



# BUILDING A STEM MASTERS PROGRAM COMMUNITY WITH THE NPSMA *Conference*

Discover our top pick of topics and speakers.  
Something for everyone. Something for you.

NOVEMBER, 2024



# PROFESSIONAL SCIENCE MASTER'S CONFERENCE 2024

## ADVANCING STEM LEADERSHIP AND INNOVATION WITH THE NPSMA

Join us for the 2024 Professional Science Master's (PSM) Conference, hosted by the National Professional Science Master's Association (NPSMA), a leading STEM association. This event brings together educators, industry partners, and PSM leaders to advance STEM education and workforce development.

The conference will feature keynote addresses, panel discussions, and workshops aimed at enhancing PSM programs and meeting industry needs. Attendees will connect with peers, share best practices, and explore innovative strategies in STEM education.

Register now to join colleagues from across the country in Philadelphia, with two full days of content, including a poster session, awards ceremony, and social events. For questions, contact [manager@npsma.org](mailto:manager@npsma.org).



Register here



# EVENTS SCHEDULE 2024

## WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6TH

**5:00 PM – 7:00 PM:** Registration and NPSMA Welcome Evening Mixer with Poster Session.

**7:00 PM:** Dinner on Your Own.

## THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH

**8:00 AM – 9:00 AM:** Registration and Continental Breakfast.

**9:00 AM – 9:15 AM:** Welcome and Conference Overview  
NPSMA President Tim Born.

**9:15 AM – 9:30 AM:** Philadelphia Welcome and Opening Remarks  
Bonnie Grant, Executive Director, PHL Life Sciences, Philadelphia Convention and Visitors Bureau.

**9:35 AM – 10:30 AM:** Keynote Address: Addressing Workforce Needs through MS-STEM Programs  
Margaret Foti, Chief Executive Officer, American Association for Cancer Research.

**10:30 AM – 10:45 AM:** Refreshment Break and Mingle.

**10:45 AM – 11:10 AM:** Building the National STEM Workforce with STEM Masters Graduates  
James Guare, Senior Research Fellow, Merck (Retired).

**11:15 AM – 12:00 PM:** Panel Discussion: MS STEM Programs as Launchpads for Successful Careers  
Moderators: Beth Murphy, Rutgers University and Tait Chirenje, Stockton University  
Speakers: Steve Nagiewicz, Stockton University and Maksim Zorich, Prescient Healthcare Group Inc.

**12:00 PM – 1:30 PM:** Lunch and Topic Tables.

**1:30 PM – 3:00 PM:** Presentation: AI Tools Inside and Outside the MS STEM Classroom  
Sanaa Jehi, Northeastern University and Desmond Upton Patton, University of Pennsylvania.

**3:00 PM – 3:30 PM:** Refreshment Break and Mingle.

**3:30 PM – 5:00 PM:** Panel Discussion: Experiential Learning in the MS-STEM Program Curriculum  
Moderator: Beth Murphy, Rutgers University  
Panelists: Holli Reyes, Grand Valley State University; Suzanne Hicks, Middle Tennessee State University; Lars Sorensen, Rutgers University.

**5:00 PM:** Dinner on Your Own.

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# EVENTS SCHEDULE 2024

## FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH

**8:00 AM – 9:00 AM:** Continental Breakfast and NPSMA Annual Business Meeting.

**9:00 AM – 10:00 AM:** Panel: MS-STEM Program Success Stories: Building Transferable Skills into the Curriculum and Co-Curriculum

Moderator: Tait Chirenje, Stockton University

Panelists: Kathleen Cashman, Rutgers University; Juliette Hart, Hart and Chin.

**10:00 AM – 10:15 AM:** Refreshment Break and Mingl.

**10:15 AM – 11:15 AM:** Panel: Administration and Financing of MS-STEM Programs: Building Your MS-STEM Program's Internal Support Network

Moderator: Kristin Kuter, St Mary's College.

**11:15 AM – 12:00 PM:** Panel: Alumni Relations and Advisory Boards: Building Your MS-STEM Program's External Support Network

Moderators: Deborah Silver, Rutgers University and Dagmar Beck, Rice University.

**12:15 PM – 1:30 PM:** Lunch and Topic Tables.

**1:30 PM – 3:00 PM:** Panel: National Trends: Aligning MS-STEM Programs with NSF/NASEM/CGS Guidelines and Initiatives

Moderators: Gerald Grunwald, Thomas Jefferson University and Meghan Dovick, University of Utah.

Panelists: Florence Rabanal and Dmitri Perkins, National Science Foundation.

**3:00 PM – 3:30 PM:** Refreshment Break and Mingle.

**3:30 PM – 5:00 PM:** Student Research Presentations: 5MP (Five Minute Presentation) Session

Moderators: Jennie Willis, Colorado State University and Meaghan Nappo, North Carolina State University.

**5:00 PM – 6:30 PM:** Evening Networking Reception, with NPSMA Board Awards and Student Awards Ceremony.

**6:30 PM:** Dinner on Your Own.

## SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH

**7:30 AM – 9:30 AM:** Continental Breakfast and Conference Summation.

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