

PREP NEWS

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PREP Community Announcements

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Happy Spring from a blossoming Washington, D.C.! Quite the change from the cold February and March we experienced. A busy month is upon us at MPS and we have many exciting PREP updates to share with you all in this issue!

PACE Cohort 6 Concludes

PACE Cohort 6 will reach an important milestone next week as their 25-week apprenticeship comes to an end and they officially graduate from the program! To celebrate their achievements, MPS will host a PACE Closing and Certificate Ceremony on Monday, May 4th at the Shakespeare Theatre Company. Congratulations to Zully Barrientos, Mark Brown, Mara Goldberg, Patricia McMullen, and Samuel Taylor!

PACE Cohort 6 Business Cases

One of the greatest aspects of the 25-week PACE Program is the presentation of a business case to a panel of industry leaders. Our PACERs have worked tirelessly on their individual projects the past few months and we would like to recognize their impressive work. Included below is a short summary of each of the PACE Apprentices' respective business cases:

Zully Barrientos's business case centers on information management issues, particularly the complications that arise when managing and consolidating "big data" across different organizations. Lack of integrated data affects the functionality and timely development of IT Health products, ultimately impacting the end user's ability to receive quality healthcare. Her business case recognizes the need for a multi-disciplinary approach including facilitation, stakeholder engagement, governance, and information management to address both the human and technical obstacles related to data integration.

Mark Brown's business case concerns outstanding inefficiencies in interpersonal and interoffice communication. To address these issues, his business case proposes an engagement consisting of stakeholder interviews and analysis, full metrics and feedback reports, and most importantly, a communications skills training package.

Mara Goldberg's case is that without change management support, the implementation of a new federal law could lead to resistance to change, confusion, lack of clarity, and interpersonal conflicts. These consequences have the potential to hinder productivity, damage relationships, and undermine collaboration. Her business case proposes subject matter expertise, as well as facilitation and conflict management services, to help the institute collaborative and sustainable change as the new federal law is implemented. The outcome of this initiative will include streamlined processes, reduced redundancy, and decreased cycle time.

Patricia McMullen's business case addressed a problem in inadequate training among federal employees at an agency's headquarters. In an effort to train and retain high-performing employees, she proposes data collection and stakeholder engagement, curriculum design and implementation, and training evaluation to meet this human capital need.

Samuel Taylor's business case proposes a communications plan as a solution to improve communication between multiple government offices and private entities to more accurately capture the availability of health care providers in government-sponsored health plans to Medicaid patients.

New PREP Oversight Group Member - Welcome Debra Olsen!

The PREP Oversight Group is excited to announce the addition of its newest Oversight Group Member, Ms. Debra Olson! Debra is a Principal Consultant with almost 20 years of consulting experience across a variety of different industries and disciplines. Her professional experience includes working in a number of consulting companies - starting her career with KPMG Consulting before moving on to a smaller NYC boutique firm and then to an in-house consulting team for a Fortune 500 company. Ms. Olson has a proven track record of leading high-profile strategic projects while achieving operations improvements in fast-paced environments, and translating strategic goals into clear operational plans. Ms. Olson's subject matter expertise includes: Strategy and Planning, Competitive Analysis, Business Process Analysis and Re-Engineering, Change Management and Organizational Development.

In addition to Ms. Olson's client work she has led internal teams in the development and implementation of practice development initiatives such as Defining new Service Offerings and Methodologies, Designing and Launching Knowledge Management Tools, and Standardizing Businesses Processes. Ms. Olson earned her MBA from Montclair State University with a focus in International Business and Marketing, along with an International MBA Certificate from the *École supérieure de commerce de Reims* in Reims, France. She received her BS in Communications from The University of Texas (Austin). Welcome Debra!

Thank you for your support and have a great month as we look to May!

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.