

PREP NEWS

PREP Community Announcements

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As we say goodbye to the last of our cold and snowy days (hopefully!), we look forward to the many changes that spring will bring. Here at MPS we've seen an eventful February with the start of a new PACE Cohort and the welcoming of two new PREP Oversight Group members.

PACE Cohort 7 Begins

The four apprentices that will make up PACE Cohort 7 began their 25 week apprenticeship on Monday, March 9th. Their resumes boast educational backgrounds ranging from conflict analysis and resolution to international studies and organizational management, along with past experiences which include work at the International Republican Institute and Peace Corps service in Moldova and Azerbaijan (where one of the apprentices acted as the commissioner of the Azerbaijan Ultimate Frisbee League while providing business consulting support for entrepreneurs in the Middle East). The apprentices are on various contracts within the Department of Veteran Affairs and their work will involve facilitation and meeting design, stakeholder management, and technical management support. Coupled with weekly group coaching sessions and training courses, skill evaluations and a white paper on a topic of their choosing, they will be very busy for the next 25 weeks!

PACE Cohort 7 includes Josh Erb, Cliff Katz, Ryne Peterson, and Ashley Rezai. To find out more about each apprentice, visit the [MPS News Section](#) or MPS @ [LinkedIn](#).

PACE Social

Due to inclement weather in February, our scheduled service project at the Capital Area Food Bank was cancelled. We are looking forward to starting up the PACE monthly socials again in March and are planning to visit the Cherry Blossoms as they bloom alongside our national monuments and museums - a DC tourist excursion!

New PREP Oversight Group Members

We are excited to welcome two new members to the PREP Oversight Group – Maggie Bauer and Garrett Lance. They will serve as strategic advisors to the Professional Readiness and Effectiveness Program (PREP) and provide guidance to PREP leadership.

Mr. Garrett Lance is a PACE alumni (Cohort 5) and current program analyst with Sprezzatura Management Consulting. Garrett brings government experience, a passion for public service, as well as his inside knowledge of the PACE program to the PREP Oversight Group. Garrett graduated with Honors from Indiana University with a Bachelor of Arts in Public Affairs and certificates in journalism and business. He conducted a senior thesis exploring various factors affecting the VA disability benefits backlog. Prior to joining the PACE program, Garrett worked as a Policy Associate for Business Forward - an association of some of the world's most respected companies that brings business leaders into the policymaking process. He has also completed an internship in the White House Office of Presidential Correspondence, working as an agency liaison to the VA and DOD.

Ms. Maggie Bauer is the Senior Vice President for Health Services at Creative Computing Solutions, Inc (CCSi), a leading provider of health services, cyber security and enterprise services to the federal government. Ms. Bauer manages strategic growth and operations for CCSi's entire health services portfolio of military, veteran and public health agencies. She was responsible for the launch of CCSi's Health Services business unit, and is now responsible for P&L, operations, leadership and business development for the unit. Ms. Bauer brings more than 25 years of experience developing and executing successful strategies in business development and operational delivery for both civilian and health agencies. She has been a key member of senior leadership teams for the past decade. During her long career, her demonstrated talent and commitment has influenced programs of national significance in health services and IT. Ms. Bauer holds a Master of Science degree in Applied Behavioral Science and Organizational Development from the Johns Hopkins University and is PMP certified. Currently, she is pursuing her Advanced Certified Personal and Executive Coaching Certification (ACPEC) in the post-graduate program at the College of Executive Coaching. She is a member of the American College of Healthcare Executives and she was the winner of the 2011 American Business Award for Women in Business Best Executive – Service Business.

Join us in welcoming Ms. Bauer and Mr. Lance!

These PREP updates will be sent out monthly to keep you informed about major program changes and announcements. If you would like to no longer receive this email, please respond to [Semir Hasedzic](#) requesting to unsubscribe. Thank you for your support and have a great March!