Engaging Center Students & Postdocs

Outreach Teams provide opportunities for graduate students and postdocs to develop leadership, communication, and program management skills. Team members represent all IRGs and include volunteers beyond the MRSEC.

I get many opportunities to examine and improve my communication skills... think about how my research is relevant to the outside world...[and] explain it to a little kid or a potential investor from industry.

Tour Guide member

The annual MRSEC student survey (with 57 respondents) highlighted several areas of interest, including science communication (70%), networking with industry (65%), interviewing for jobs (72%) and mentor/mentee training (44%) and resulting in:

- Two science communication workshops
- Poster sessions with industry visitors (3M, Lockheed Martin, & General Dynamics)
- Improvements to the PREM Penn Pal mentoring program
- Recruitment & Retention Team efforts to engage MRSEC alumni as seminar speakers in career discussions