

I am writing this letter to explain the success of the educational programs at The Center for Professional Studies (CPS). I had recently become unemployed from Chrysler Corporation and I was looking for training to increase my worth in the job market outside of automotive. I had done some investigation on different educational programs with a Lean Six Sigma Black Belt program only to find that they all required that the student be working for the company that the project would entail.

I came upon CPS and contacted Daryl Patrishkoff to further understand the program that they were offering and that they were using outside companies to provide Six Sigma projects. These projects not only helped the students obtain their desired education but also helped local companies with existing, real world problems that could be solved making them more competitive in a tight market.

I was also pleasantly surprised that it could be funded by the TAA program even though it was not a two year program but an accelerated 4 month program. I applied for my TAA funding immediately and was accepted so I could begin quickly with my education. CPS differs from other programs for quite a few reasons:

- It's educators are real life businessmen, engineering, managers that use recent case studies to teach their courses
- The courses are accelerated so that the students (who are unemployed) can reap the rewards of the programs faster than waiting two years and as a result get back into the workforce quicker.
- They use local companies with their programs at no cost, the companies become more efficient in a very competitive atmosphere while helping in the education process.
- The students are exposed to many different businesses other than automotive which most of us in this area are from.
- The size of the classes encourages networking that would not otherwise happen.

Because of my affiliation with CPS I now work for a food company in the Detroit area, I use all of my previous knowledge base along with the skills I learned and honed through CPS. This company was involved in one of the first Six Sigma Black Belt program and had a need for an Operations Manager; because of my involvement with CPS I was offered the job.

I have also started my own consulting firm, Manufacturing and Process Solutions which has been successful in obtaining contracts because of my education through CPS. I would have never had the opportunities presented, had I not been enrolled with CPS and had the education supported by the TAA program.

John Willis

This endorsement will be incomplete without bearing in mind what is happening to the workforce, skilled and unskilled both, around Michigan and in the rest of the country. We very well know that how bad Michigan is hurt due to company closures and employee layoffs, with businesses, especially heavy duty manufacturing moving overseas. In November of 2008 I joined the ranks of those who were actively seeking employment in this market and it was an eye opener to see how many people with years of experience and education were waiting in line! We all had one thing in common – we were lacking, in some way, the skill-sets, either these not being relevant or contemporary to what the employers desired. However, we all had a desire to succeed by elevating our educational and training skills to the next level, to quickly gain valued skills sought by employers trying to make the most in this market.

Two things were critical to make the next leap for people in my situation – one was to find a source of funding; the existing personal savings had dwindled due to the market slumps and there was no real paycheck coming in to fund any future education. The second thing was to find an educational program that would deliver pragmatic skill sets (certifications) that would entice the very few hiring employers out there to consider us for positions they were seeking to fill. The first step was covered by the Federal and the State funding – this really made it possible to think of any future education, especially, when putting food on the table was in question!

When I surveyed the educational programs out there, I found that they mostly focused on a two year program, which wasn't the luxury most of us had. While I was considering various community and university programs, I came across a free educational seminar through Engineering Society of Detroit and got to know about the Center for Professional Studies (CPS); this was a real break for me and various other people in my situation. We had finally found a program that offered highly focused, relevant, and appropriately timed program to gain certifications, which were in demand even during the economic slump; industry, in general, and companies in Michigan in particular, were looking for employees with Program Management and Lean Six Sigma backgrounds. CPS had Program Management and Lean Six Sigma Certifications programs designed for intense four months of in-class training by experienced instructors who knew the industry and its challenges well. Their hands-on industry project to complete the Six Sigma certification requirement was really quite unique which no other programs offered.

With a graduate level engineering background and an MBA from University of Michigan I feel I have had a world class education; keeping this in mind, I whole-heartedly endorse the CPS curriculum, their quality of instructions, level and knowledge of the instructors to stand tall with some of the premium educational institutions in the area. Their success in having 90% plus graduate employment speaks volumes, given the state of economy and the job market we are facing. I would recommend their program to anyone seeking to learn and develop skills greatly valued in this changing marketplace.

Jatinder Singh

I am writing to express my experience with the Center for Professional Studies (CPS). As a senior engineer with over 35 years experience in the automotive industry I found myself looking for a new way to support my family as quickly as possible. In my search for new employment I found the employers were looking for professionals with a unique combination of skills and certifications, especially for positions which provided wages in the range I had been making previously. To fill the gaps in my skills base to fill these positions I searched for education opportunities that could provide the skills I felt I needed.

Through my evaluation I found CPS, a school uniquely positioned for professionals, offered a package of certifications I was looking for and no other company did. They were able to combine these certifications providing me with a curriculum which filled all of my needs to compete in a spectrum of new opportunities and industries.

Equally important, CPS was able to complete all of this training in less than half of the time any other institution willing to provide. In less than a year I was able to successfully receive all of the certifications I was looking for, including professional Project Management certification from PMI. More importantly I was offered a job in approximately a year's time and am currently working, directly related to training provided by CPS.

Without TAA funding provided in a timely manner necessary to pay for the accelerated training CPS provides, I would still be taking classes in the process of certification testing preparation through June of 2011. I would be struggling to feed my family, retain my home, educate my children, remove myself from the unemployed support rolls, and would not be in a position to actively help others do the same. Senior professionals are highly trained and experienced, already possessing most skills, and require additional training to compete in new future position or industry. With limited jobs available, CPS is uniquely positioned to help senior professionals fill gaps in their skill sets getting them back to work in a record amount of time.

Brian Enck

After ten months of being unemployed I was directed to CPS. Thanks to the training received at CPS by the great teaching staff especially from Daryl Patrishkoff, it helped me greatly in my engineering profession. Before I was even able to complete the Design Engineer course, I had several calls and a few interviews, even during those rough times throughout 2009

Right away I landed a great Senior Design Analyst job in Puerto Rico and I know it was clinched during the interview process just as I presented one of my certificates, Dimensional Management, the one they were looking for. I'm still aiming to get back to Michigan and I'm sure I'll again find something as this economy continues to make its way back to recovery.

Thank you CPS and Daryl Patrishkoff!

Mario Bengala

I was enrolled at CPS for formal training in Lean Manufacturing, Six Sigma and Project Management Professional certifications. The experience was rewarding improved my marketability in employment. Many advantages can be listed:

- Networking with other professionals of the student body
- A “fast track” learning environment to obtain training and get back working.
- Certified teachers that are in touch with student and industry needs.
- Valuable textbooks, software and accessories to use in future work experiences.
- Project experience to obtain practitioner certification.
- Flexibility within the schedule framework to serve student needs.

CPS training is an effective solution for industry professionals that want to rapidly return to the work place with new skills to enhance their chance of finding new employment. The training is intense but rewarding. I would not have gone through the program unless it was a “fast track” solution. I needed to obtain new certifications as quickly as possible, and then return to employment. Recently I have secured a full time position at a non-automotive company using these tools, techniques and methodologies I was certified in at CPS.

Dan Resmer

The Center for Professional Studies (CPS) was instrumental in my ability to quickly return to the work force. Through CPS I was able to complete Project Management Professional certification, Lean Six Sigma and Black Belt Six Sigma training in less than six months. Upon completion of the accelerated program I applied for a Senior Project Management position at General Electric, via their on-line website. Based on my CPS training and qualifications I received a response to my application the next day. Within one week I had interviewed and received an offer from them at a pay higher than my previous pay at Chrysler.

In addition to education, CPS offered numerous job fairs. They constantly networked with employers in and outside of the Detroit area to ensure that their students had every opportunity available to them to re-enter the job market. Numerous students received employment directly due to CPS' networking efforts. They are committed to offering the right training required to helping the unemployed in the metro Detroit area.

If I was unable to combine multi-year government training funds I would not have been able to return to the job market as quickly as I had. This would have resulted in significant financial struggles for our family. I highly recommend that the government continue this opportunity and recognize that CPS is a tool to improving the economy in Michigan.

Kelly Shoulders

I used CPS for training and updating my skills for getting a job in a tough employment market. The training opened up new doors and opportunities that I wouldn't have if I didn't do the training. The instructors are very professional and experienced in all industries. I would definitely recommend CPS for training and education.

Thank You

Athear Salem

The instructors are first class, with a superb knowledge of the material and always go the extra mile to meet the needs of their students. I have come away from every class with much a deeper knowledge of the material at hand, and I have confidence that I will be a much heavier hitter in the job market

I have never gone to a school that has come close to matching their commitment to satisfy, serve and equip their customer--namely me--the student. Thanks Daryl, Cindy, Dennis, Lee, Steve and all the staff. Your instruction and service has been well worth the long drive I have to your school.

Roger Williams

I wanted to inform you that this afternoon I verbally accepted a position at World Technical Services Inc. as the aero-thermal engineer and lead on the overall vehicle build of a Fuel Economy Demonstrator project for the US military. It is a position that I am extremely qualified for and very excited to start. Additionally, my starting salary is a substantial increase from my salary at Chrysler with better benefits.

If not for CPS sending my resume out to several different companies, I would never have heard of WTSI, would not have received an unsolicited interview request, and would have missed out on a great opportunity. Had it not been for my CPS training in Pro/E, Pro/Mechanica, and Project Management, and my attainment of a Designing Engineer certificate, I do not feel that I would have been a top candidate and also able to negotiate a salary increase in the current economic climate.

I want to thank you and all the friends I have made at CPS who helped to keep my confidence up when things were looking bleak, and gave me the additional tools to put me at the top of a very large talent pool.

Thank you and best regards,

Terry DeKoninck

It is an honor and a privilege to have graduated in Program Management Certificate Program from Center for Professional Studies in Troy, Michigan. The teaching was professional, practical, interactive and informative. The courses covered skill sets that are being sought after in the industry.

The teaching was unique, in the sense; it exhibited projects that were recently completed for each of the topics covered in the courses. This encouraged my sincere participation in the courses. I have thoroughly enjoyed the learning process at CPS where the student's needs and their individual learning abilities are put first.

I take this opportunity to wholeheartedly thank Daryl Patrishkoff and his excellent team of instructors for guiding me through the project work at CPS. I also thank Daryl for his vision, initiative, leadership, sincerity, communication, unwavering support and encouragement.

Without a hesitation, I would recommend CPS and Daryl to people who want to further their learning.

Sonny Veeramachaneni

I owe Daryl and the CPS team a debt of gratitude for contributing to my success recently in landing a new position.

The job description, for an interim associate director position in a state university admissions office, called for both knowledge and experience in project management. After completing the CPS program in August, I was able to show evidence of very recent formal training in project management in my cover letter and resume. In the interview that soon followed, I was able to effectively discuss my Program Management knowledge and experience, with the insights I acquired in your program very fresh in my mind. The hiring manager offered me the position a few days later, and I'll start next week, with confidence in my ability to apply professional skills in managing a variety of projects.

I believe my experience clearly shows how Program Management skills acquired in your program can help establish professional credibility, and lead to success in the job market, and high performance on the job. My future plans include investing a portion of my earnings in passing the PMI exam and earning PMP certification, which I believe will serve as very useful additional evidence of professionalism and expertise for future advancement opportunities, since I already know my new employer values expertise in project management.

Thank you for a very practical and effective training experience.

John Fruner

I'm happy to report that I have received an offer for contract employment as Project Manager, initially working in Europe (Germany), leading to permanent hire, with KMT Robotic Solutions. I will be starting this Wednesday. This position is initially for six months with a plan for direct hire, unless the global economy takes a dump again. I will be managing a project supporting the manufacture of wind turbine blades so this is a perfect start in an industry that I have been studying for the last 3 years.

I'll let you know how it goes!

Thanks a million, for your help and support during this "very stressful period of drought".

Dirk Peter

I am sending a special thanks to all of my "Recommenders" on LinkedIn; I know for certain that the recruiter and hiring manager looked at my LI profile and that your input helped them to make a positive hiring decision about me. So this is official notice to let you all know that I have obtained full time employment as a mechanical engineer again. The job is a 12 to 18 month contract assignment with G-Tech Services to be a Product Quality Engineer at Caterpillar in Peoria, IL. Since it is short term I will be commuting back to Detroit when I can on the weekends.

Caterpillar needs to bring its entire product line into compliance with new tighter EPA regulations. They are going with the urea injection concept to accomplish this so the project team will have to deal with issues such as extra fuel consumption, excess heat, and finding somewhere to put the system on the vehicle. Specifically what I'll be doing is helping their Product / Design engineers with managing the APQP process. APQP is new to Caterpillar so that is why they are bringing people in from the auto industries that have some experience with it. Getting really excited about this because it is a great opportunity at a great company and a chance to build on some new skills, most importantly the company is fully behind our efforts.

Thanks again to all of you for your help, support, encouragement, and I will never forget it. I have to put in special thank you to Daryl Patrishkoff here for his excellent instruction and assistance, I WOULD NOT BE HERE IF NOT FOR YOU AND YOUR SCHOOL! Thank you for including me in your APQP class when you needed some extra butts in the seats!

Warmest Regards to all and hope to see to see you again very soon,

Kevin McCutcheon

The Center for Professional Study's program has been the most rewarding educational experience that I had ever had, because these programs are geared toward teaching the material needed to perform the tasks of a career, and the hands-on experience that is required to sustain the knowledge. I had taken the Lean Six Sigma Black Belt program and would rate this experience as top-notch.

The real life examples of the classroom's case-studies had influenced the actual Lean Six Sigma project that offered the exposure to real-life situations, which are needed to become a successful Lean Six Sigma Black Belt. I am so thankful for the experience to attend this academy and feel like my professional level of experience has grown more in the few months of attendance in the program than in the six years of classroom training it took to complete my MBA.

James Brown

I am recommending Daryl both as an instructor and as CEO of Center for Professional Studies. As an instructor for Lean Manufacturing his knowledge of the material was superb. He made the concepts easily understandable and provided all materials needed for a complete hands-on experience. I am thoroughly satisfied with the service provided me in his class, and would advise all my colleagues to take classes from him. As CEO of Center for Professional Studies he has chosen only the best instructors for the courses they offer. My experience at CPS has been one of growth and I am more equipped than ever for a competitive job market. The staff at CPS truly understands my needs as a customer and how to deliver accordingly. I want to extend many thanks to Daryl and all of the staff at CPS for a truly rewarding educational experience.

Roger Williams

I want to thank the Center for Professional Studies (CPS), the Professors and the Administration, where I received my Six Sigma Black Belt Certification. CPS was instrumental in enhancing my skills through the Six Sigma Black Belt curriculum and completing my Projects to gain my certification while I was laid-off. If I had not had the opportunity to receive the TAA benefits and receive my Six Sigma Black Belt Certification thru CPS, I am confident that I would not have the opportunity for the Quality Lab Coordinator, at William Beaumont Hospital, job position, much less an offer.

Ceena S. Andrades

Dear Daryl,

"The Center for Professional Studies (CPS) owes the success of its students to a superb curriculum that prepares them for immediate success in their professional careers. A great part of the success is due to its dedicated and knowledgeable team of instructors, who can relate and exemplify their instructional knowledge to their real world successful experiences.

My academic exposure to the principles of Total Quality and Lean Six Sigma through CPS, and a CPS sponsored project for black belt certification at a local manufacturing plant, have greatly helped to build skills towards my current assignment. I would highly recommend CPS to anyone planning to take their next career leap.

Jatinder Singh

CPS offers one of the most unique programs available. Instructors have extensive industry experience. The certification classes are created to meet the changing job market. And extra curricular activities are scheduled with a focus on re-entering the workforce. The CPS team fills a need in the community not covered by traditional universities and community colleges.

My experience with CPS is that I not only learned valuable skills but gained confidence in what I could offer an employer. I am working now as an engineer for a non-automotive company. I have kept in contact with many of my fellow students and teachers. This whole experience was a very positive experience.

In conclusion, Michigan should keep the existing benefit structure or expand it. Don't turn your back on the experienced professional workforce. Don't let organizations like CPS become victims of the recession.

Deb Meagher