma.org homepage and look under “News & Updates.”

NPSMA Elects Officers and Votes on New Board Members for 2009

The NPSMA Board of Directors held its annual meeting on November 12 in Atlanta prior to its Inaugural National Conference. During the meeting the following officers were elected for 2009: Ursula Bechert, Oregon State University, President; Elizabeth Friedman, Illinois Institute of Technology, Vice President; Loida Escote-Carlson, Pennsylvania State University, Convener; and Alaina Levine, The University of Arizona, Finance Officer (photos below).

Bogdan Vernescu, who will become Immediate Past President, Jung Choi, David Bieber, and Lisbeth Borbye, whose terms have ended, were thanked for their vision and the leadership they provided the NPSMA.

NPSMA members have until December 10, 2008 to submit their ballots to Elizabeth Friedman for election of other Directors for 2009. Dagmar Beck of Rice University, Kevin Sightler of the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, and Famarz Valafar of San Diego State University have all been nominated to the Board for the coming year.



*Ursula Bechert,
NPSMA President-elect*



NPSMA to begin Annual Collection of PSM Enrollment and Graduation Data

“This information is not only useful for program directors, but it is vital for the NPSMA and CGS in our conversations with employers and policymakers.”

Stephen Lemire, NPSMA
Executive Director

Beginning this month the NPSMA will begin collecting demographic enrollment and graduate data from each PSM degree program. Working on this initiative in conjunction with its collaborators the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation and the Council of Graduate Schools, the organizations place a high priority on the standardized collection and reporting of PSM data.

In the coming days, each PSM program director will receive an email with instructions to proceed to www.npsma.org and a password to update their program’s contact information. They will then be directed to a portal to respond to three program design questions and to complete a table pertaining to demographic information for their program’s students and graduates.

It is anticipated that completion of each program’s information shall take no more than 10-20 minutes. It’s vital to the PSM Movement that we have a 100% completion rate! Thank you in advance for your participation.

NPSMA Adds to Office Staff

Amanda Keller was hired this fall as an office assistant to work ten hours per week on various administrative duties for the NPSMA. Ms. Keller, a New Jersey native, is in her second year at WPI in the Mechanical Engineering program. Welcome, Amanda!



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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 _____