NSF Awards $700,000 to Rutgers PSM Program

The National Science Foundation has awarded $700,000 to the Rutgers Professional Science Master’s program to recruit, enroll, and provide tuition fellowships for two cohorts of students into the new Professional Science Master’s degree program. The goal of the new “Science Master’s Program (SMP): Fueling Innovation in New Jersey through Graduate Education,” is to train the next generation of individuals to assume key leadership roles in science-intensive industries and to translate research into commercialization. Professor Deborah Silver, PI of the grant and Director of the Rutgers PSM Program notes that “This was a very competitive grant. Receiving this award acknowledges the hard work of everyone to develop a new state-wide professional science master’s degree across all three campuses in Newark, New Brunswick, and Camden.” Dr. David Finegold, Dean of the School of Management and Labor Relations, and founder of the Rutgers PSM Program, states that “The degree’s modular structure allows Rutgers to combine offerings from many disciplines and quickly develop new areas of specialization in response to changing industry demands.”

In addition to Dr. Finegold, the other Co PI’s are Dr. Barbara Zilinskas, New Brunswick, Dr. Haydee Herrera, Camden and Dr. Alexander Gates, Newark. The focus of this grant is one of several well-defined “green-themed” science concentrations including biotechnology (especially biofuels), sustainability, urban environmental analysis and management, and industrial mathematics. Rutgers was one of 21 institutions to receive this competitive grant. Funds will be used to support student fellowships for individuals pursuing the MBS degree. Student applications are now being accepted for the Fall.

The NSF Science Master’s Program was funded under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Public Law 111-5. For further information about the Rutgers PSM Program, go to http://www.psm.rutgers.edu

“An important consequence of technological change and globalization is increasing economic returns to higher levels of education and skills. For workers who possess these characteristics, opportunities abound. But for those who lack them, the economic future can be quite dismal.”

America’s Perfect Storm – Three Forces Changing Our Nation’s Future
Educational Testing Service, 2007
On April 26, 2010 the New Jersey President’s Council approved the Master of Business and Science (MBS) degree for the Newark campus at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. Rutgers is one of the first major public research universities to develop a statewide program on all three campuses in Newark, New Brunswick, and Camden. The MBS degree was approved for the New Brunswick and Camden campuses on December 14, 2009. The innovative degree program allows working adults and full-time students to pursue coursework in science, engineering, and mathematics while enrolling in “plus” course in business and policy. Concentrations include Actuarial Sciences, Biomedical Engineering, Biotechnology & Genomics, Chemical and Biochemical Engineering, Chemistry and Personal Care Chemistry, Drug Discovery and Development, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Food Science, Geospatial Information Systems and Technology, Horticulture Science and Applications, and Information Technology, among others.

Spearheaded by Prof. David Finegold, Dean of the School of Management and Labor Relations and Dr. Hahn-Jun Lee, President of Focus Therapeutics, LLC and Clinical Professor at Rutgers University, this initiative represents one of many international ventures that Rutgers is pursuing to offer dual degrees in the Master of Business and Science program. “Our goal is to build at least 10 such strategic partnerships with leading universities in the fields of science, engineering and business on 5 continents to make Rutgers’ MBS the first truly global PSM degree,” said Prof. Finegold. He and Dr. Lee will be traveling over the next few months to attempt to finalize additional partnerships in China, Australia, India, Singapore, France, and Japan, as well as adding additional partners in South Korea.
New Certificate in Pharmaceuticals and Clinical Trials Management

The Graduate School at Rutgers New Brunswick recently approved a new Certificate in Pharmaceutical and Clinical Trials Management. The certificate is designed to introduce students to the Management of Pharmaceuticals and Clinical trials. Pharmaceutical industries and businesses today need workers who not only possess up-to-date knowledge in their fields, but who have also acquired skills that enable them to carry out the objectives of the regulatory bodies, such as the FDA, in ensuring public health. The certificate reviews key aspects of Clinical Trials design and conduct and provides students with practical skills in communication and leadership. Dr. Deborah Silver, Director of the PSM Program, notes that “This certificate will provide students with the opportunity to combine management skills with knowledge of the drug development process. Students will also have the opportunity to explore regulatory affairs as a prospective career path.” The certificate is open to all graduate students in science and engineering or part-time individuals from industry. For further information and a list of course requirements, please visit our web site.

Coming Soon

The application for the MBS degree and the Certificate are now available on-line. We have a rolling admission process. For information on how to apply for admission or to apply for fellowships, please see our web site. http://psm.rutgers.edu.

PSM will be attending the following events:

- NJ Collegiate Career Day 5/26/10
- Engineering and Computer Science 9/24/10
- Math and Actuarial Career Day 10/8/10
- Grad and Professional School Day 11/3/10

Stay Tuned: Plans are underway for a lecture and workshop series on topics related to business and science. Visit our website for the final schedule.

BS/MBS 4 + 1 Program

The 4 + 1 BS/MBS program is an accelerated program available to Rutgers University juniors with a high GPA. This program allows students to start taking MBS graduate courses in the senior year of their BS degree. Students must have completed at least 90 credits by the end of their sixth semester, submit a letter confirming their eligibility from their academic dean, select an MBS concentration, and submit a letter of recommendation from a professor in their major. Students must have a GPA of at least a 3.2 in their science major (this is concentration dependent). Additional requirements include the submission of an essay describing the student’s interest in the program and future career plans. Once accepted, students may take up to two graduate courses in each semester of their senior year. Students will have the advantage of paying undergraduate tuition for graduate credit courses. For more information please see our web site: http://psm.rutgers.edu.

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Rutgers PSM Contact Information:
Telephone: 732-445-5117
Fax: 732-445-5182
E-mail: psminfo@rutgers.edu
Web site: http://psm.rutgers.edu