



Professional Science Master's Presents

PSM SUMMIT: INNOVATION IN ACTION

9:00 AM - 5:30PM | Tuesday, April 15, 2025 | Marriott Library, Gould Auditorium

EVENT OVERVIEW

Join the Professional Science Master's (PSM) Summit, where academia and industry connect to showcase innovation and talent. This event highlights PSM students' industry-applied projects, demonstrating real-world impact. Industry professionals can explore STEM workforce trends, connect with top talent, and engage in discussions on strengthening academia-industry partnerships. With expert panels, interactive sessions, and networking opportunities, the summit is a platform for collaboration and future STEM leadership.

AGENDA OVERVIEW

8:45 AM - 9:05 AM

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Speaker: Meghan Dovick, PSM Program Director

Kick off the summit with a welcome from the PSM Program Director. Hear an overview of the Professional Science Master's program, including highlights from the annual review and key updates. Discover the goals for the day and the critical role collaboration between industry, academia, and students plays in shaping the future of the STEM workforce.

9:10 AM - 10:00 AM

Bridging the Gap: Skills for Success in STEM Careers

Moderator: Dominic Militello (UCareer Success)

This panel brings together key voices from STEM industry HR, academia, and career services to discuss the evolving skills landscape for STEM careers. Panelists will explore the critical competencies employers seek, practical steps students and graduate students can take to meet workforce demands, and how academic programs can better align with industry needs. Join this insightful discussion to gain actionable advice on preparing for and supporting success in the STEM workforce.

10:05 AM - 11:00 AM

Building Bridges: Strengthening Industry-Academia Connections

Facilitators: Meghan Dovick, Alexandra Rivas, Michelle Mooy

Audience Participation

This dynamic breakout session brings together students, industry professionals, and academic leaders to collaborate on creating stronger pipelines between academia and the STEM workforce. Seated in diverse groups, participants will engage in facilitated discussions with prompts designed to spark innovative ideas and actionable strategies. This session aims to uncover practical solutions for better preparing students for industry demands while fostering long-term partnerships between academic programs and employers.

11:15 AM - 12:30 PM

Professional Student Project Presentations

Graduating PSM students take center stage to showcase their Industry Professional Experience Projects in concise, engaging 5-minute talks. Designed for a broad audience, these presentations highlight the innovative solutions and real-world applications developed during their projects. This session offers a unique opportunity to celebrate student achievements while providing valuable insights into the impact of their work on industry needs.

12:30 PM - 1:30 PM

Lunch and Mingling

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM

Industry Spotlights

STEM industry representatives deliver fast-paced 3-minute talks showcasing their companies, missions, and the opportunities they offer. Learn who they hire, explore internships and job openings, and discover exciting prospects for collaboration. These brief but impactful presentations are designed to inform and inspire, while fostering connections between industry professionals and the next generation of STEM talent.

2:45 PM - 3:45 PM

Shaping Utah's STEM Future: Innovation, Impact, and Collaboration

Utah is at the forefront of innovation and economic growth, and this panel brings together leaders from the tech and innovation sectors, as well as academia, to discuss the long-term vision for STEM in the state. Panelists will explore how emerging technologies, public-private partnerships, and academic innovation are shaping Utah's STEM ecosystem. Discussions will highlight opportunities to position Utah as a leader in STEM industries, foster regional economic resilience, and create pathways for the next generation of STEM professionals. This session goes beyond workforce needs, diving into strategic initiatives and bold ideas for the future.

3:50 PM - 4:00 PM

Final Thoughts and Call to Action

Speaker: Meghan Dovick, PSM Program Director

Wrap up the day with reflections on key insights and a call to action to strengthen STEM education, workforce readiness, and collaboration.

Leave inspired and ready to contribute to building a stronger STEM community in Utah and beyond.

4:00 PM - 5:30 PM

Student Project Poster Session and Networking Mixer

Wrap up the day with an interactive session designed to spark meaningful connections between students, industry professionals, and academic partners. Explore a curated selection of student posters highlighting industry-focused projects and engage in one-on-one conversations to learn more about their innovative work. With heavy appetizers served in a casual, welcoming environment, this session offers a unique opportunity to network, share ideas, and celebrate the collaborative spirit driving STEM innovation.