Sheila Tobias, a consultant to the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation on professional science/math masters since 1997, visited the Rutgers Professional Science Master’s Program in October and interacted with Rutgers faculty, the PSM Industrial Advisory Board, and a handful of PSM students about national trends in system-wide adoptions of the PSM degree.

Tobias originated the concept in a study of a set of unemployed PhD graduates in the physical sciences who by 1994 had given up hope of an academic research career. From their responses to a multi-layered inquiry, most particularly to the question: “Now that you know you won’t hold an academic appointment in your field, what do you wish you had studied?” emerged a “curriculum” that had hitherto not been attached or available to PhD candidates in the STEM fields, namely a “science-plus” business, regulatory affairs, patent/tech transfer, communication, and more computational science.

Operating as chief field organizer and outreach coordinator for the Sloan Foundation until 2006 when management of the national PSM movement was taken over by the Council of Graduate Schools, Tobias has been involved, since 2006, on state-wide, campus-wide and system-wide adoptions of the degree. According to the Council of Graduate Schools’ Professional Science Master’s website, there are currently 244 PSM programs, 114 PSM-Affiliated Institutions, and 10 system/state-wide initiatives. She is now tracking a subset of the 4,600 PSM graduates out in the workforce.

Tobias notes that the “Rutgers PSM program is larger (in number of programs, numbers of enrolled students) than any other equivalent professional science master’s program at the starting gate. Rutgers 20+ tracks and 200 students indicates that it will have—by itself—a significant impact on the tri-state area.”

continued on page 3
Apple Co-Founder at Rutgers Entrepreneurship Day

Steve Wozniak, inventor, engineer, entrepreneur and co-founder with the late Steve Jobs of Apple Computer, spoke at the third annual Rutgers Entrepreneurship Day on November 14, 2011. Recounting his early experiences in elementary, Junior High and High School in California, Wozniak described working with childhood friends building walkie-talkies by running wires that were stapled to fences throughout the neighborhood. Purchasing electronic parts, he began tackling more sophisticated projects and gradually began designing computers that required less parts than the average computer. Working out of Steve Jobs’ garage, they began selling preassembled, ready-to-use computers. The Apple I computer was born. In spite of some initial setbacks, Wozniak’s advice to budding entrepreneurs was “Believe that you can succeed.” Today, Apple Computer is one of the largest and most profitable consumer electronics companies in the world.

Lecture Series Kick-Off

Exploring global perspectives on alternative energy development was the theme for the first PSM lecture series that focused on the topic “Solar and Alternative Energy of the Future.” Dr. Clinton Andrews, Professor at Rutgers University, provided a case analysis of the solar decathlon competition by the Rutgers team. Joe DeLuca, Vice President of Development and Product Marketing for Petra Solar spoke about smart grid technology and the long range impact it has for solar energy and economic development. Rounding out the presentation was Gordon Carrie, Associate for ARUP, a multinational engineering firm. In addition to reducing energy demand through light chips, natural ventilation, and mechanical devices, potential sources of energy include orange peel-ethanol extracted for cars, landfill gas, and the use of algae. Specific recommendations were given on the use of sustainable materials to become more energy efficient.
Internships

According to the National Association of Colleges and Employers 2010 Survey, new graduates who took part in an internship program are more likely to have received a job offer than their peers who decided to forgo the experience. One of the requirements of the PSM program is that all students must have relevant work experience. Students currently working in a job related field are exempt from this requirement.

Twenty PSM students participated in an internship this past Spring and Summer. The requirements for the internship are students must complete a minimum of 130 hours, fill out a mid-level and a final survey, do an on-line report and present an oral presentation of their experience at the end of their internship. Some of the companies and organizations that provided our MBS students with internships were:

Amicus Therapeutics  Kraft Foods
Applegate Farms  LL Tech
Bartlett Tree Experts  National Football League
Clean Energy Alliance  Neurotez
Corning  NJ Center for Biomaterials
Food Export USA  Nutrasorb
Havas Media Group  Regeneron

If your company is interested in having an MBS student participate as an intern in your program, please contact Dr. Aleta You at 732-445-5117, ext. 292.

continued from pg. 1

According to Tobias, “Rutgers’ multi-department support bodes well for the program. The faculty have much to contribute not only teaching courses in their own fields but in concert with one another, most especially in the design and implementation of the ‘plus courses.’”

Further information about the national initiative of the Professional Science Master’s Program can be found at www.sciencemasters.com or www.nash-psm.org. For copies of her original study, published as Rethinking Science as a Career, send $5.00/copy for shipping/handling to Sheila Tobias, P.O. Box 43758, Tucson AZ 85733-3758.
Fulbright Scholars Join Rutgers PSM Program

The Fulbright Foreign Student Program enables graduate students, young professionals and artists from abroad to research and study in the United States for one year or longer. Approximately 1,700 new awards are given annually to foreign graduate students for support at U.S. universities.

Two Foreign Student grantees, Taimour Jawaid Chaudhary from Pakistan and David Namole from Lesotho chose to enroll in the Rutgers Professional Science Master’s Program to pursue a Master of Business and Science (MBS) degree. When asked why he selected Rutgers for this particular degree, Chaudhary remarked that “it is a perfect mix of business and science courses. The MBS degree is truly a professional program that will increase my eligibility for securing a managerial level job in industry.”

Coming from a pharmaceutical background, David Namole explains that his vision “is to see myself as one of the great businessmen in the pharmaceutical industry. The MBS program is outstanding compared to programs of this nature anywhere in the world.” Both students expressed their gratitude to the PSM staff for the support they received as they made the transition to Rutgers University. In addition to their coursework, they have also taken advantage of the lectures, workshops, and networking events to make new friends and broaden their educational experiences while living in New Jersey.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND BEST WISHES FOR HEALTH, HAPPINESS, AND PROSPERITY IN THE NEW YEAR!