



Report on PSM Activities Spring 2010

Since the fall of 2010, the Council of Graduate Schools (CGS) PSM team has been engaged in numerous activities to promote, grow and institutionalize the Professional Science Master's degree. These are summarized below.

CGS is pleased to announce and welcome Leontyne V. Goodwin as Program Manager, Best Practices. Leontyne will be dividing her time, working with the PSM team and the Research division.

Meetings and Presentations

SUNY PSM Workshop - Carol Lynch and Linda Strausbaugh, a member of the CGS PSM Advisory Board, participated in the SUNY PSM fall workshop, organized by David King who is directing the PSM initiative and a member of the CGS PSM Advisory Board, on October 23, 2009 discussing many facets of developing PSM programs, including the role of Employer Advisory Boards, developing and evaluating PSM internships, PSM program recruiting and marketing strategies, registering PSM Programs and assessment strategies.

Professional Science Master's Sixth Biennial Meeting – CGS organized and hosted the 6th biennial meeting, *Advancing the Nation's Competitiveness and Innovation Agenda* on November 4-6, 2009. Over 200 PSM program directors, graduate deans, association and education administrators, alumni, and federal and state policymakers attended. The program focused on the PSM's role in addressing the challenges of maintaining U.S. competitiveness in the face of globalization, increased federal and state accountability, and demographic changes in the composition of graduate students. The first plenary session entitled "Enhancement and Expansion of the PSM: National Perspectives," stressed the role of the PSM in facilitating innovation and the necessity of collaboration among all stakeholders. Speakers were the Honorable David Wu, U.S. House of Representatives; Rita Colwell, Distinguished University Professor, University of Maryland, College Park; Bill Valdez, U.S. Department of Energy; and Cornelius Kerwin, President, American University. A second plenary focused on how states viewed the PSM as a key component in their states' workforce development strategy. Perspectives were provided by Nancy Zimpher, Chancellor, SUNY; Mohammad Qayoumi, President, California State University East Bay and Richard Devlin, Senator Majority Leader, Oregon State Legislature. Three contributed paper sessions addressed Financial Models for Program Sustainability, Ethics and the PSM, and Recruiting Students and Marketing the PSM Program. Two panels featured graduates and students of PSM programs and provided real

illustrations of how PSM graduates are making valuable contributions to the nation's prosperity through innovation and leadership. A new feature of the meeting was a best practice poster session with 25 posters selected for presentation. Arden Bement, Director of the National Science Foundation, closed the meeting by sharing his perspective on the future of the science master's programs at NSF and what he hopes this program will achieve for the nation. Proceedings are available at <http://www.sciencemasters.com/Default.aspx?tabid=134>.

The eighth CGS PSM Advisory Board meeting was held on November 7, 2009 in Washington, DC in conjunction with the PSM biennial meeting. Carol Lynch provided an update on the activities by the PSM team. She highlighted the continuing collaboration with NPSMA through the monthly phone calls, and the enthusiasm and collaborative spirit of the University of Maryland University College group, who have spearheaded the creation of seven PSM programs at UMUC. She also called attention to the work of David King, who leads the SUNY PSM initiative, and has been very helpful to the PSM community, and Beverly Hartline, who is the leader of the Mid-Atlantic HBCU Alliance. Carol reported that CGS is making some inroads to the federal agencies in alerting them to the special niche that PSM graduates play in the STEM workforce. Bogdan Vernescu reported that the NPSMA is celebrating its second year of existence and is working on a number of different tasks including two research projects and a roster of PSM employers. Don Landenberg reported on the work of a committee of the Board that he chaired addressing the possibility of a "PSM for STEM educators." After much discussion, it was decided that while this is a very important issue, someone other than the PSM community is more appropriate to address this. There was a discussion of the PSM biennial meeting which was just held. It was generally agreed that it was "extremely impressive," program with excellent speakers and participation. Nancy Vincent provided a brief legislative update from CGS. Carol reported on the new Sloan-sponsored PSM affiliation project which will start in 2010. Several members of the Advisory Board provided updates of what they were doing to advance the PSM. At the end of the meeting, the gavel was passed to the next chair of the advisory Board, Linda Strausbaugh from the University of Connecticut.

Council of Graduate Schools Committee on Minorities – On December 1, 2009, Sally Francis provided an update on the CGS PSM project, including the PSM biennial meeting held in November, the number of PSM programs, statewide/system-wide PSM initiatives, and brief summaries of the new PSM affiliation project and of the work of the CGS PSM team with the HBCU PSM initiative.

National Conference of State Legislators – On December 9-10, 2009, NCSL sponsored an invitational workshop in San Diego that included legislators and educational representatives from three states: Oregon, Arizona, and North Carolina. In the session entitled *The PSM Degree 101 - From Conception to 2009*, Carol Lynch and Michael Teitelbaum made presentations that covered the basics of the PSM degree, describing the uniqueness of the PSM and explaining its effectiveness as a tool for meeting state workforce and economic development goals. Ursula Bechert presented on the Oregon PSM state-wide strategy, Lisbeth Borbye presented on the North Carolina state-wide initiative and Dianne Horgan and Andrew Webber on the state-wide PSM program in Arizona. Joan Bissel of the California State University system-wide initiative organized the final panel on *Tight Fiscal Times and the PSM Degree: How to Make it Benefit Your State*. Overall, the information was new for most of the legislators in attendance. They were

quite pleased to have the opportunity to learn about the PSM. NCSL plans additional workshops in 2010 to connect PSM experts in the state with their legislators.

CGS Annual Meeting – The CGS PSM team organized a pre-meeting workshop entitled *Professional Science Master’s: How to Catalyze Success* at the annual CGS meeting on December 2, 2009. The workshop covered several aspects of building sustainable PSM programs by leveraging resources available to graduate deans. Carol Lynch provided the introduction to the workshop with an overview of the PSM initiative. David King, SUNY Oswego, and Patricia Bishop, University of Central Florida, addressed the topic of how to organize and manage a state-wide PSM initiative from their perspectives in New York and Florida, respectively. Eleanor Babco addressed the variations on internship models in the PSM programs and Sally Francis, CGS Dean in Residence, looked at “creative funding sources” for developing and sustaining PSM programs. She prepared a “*Creative Funding Sources*” document that provided examples of potential grant funding that could be used to support PSM programs. It is available at http://www.sciencemasters.com/portals/0/pdfs/PSM_Funding_Opportunities.pdf. The other presentations are available on the CGS website (<http://www.cgsnet.org/Default.aspx?tabid=391#Workshops>).

Council for Higher Education Accreditation – As an information resource for the “affiliation” project, Nancy Vincent attended the 4th national accreditation forum on January 25-28, 2010, sponsored by CHEA.

CGS Regional Meetings – CGS organized presentations on the PSM at all four of the regional affiliate meetings.

- Carol Lynch organized and participated in a workshop – *From Theory to Action: The Professional Science Master’s Degree*, at the **Conference of Southern Graduate Schools** Annual Meeting in Savannah, Georgia on February 27, 2010. Carol provided a brief background and rationale for the PSM concept, called attention to the current guidelines governing the “affiliation” process for PSMs, and noted the growth in the number of programs, the increasing interest by federal agencies in the PSM, variations in the types of internships of PSM programs, and information about potential funding sources to support efforts to develop PSMs. Joining Carol was Lisbeth Borbye, Assistant Dean for Professional Education at North Carolina State University and Director, University of North Carolina PSM Initiative, who presented on the PSM from her vantage point at NC State, emphasizing communications with faculty, students and employers.
- Carol Lynch participated in a session at the **Western Association of Graduate Schools** on *New Dimensions in the Professional Science Master’s (PSM) Degree* on March 25, 2010 in Coeur d’Alene, Idaho. After briefly providing the background and rationale for a PSM, Carol noted the current guidelines governing the affiliation process for PSMs, the growing interest by federal agencies in the PSM, and provided examples of innovative PSM programs at several universities. In addition, she provided information on the new PSM recognition project at CGS. Joining Carol was Sally Francis, Dean in Residence,

Council of Graduate Schools and Dean of the Graduate School, Oregon State University who provided an up-to-date summary of *State-wide PSM Initiatives*.

- Carol also participated in a session at the **Northeastern Association of Graduate Schools** annual meeting held in Montreal, Quebec on April 15-17, 2010. She discussed how the Professional Science Master's degree fits into the meeting's theme on *Innovation and Tradition: Quality Improvement in Graduate Education*, specifically addressing the new affiliation process being developed by the Council of Graduate Schools.
- Eleanor Babco organized and participated in a session at the **Midwestern Association of Graduate Schools** meeting on *Professional Science Master's Degrees: An Essential Ingredient to U.S. Competitiveness* on April 21, 2010 in Cincinnati, Ohio. Eleanor provided a brief update on the PSM initiative, called attention to the growing number of PSM programs being developed and the increasing interest in the PSM by federal agencies, and described how the PSM is helping to meet local and regional workforce needs by calling attention to a number of innovative PSM programs that have been developed. Joining Eleanor was David Wilson from Southern Illinois University, Carbondale and Charles Rozek, Case Western Reserve University, graduate deans who described the innovative PSM programs at their institutions.

Educational Policy Institute - Carol Lynch participated in a panel at the third annual **National Capitol Summit** held on April 12-13, 2010 in Washington, DC. The summit is designed to provide policymakers, elected members, their staff, and other education stakeholders with an orientation to significant educational issues facing the U.S. education system. In a session titled *STEM Education: What Works—What we Need*, Carol discussed the background and rationale of the PSM and how it is helping to meet the workforce needs of the nation and helping the U.S. to remain globally competitive. Since the PSM was a sponsor of the National Capitol Summit, the CGS team invited a number of members of the Advisory Board and federal agency contacts to attend as their guests.

National Professional Science Masters Association - Nancy Vincent attended and provided an update on the activities undertaken by the CGS PSM team at the first quarterly 2010 meeting of the NPSMA held on April 15-16, 2010 in Claremont, California and hosted by the Keck Graduate Institute.

Engaging Universities

The CGS PSM team spent time reviewing proposals from universities for PSM recognition. While the bulk of these programs were approved with little or no revisions to the original submission, some required numerous contacts. Problems encountered ranged from insufficient amount of natural science and math course content, lack of Employer Advisory Board members, and clarification of internships. In addition, the PSM team had to refuse PSM affiliation to programs which are not eligible.

New PSM Program Affiliation

The CGS PSM team approved the following 26 PSM programs since our fall report: **Elmhurst College** program in Computer Information Systems, **Florida State University** two programs in Financial Mathematics and Biomathematics, **University of Massachusetts, Lowell** program in Industrial Mathematics, **University of Delaware** two programs in Biotechnology and Bioinformatics, **Brandeis University** program in Biotechnology, **University of Southern Maine** program in Biostatistics, **Truman State University** program in Bioscience Informatics, **Northern Arizona University** program in Applied Geospatial Sciences, **San Jose State University** program in Statistics, **Northeastern University** in Regulatory Science, **Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey** six programs in Biotechnology and Genomics, Chemistry, Food Science, Statistics and Biostatistics, Industrial Mathematics, and Sustainability, **University of Central Florida** two programs in Conservation Biology and Biotechnology, **North Carolina State University** two programs in Environmental Assessment and Nutrition, **State University of New York at Oswego** program in Professional Chemistry, **Sacred Heart University** program in Environmental Systems Analysis and Management and **State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry** two programs in Bioprocess Engineering and Paper Engineering.

In addition, the PSM team participated in calls from many other institutions seeking specific information about developing PSM programs as well as securing CGS affiliation as a PSM.

A special committee of the CGS Advisory Board reviewed and revised the *Guidelines for CGS Recognition as a Professional Science Master's Program* in order to more clearly indicate what kinds of programs and fields are currently *not* eligible for PSM designation, and to permit some innovative, interdisciplinary programs which originate in engineering to apply. The new Guidelines are posted on the sciencemasters.com website.

General System/State Initiatives

The CGS PSM team has created a webpage that includes links to and a brief description of system-wide websites including those in Arizona, California, Rutgers University, State University of New York, Florida, and North Carolina which is available on the sciencemasters.com website.

California State University – The CGS PSM team continues to work with the California State System PSM initiative as they bring additional PSM programs to fruition.

SUNY – The CGS PSM team works closely with David King, Dean of Graduate Studies and Research at SUNY, Oswego and a member of the CGS PSM Advisory Board, and the other individual campuses of the SUNY system by serving as an informational resource and providing feedback as they develop programs and submit them for PSM affiliation.

North Carolina – The CGS PSM team continues to work with Lisbeth Borbye, who is directing the UNC initiative, as they develop new PSM programs.

Mid-Atlantic HBCU Professional Science Master's Alliance – CGS continues to provide guidance and organizational support from the PSM team to the Mid-Atlantic HBCU PSM Alliance. The CGS PSM team attended the meeting of the Alliance held on November 6, 2009 in conjunction with the PSM biennial meeting. Eleanor and Nancy met with Beverly Hartline and Sarah Davidson on November 19, 2009 to discuss the market demand survey for PSM graduates that Eleanor had developed. Josh Mahler from CGS provided technical advice in the development of their new website.

University of Massachusetts - The CGS PSM team has been working with several campuses on 13 applications for PSM programs submitted by Susan Lawton, Professional Science Master's Program Coordinator for the University of Massachusetts PSM initiative. This system wide effort is very collaborative, with all campuses offering access to plus courses to all other campuses and two intercampus programs have been developed.

Florida - The CGS PSM team continues to work closely with Patricia Bishop who is leading the state-wide PSM initiative in Florida. Patricia has just joined the CGS PSM Advisory Board.

Federal/Agency/Media Relations and Policy Initiatives

The CGS PSM team continues to work with Patty McAllister and her CGS Government Relations staff to advocate for the PSM. As part of their outreach efforts to federal government departments and agencies, members of the CGS PSM team have continued their communications and meetings with representatives from the Departments of Homeland Security, Education, and Energy and the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Agency. Further meetings are contemplated with representatives from other departments and agencies, including the National Institutes of Standards and Technology, the Department of Labor, the Department of State, and the Office of Science and Technology Policy.

Department of Education – Carol Lynch and Michael Teitelbaum met with Martha Kanter, Undersecretary of Education at the Department of Education on March 15, 2010 as part of the CGS PSM team outreach to the federal government to discuss the PSM. Dr. Kanter, who oversees policies, programs, and activities related to postsecondary education, vocational and adult education, and federal student aid, was receptive to the PSM and communication will continue. On February 3, 2010, Nancy Vincent met with Kay Gilcher, Office of Postsecondary Education, to discuss the new affiliation project.

Department of Energy – The CGS PSM continues its collaboration on the PSM with the Office of Science at DOE. Additionally, Carol is working on getting a meeting with Kristina Johnson, Under Secretary of Energy at the DOE, who was a colleague of hers at the University of Colorado.

National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration – Carol Lynch and Eleanor Babco met with Rick Spinrad and Louisa Koch on April 6, 2010 to discuss the PSM. There are

excellent internship opportunities for PSM students from relevant programs in NOAA labs across the country.

National Conference of State Legislatures - The CGS PSM team works closely with Heather Chikoore, who leads the NCSL effort to introduce the PSM to state legislators. On December 9-10, 2009, at the NCSL-sponsored invitational workshop in San Diego that included legislators and educational representatives from Oregon, Arizona, and North Carolina, Carol Lynch and Michael Teitelbaum made presentations that covered the basics of the PSM degree, describing the uniqueness of the PSM and explaining its effectiveness as a tool for meeting state workforce and economic development goals.

The CGS PSM team has encouraged all organizations and individuals involved in the PSM initiative to advocate for the reauthorization of the America COMPETES Act. To aid in this effort, under the leadership of Patty McAllister and Nancy Vincent, the CGS PSM team prepared a one-page flyer on the America COMPETES Act Reauthorization and the PSM. The flyer provides the legislative background on the COMPETES Act and some brief background on the PSM including a description of the degree and current statistics on number of programs and students. The CGS PSM team also developed a sample letter for PSM directors/coordinators to use to send to their Congressional representatives advocating for the reauthorization of the America COMPETES Act. They encouraged program directors in the district of key members of Congress to visit their representatives while they were in their home districts for the Easter recess. Additionally, they have been asking specific individuals in high-level positions, including the President of the University of Maryland University College, to advocate for the reauthorization of this legislation.

Other Outreach Activities

Mental Health America – Carol Lynch, Nancy Vincent, Sally Franics, and Leontyne Goodwin met on March 11, 2010 with David Shern, President and CEO to explore if there were areas where the CGS PSM team and Mental Health America could cooperate. He expressed a strong interest in exploring how the Human Services workforce could be supported through a PSM-like initiative. Communications will continue.

The Education Advisory Board – Carol Lynch did an interview on the PSM for Melanie Ho and David Attis who are conducting strategy research on new academic program launches for The Education Advisory Board. The EAB membership had expressed strong interest in learning more about successful professional master's programs (particularly those that have been able to generate a surplus to help fund other mission priorities). A report will result from their research.

Defense Acquisition University – The CGS PSM team is working with the DAU, a military training establishment which trains and enables the military and civilian Department of Defense personnel in the fields of acquisition, technology, and logistics, including leadership and program management. DAU is interested in exploring a possible partnership with the HBCU PSM Alliance with the possibility of preparing underrepresented PSM graduates for employment in the DoD Acquisition, Technology and Logistics workforce.

National Association of Colleges and Employers – Eleanor Babco is working with Johanna Danaher, a member of the CGS PSM Advisory Board, to prepare a Virtual Seminar Proposal on the PSM.

The CGS PSM team has also embarked on an outreach effort to a number of other organizations to introduce the PSM. These included High Tech Councils in the Washington, DC Metropolitan area, the Society of Human Resource Management, the STEM Development Office Research Directorate at DoD, and the Partnership for Public Service.

Collaboration and Communication

Society for Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science - As part of the national recruitment effort, CGS will again secure a booth at the SACNAS national conference from September 30-October 3, 2010 in Anaheim, California, and have arranged for two PSM directors to attend and staff the booth –John Nishio from California State University, Chico and Faramarz Valafar – San Diego State University. Additionally, a proposal to have a session at the SACNAS conference was submitted by John Nishio, but it is not yet known whether it was accepted.

PSM Conference Calls – Since July 2008, monthly calls, which are organized by Michael Teitelbaum at the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, provide opportunity for organizations leading the PSM initiative to be appraised of what everyone is doing. Participants include Carol Lynch and/or Eleanor Babco of CGS, Heather Chikore of National Conference of State Legislatures, Erin Lamos from the National Governor’s Association, Stephen Lemire and Elizabeth Friedman of the NPSMA, Joan Bissell from the CSU system, Don Langenberg, and Sheila Tobias. Nancy Vincent or Leontyne Goodwin prepares and distributes notes from these calls.

NPSMA –Nancy Vincent and Stephen Lemire of NPSMA have a monthly conference call to keep each organization apprised of their activities and Nancy attends their quarterly workshops and reports on CGS activities.

PSM Listserv –The CGS team continues to use the PSM listserv to provide regular detailed updates of PSM activities to all programs and to solicit feedback. From our last report until this one, CGS used the listserv many times, including:

- Notified all program directors/coordinators that the National Science Foundation released a list of frequently asked questions regarding the Science Master’s Program solicitation and provided the URL address to access them.
- In an effort to maintain the accuracy of PSM program-related information on the sciencemasters.com website, asked program directors/coordinators to check their listing to insure that it is correct. This was done twice since the fall report.
- Notified program directors/coordinators that the Peace Corps had issued a Request for Proposals for new colleges and universities in their Master’s International program. As Peace Corps service may be equivalent to an internship, some PSM programs might

consider applying. The program integrates graduate study with Peace Corps service. The Peace Corps is accepting proposals for this partnership in the following areas of study: Agriculture, Education, Business Development, Environment/Natural Resources, and Youth Development. Students receive academic credit for Peace Corps service, and two years of significant, professional experience in an international setting.

- Notified program directors/coordinators that the Department of Health and Human Services released a funding opportunity notice for *Information Technology Professionals in Health Care: Program of Assistance for University-Based Training*. The purpose of the grants is “to rapidly increase the availability of individuals qualified to serve in specific health information technology professional roles requiring university-level training.” About \$32,000,000 will support approximately eight grants under this funding opportunity.
- Announced the availability of *Creative Funding Sources* – a document that provides examples of potential grant funding that can be used to support Professional Science Master's programs. While some of the examples are no longer active, they can provide an idea of the kinds of programs that might be available in the future. It was prepared by Sally Francis, CGS Dean in Residence, for the CGS Annual Meeting workshop on the PSM.
- Announced the release of the *Proceedings of the Professional Science Master's Sixth Biennial Meeting, Advancing the Nation's Competitiveness and Innovation Agenda*. Remarks or PowerPoint presentations of each of the speakers as well as copies of the contributed papers and posters are included in the Proceedings. In addition, bios of all alumni who were nominated by their institutions as being PSM graduates of exceptional ability are included. The entire digital publication of the Proceedings can be downloaded or specific sections as well.
- Announced the availability of a new resource for institutions and programs conducting outreach to high school students. The CGS created a reproducible post card to encourage students interested in mathematics or science to continue their education past their bachelor's degrees and earn Professional Science Master's.
- Notified all program directors/coordinators that a revised set of *Guidelines for CGS Recognition as a Professional Science Master's Program* have been issued and are posted on the website <http://www.sciencemasters.com>.

Many participants also used the listserv to connect with other PSM deans, program directors, and faculty.

Media Coverage – Carol Lynch, Eleanor Babco and Nancy Vincent wrote an article on *Affiliation as a Professional Science Master's (PSM) Program* “which appeared in the November 2009 issue of The Communicator. It describes the new affiliation project which will produce recommendations on quality standards and a process for formal recognition of PSM programs by the end of 2010.

The December issue of the Communicator contained an article by the CGS PSM team providing *Highlights of the Sixth Biennial Meeting Of Professional Science Master's Program Leaders*.

Eleanor Babco, Nancy Vincent and Don Langenberg wrote an article entitled *Training Physics Professionals for the Nonacademic Workforce* which featured a sampling of the success stories that PSM graduates in physics have achieved. It has been accepted for publication and will appear as the “back page” feature in a future issue of the APS News.

Carol Lynch was interviewed by Diana Gitig, a freelance writer for *Science Magazine* for an article on the PSM.

Promotional Materials – A promotional flyer was produced under the leadership of Josh Mahler to advertise the 2009 PSM Biennial Meeting held in November 2009. The flyer was distributed at the 2009 CGS affiliate meetings, regional meetings sponsored by NPSMA, as well as other appropriate meetings.

At the suggestion of Sheila Tobias, the CGS PSM team, under the leadership of Josh Mahler, produced a **Post Card for Targeting High School Students as Potential PSM Students**. This reproducible postcard is designed to encourage students interested in mathematics or science to continue their education past their bachelor’s degrees and earn a Professional Science Master's. This post card highlights a variety of fields that might be of interest to these students and includes a link to sciencemasters.com, which has proven indispensable for those seeking information about PSM programs. Those interested can contact CGS for the template that can be used to personalize the post card.

The CGS PSM team updated the PSM Fact sheet to be used by those advocating for support for the PSM, both at the national level as well as at the state. The PSM Fact sheet is available on sciencemasters.com/portals/0/pdfs/PSM_Talking_Points.pdf.

The CGS PSM team provides a PDF *PSM List of Programs* on the sciencemasters.com website, which is regularly updated.

Flyers geared to employers, policy makers, and students continue to be distributed to new PSM programs and are available on the sciencemasters.com website.

Josh Mahler of the CGS PSM team, maintains and regularly updates the sciencemasters.com website.

New Affiliation Project

Due to increases in both the quantity and diversity of applications from higher education institutions for recognition as PSM programs, The Alfred P. Sloan Foundation has funded the Council of Graduate Schools to undertake a year-long project to develop a more formal, sustainable, widely recognized and accepted review process in order to ensure and subsequently maintain the quality of PSM programs into the future. CGS will continue to manage and staff the existing affiliation process until the new process is implemented.

CGS will convene meetings of two groups of stakeholders: the first group will establish widely accepted standards for PSM program recognition or certification, and the second group will

recommend a review process and criteria for a body to implement that process. There will be some overlapping membership in the two groups.

The first group of stakeholders has been appointed and the first meeting will be held on June 29, 2010 at the national office of the CGS. This group includes academic administrators; current PSM program directors; employers from the business, nonprofit, and government sectors; professional society leaders; PSM alumni; as well as representatives from CGS, the Sloan Foundation, and the National Professional Science Master's Association.

As part of this project, the CGS PSM team, under the leadership of Nancy Vincent, will prepare a report documenting policies and procedures associated with certifying programs, and to the extent possible, their history, in other academic fields. In order to understand the development of current practices, Nancy interviewed the directors of certifying organizations, reviewed guidelines and standards for certification, conducted a literature review, attended a Council for Higher Education Accreditation conference, and met with the Department of Education.

Future Activities

At the CGS Summer Workshop in July, Carol Lynch and Lisbeth Borbye will organize and present at a “hot topic” session on serving nontraditional students with examples from PSM and online programs. Additionally, there will be a Dean’s Dialogue entitled Professional Science Master’s: Quality Control and Recognition at the Summer Workshop.

The next meeting of the CGS PSM Advisory Board will be held on July 10, 2010 in San Juan Puerto Rico, in conjunction with the CGS Summer Workshop.