

## A Note from Your Emerging Leaders Co-Chairs

With the warm days of Spring fast approaching, it's never too early to begin thinking about your summer plans! Internship opportunities are readily becoming available, so be sure to check out the PCMA Career Center on-line.

As always, we encourage you to continue to become more involved in the Capital Chapter. You are the future of the hospitality, travel and tourism industry and your contributions are valued!

For more information, please contact [pcmaemergingleaders@yahoo.com](mailto:pcmaemergingleaders@yahoo.com).

## Student Membership Survey Coming Soon!

Please be on the look-out for a student membership survey coming soon! We want to ensure you are getting the most out of your student membership and we are looking ways to improve PCMA's relationship with the colleges and universities in the Capital Chapter. Please make every effort to complete the survey by Monday, March 31st!

### Student Membership

An individual is eligible for PCMA Student membership if s/he is enrolled in a post-secondary academic program directly related to meetings management for at least six quarter or semester credit hours. Verification of enrollment is required. (Note: Students with less than six months before graduation are not eligible for Student membership.) Student Membership cost is **\$40!** A savings of up to 92%!

*Current PCMA student members within six months of graduation are eligible for the graduating student membership of only \$100. A savings of up to 79%!*

See below for regular membership fees:

- ◆ Associate Professional: \$190.00
- ◆ Associate Supplier: \$250.00
- ◆ Professional \$350.00
- ◆ Supplier: \$475.00

**Chapter Membership Eligibility questions?** E-mail [students@pcma.org](mailto:students@pcma.org)

## PCMA's Capital Chapter Committees

Are you looking for ways to increase your involvement in PCMA? Join a committee! There's no better way to maximize your membership benefits while getting to know professionals in the industry. Below are the various committees you have the opportunity to become involved in:

- ◆ **Communications:** Informs, educates and recognizes PCMA Capital Chapter members and promotes and enhances the image of PCMA, the Capital Chapter and the hospitality industry. Publishes *The Chatter*.
- ◆ **Community Service:** Responsible for creating a culture of giving back to the community through volunteerism and charitable contribution.
- ◆ **Emerging Leaders:** Focused on reaching out to the student membership, fostering mentorship connections and providing quality education for emerging leaders (professionals in the industry for 1-5 years).
- ◆ **Marketing Task Force:** Charged with developing a two-year marketing and public relations plan for all programs and services of the PCMA Capital Chapter.
- ◆ **Membership:** Develop new plans, strategies and programs to promote membership, retain and recruit new members as well as recognize active members within the chapter.
- ◆ **Professional Development:** Responsible for the planning and execution of all educational and social events for the Capital Chapter. The focus is on creating high quality networking and educational opportunities for our local industry partners.
- ◆ **Sponsorship:** Develop specific sponsorship opportunities for companies interested in reaching the Capital Chapter membership and communicate with them for specific chapter programs and events.

It's easy! Just go to the link below to download the 'Commitment to Serve' application, complete it and send it into PCMA's Capital Chapter offices.

[http://www.pcma.org/Documents/Chapter\\_Content/ch/CommitmentServeApplication.pdf](http://www.pcma.org/Documents/Chapter_Content/ch/CommitmentServeApplication.pdf)

To remove your name from our mailing list, please send us an [email](mailto:pcmaemergingleaders@yahoo.com) with 'remove' in the subject line.

Questions or comments? E-mail us at [pcmaemergingleaders@yahoo.com](mailto:pcmaemergingleaders@yahoo.com).

## Student Spotlight Jenny Dotson, CMP George Washington University



◆ **What is your major or degree of study?** Master of Tourism Administration

◆ **What part of the industry are you interested in working?** Event/Meeting Planning

◆ **What made you join PCMA?** PCMA is the industry's source for education and networking, and it is both valued and recognized widely by planners. That said - I certainly didn't want to be left out!

- ◆ **Aspect of job/industry you enjoy most so far?** Meeting so many wonderful people! I am always doing something different, traveling to diverse and fun cities, and learning something new with each and every meeting.
- ◆ **Hobby?** I love to shop. Is that even a hobby? It works out well for me that I get to check out coveted shops across the country because of the travel required by my job. I also love to read and when I am not being too lazy, I enjoy a nice jog.
- ◆ **Favorite Sports Team?** Virginia Tech Hokies. Hands down.
- ◆ **Favorite Vacation Spot?** Anywhere there is a beach! Unless, of course, I am in Blacksburg (home of the Hokies).
- ◆ **Pets? If so, what?** I have fish that I can hardly keep alive, but I really do try. I adopted a dog in undergrad who now lives with my parents (he almost got me kicked out of my college apartment, but I love him anyway).
- ◆ **Favorite Movie?** Dirty Dancing and Elf
- ◆ **Favorite Book?** A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini
- ◆ **Tourist Attraction in DC?** Possibly due to my love of fashion and less because I am a history buff, I love the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History. Yes, this is the home of the Hope Diamond. I also enjoy the Spy Museum.

## From the BLOG

Are you anxious to learn more about what others, like yourself, are doing? Do you have a desire to learn more about the different facets of the hospitality, travel and tourism industry?

If so, we invite you to participate in the PCMA Emerging Leaders BLOG. You can learn from your peers and experts in the industry as well ask questions of your own.

Current topics include:

- ◆ *Experience vs. Education - Find out what others have to say on this important topic*
- ◆ *Experiences at PCMA's Annual Meeting in Seattle*
- ◆ *Check out photos from the Annual Meeting by clicking on 'Event Photos'*

Questions include:

- *What has motivated you to get involved in the meetings industry?*
- *What are my options in the hospitality industry and how do I choose?*
- *How do I make the transition from student to professional?*
- *What questions can be expected during an interview?*

Visit today at <http://pcmaemergingleaders.squarespace.com/> to start blogging today!

## Student Mentorship Program A Meeting of the Minds: Classroom to Career

The Capital Chapter is launching a Student Mentorship Program. The Student Sub-Committee is working to bring together a Student – Professional mentorship program to start in September/October 2008. The program, *A Meeting of the Minds: Classroom to Career*, will be designed to assist students who aspire to work in the meetings industry. **We are currently looking for volunteers to participate in our second round of beta-testing, both students who are Seniors or Graduate Students (some Juniors will be accepted) who will be paired up with professionals in the industry with 5-7 years of experience.**

If you are interested in participating as a mentor or protégé, please contact us at [pcmaemergingleaders@yahoo.com](mailto:pcmaemergingleaders@yahoo.com).