

PREP NEWS

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PREP Community Announcements

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ANSI Audit

To maintain the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) accreditation for PREP, MPS is required to complete and pass an annual audit each fall. With PREP being in the second year of its accreditation cycle, this year's audit will only be documentation review rather than an onsite visit as it was last year. All accreditation documentation is due to ANSI by the beginning of November and PREP staff will be deeply involved in this process over the course of the next month. We will provide an update on the results of our audit later this year.

New PREP Roles - Mark Brown and Semir Hasedzic

We are delighted to share with you the news of two additional roles within the PREP community. As some of you may be aware, Semir has been involved with PREP since last summer during his internship with MPS. He was deeply involved with furthering the development of the PREP Oversight Group and continued this work while a member of the PACE program. Following the completion of PACE, Semir worked alongside Nicole Baillis, the PREP director, to increase communication with the Oversight Group members and improve how they were engaged and involved in the program. It is because of this continued dedication and valuable work that Semir's role is now being formalized as the **PREP Oversight Group Coordinator**.

Additionally, we have added a new **PREP Training Coordinator** role and Mark Brown will join the PREP team in this capacity. When Mark first came onboard as a PACER last November, he worked closely with the PREP Director and was an invaluable resource. He quickly demonstrated his impeccable ability to add value to any task or project and complete his work with very little direction or oversight. As the PREP Training Coordinator, Mark will be responsible for coordinating all aspects of the PREP weekly training sessions, monitoring the design and quality of current trainings, and developing and implementing an external revenue source and process for the training portfolio.

Congratulations to both Semir and Mark!

PACE Alumni Spotlight - Hoor Jangda

The Alumni Spotlight is a new series of stories and Q&A with former apprentices to share memories and gain insight into the impact that PREP makes towards career development! To kick off our inaugural series, it is only fitting for us to spotlight Hoor Jangda, a member of our very first PACE cohort.

What work have you been involved in since finishing the PACE program and what do you currently do?

Following the PACE program I have continued my work with MPS and am part of a contract within the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), carving out an environment that has allowed me to grow professionally, and build client trust. One of the key components of effective client delivery is understanding the client's pain points and requirements and defining ways to add value. It is that understanding that has enabled me to conduct effective capture and play a role in increasing our footprint at the VA. In addition to working at the VA I manage the company's financial and operational data; assessing and reporting on revenue targets and labor utilization.

How has PACE prepared you for these professional functions?

PACE provided a good balance of professional development along with exposure to an environment that allowed me to directly and effectively implement the skills that I was receiving training in. What helped the most was the collaborative environment at MPS and being surrounded by a group of motivated peers that were ready to be a sounding board as I tackled complex tasks and projects.

What did you most like about participating in the PACE program?

I think the best part about PACE, was that very early on I was entrusted with representing the firm to the clients and treated like a professional in training as opposed to an 'intern' that needed busy work. It gave me the opportunity to grow professionally in the space of federal government consulting, an environment I was previously unfamiliar with.

What advice, if any, do you have for current PACERs and for young professionals?

You have ownership of your professional career so take the initiative to develop the skill set that will get you to where you want. Take advantage of the experiences of individuals who are in the professional space you want to grow in and don't be afraid to reach out and talk to them about what got them to where they are.

Thank you to Hoor for wonderful insights into PACE and here current position!

Thank you for your support! Visit the MPS LinkedIn and Facebook pages for further information.