



PME graduate program gets a facelift!

by Sven Esche, Director, ME Program

The Pharmaceutical Manufacturing and Engineering (PME) graduate program at Stevens was an early adopter of Stevens' WebCampus platform. Created in 2002 to provide graduate educational opportunities to the significant pharmaceutical population in the northern New Jersey/metro New York area, the PME program quickly realized the worldwide reach via online offerings and debuted its first course online in January 2004. Currently, the program includes a Master of Science in Pharmaceutical Manufacturing degree and two, four-course Graduate Certificates. These credentials can be earned on campus in Hoboken, fully online via Stevens' WebCampus or in a combination of on-campus and WebCampus courses. The program is designed for recent engineering, science or pharmacy graduates seeking credentials to enter into or advance within the industries driven by Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP), including pharmaceutical, biotech, medical device, cosmetics and

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Announcing the new WebCampus instructor recognition

by Wendy Pate,
Associate Director, WebCampus

With the close of the spring 2017 semester, WebCampus is excited to launch the Online Instructor Recognition program. This program will recognize one outstanding online instructor after each spring and fall semester. The instructor will have a feature article in the WebCampus News newsletter and receive a certificate of recognition, a plaque and a Stevens-branded gift. Faculty, adjuncts and student instructors who taught an online course in the previous semester are eligible to be considered for the award. Nominations for the spring 2017 recipient will be accepted starting on Monday May 22 through June 2, 2017

Evaluation criteria

Nominations will be judged on the following categories:

- Substantial and continuing involvement in various areas of graduate online teaching
- Teaching effectiveness as observed by WebCampus audits and student evaluation of teaching effectiveness through course evaluations
- Evidence of the use of online course best practices in graduate online courses
- Evidence of an unusually effective or fresh approach to online teaching.
- Professional development in online teaching/research

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personal care products manufacturers.

Aligning education with industry needs

The Stevens PME program has closely collaborated with the pharmaceutical industry from its start. An initial group of leaders of the pharmaceutical industry was consulted during the original development of the program. All PME faculty have extensive industry experience and advanced credentials. Many still work in or consult for the pharmaceutical industry, and thus, the PME lectures are replete with real-world experiences and examples. In addition to solid offerings in the pharmaceutical area, there are also electives that delve into the biopharma and medical device industries. API and cosmetic manufacturing professionals would also benefit from the PME curriculum.

The PME program has recently undergone a comprehensive evaluation and upgrade to ensure that the course offerings remain relevant and valuable. A PME External Advisory Board of experienced industry professionals is consulted regularly and many of their recommendations have been used to update the curriculum of the PME program.

MS in pharmaceutical manufacturing degree

The recently updated curriculum of the master's degree consists of five required core courses and five student-chosen elective courses. The core courses include:

- Introduction to Pharmaceutical Manufacturing

- Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) in Pharmaceutical Facilities Design
- Validation in Pharmaceutical Manufacturing
- Quality in Pharmaceutical Manufacturing
- Statistical Methods in Pharmaceutical Manufacturing

These foundational courses ensure that all students learn about the basics of the pharmaceutical industry: the main dosage forms and how they are made; the unique facility design requirements mandated by international and U.S. regulations; the concepts of reproducibility and reliability via validation of process, equipment, cleaning methods and computer systems; the overarching quality requirements, tools and systems that are paramount to successful pharmaceutical production; and the statistical methods of monitoring the input, sampling, output and quality of pharmaceutical products.

The five remaining elective courses allow the students to customize their programs toward specific areas of interest. [Click here](#) for more information on the available elective courses.

PME graduates have reported that, after completion of their degree requirements, they feel confident and well prepared for technical job interviews.

Skills for the next generation of pharmaceutical professionals

Stevens PME graduates gain the skills necessary for solving challenging problems, using emerging pharmaceutical technologies effectively to reach business goals and leading innovation across organizations. "The

pharmaceutical manufacturing courses have made me very effective in my position as a senior validation engineer, and they have greatly increased my value to the company," said Brian King, a recent PME graduate who is now on the PME External Advisory Board. The PME program offers a unique blend of small class sizes, intense collaboration and professional networking opportunities.

Using Stevens' award-winning WebCampus, the PME program has enrolled students from literally all around the world. It provides real-life opportunities for international collaboration and networking. WebCampus courses are set up to be primarily asynchronous, meaning that the students can log on when convenient to review the weekly materials and complete assignments. There are also multiple platforms for interaction with classmates and professors through features such as chat, videoconferencing, discussion forums and live virtual office hours.

Recent PME graduate Jason Fitz commented, "You can truly discuss these topics with colleagues in the different areas and not only understand what they are saying, but also provide value-added input." Practical application of theoretical knowledge using real-life case studies and projects ensures that the PME students continue to amass impressive statistics on job placement after graduation and to function effectively in global regulated manufacturing environments. Recent employers of

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PME graduates have commented that Stevens PME students “hit the ground running” and become valuable contributors faster than other recent hires.

As word spreads about the value-added advantages of the program, admission is becoming increasingly competitive.

Meeting the Need

Hundreds of Stevens PME graduates now work in brand name pharmaceuticals, generic manufacturers, biotechs, medical devices and cosmetic firms around the world. With the predicted growth in the international pharmaceutical industry sector, the need for educated pharmaceutical professionals will only increase in order to meet the challenges of the 21st century. Using the flexible and convenient WebCampus platform as one delivery option, the Stevens PME program hopes to reach out to new and emerging pharmaceutical markets worldwide to help train the next generation of pharmaceutical leaders.

Student comments about PME courses

1 Learned a lot about the different operations, technologies and equipment used in OSD manufacturing. I believe these skills will be helpful to achieve my goals and further my career in pharmaceuticals. Great learning!

2 The content of the course was very detailed and informative enough to get the full message across! I came to know about the current regulatory environment, quality tools and techniques that should be implemented to ensure compliance and to achieve consistent safe, effective and quality products.

Instructor recognition

Nominations will be judged by WebCampus staff and the Course Development Committee from June 5 through June 23, 2017.

How is someone considered for this recognition? Departments can nominate an instructor or you can nominate a peer instructor or nominate yourself for this recognition. This is different than the Provost Award for Excellence in Online Teaching given at the convocation each September.

We are eager to receive the first round of nominations and to announce our first winner in the August 2017 newsletter.

Will that first recipient be you?

Nomination forms, instructions and scoring rubric can be found on the internal WebCampus webpage or requested by email — Wendy Pate at wpate@stevens.edu



WebCampus News will be back!

We will be taking a break over the summer months and will resume the WebCampus News newsletter in August. In that issue, we will announce the first recipient of the WebCampus Online Instructor Recognition program.

In August we will move the newsletter online under your MyStevens login. This new location will make the newsletter easier to read and locate previous issues! All issues, beginning in February 2017, will be online. You will continue to receive an email letting you know when the newsletter is ready.

Enjoy your summer!

Instructor Tip of the Month

End-of-semester activities

As the spring semester ends, there are steps you need to take as the instructor to prepare.

Back up your course. Canvas calls this "exporting" a course. Follow these step-by-step instructions.

guides.instructure.com/m/4152/l/41323-how-do-i-export-a-canvas-course

Submit student grades. If you are using the gradebook within Canvas, you can export the grades directly to SIS. If you are not using the gradebook, you will enter the grades using Web for Faculty.

Submit using Canvas:

https://sit.instructure.com/courses/74/pages/publish-grades?module_item_id=170409

Submit using Web for Faculty:

https://sit.instructure.com/courses/74/pages/grading-in-web-for-faculty?module_item_id=242314

Student Tip of the Month

End-of-semester activities

Complete your end-of-course survey

There should be a link within your course for you to access the survey. If you can't locate the link, you can take the survey at web.stevens.edu/assess/

April 28–May 19, 2017 — Surveys open!

Make copies of your coursework

You worked hard during your course. Why not create a portfolio of projects that you can use at your next job interview or annual review? A portfolio is proof of your skills and abilities. Use your portfolio when preparing for a promotion or new job.

As the semester ends, make sure you don't lose all the work you generated. Download to your computer or memory stick, any projects, assignments or discussions you want to keep.

Important Dates

Spring final exams	May 8–May 15
Summer A orientation	May 10
Start of summer A courses	May 18
Spring final grades due	May 18
Last day to withdraw — summer A	August 14
Last day of summer A WebCampus classes	August 18
Summer A final exams	August 21–28

Tell us what you think

What stories would you like us to publish?

Would you like to write a story?

Let us know!

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