Exceptional practitioners know how to drive a project towards success, but not necessarily because of what they read in a management text. They know what works based on years of experience nurtured over a career of ups and downs, successes and failures, trial and error.

NASA leverages the knowledge of its most experienced practitioners by inviting them to a Forum of Master Project Managers, where they share their stories and learn from the stories of their peers. Up-and-coming project managers from across the Agency also benefit from the knowledge shared at the forums, because many of the stories are subsequently published in ASK Magazine, the Academy of Program and Project Leadership’s professional journal.

Held semi-annually, Masters Forums bring together between 40 and 50 of the best project managers from NASA, private industry, and other Government agencies for three days of knowledge sharing.

Though the stories of NASA’s own project managers are at the heart of the program, APPL also invites innovative thinkers and practitioners from the larger project management community to share their perspectives. Past guest speakers have included Department of Defense program manager Terry Little; Scott Cameron of Procter & Gamble; Hugh Woodward, former president of the Project Management Institute; and authors Walker Royce (Software Project Management) and Dr. Robert Sutton (The Knowing-Doing Gap).

EXPECTED BENEFITS OF MASTERS FORUMS INCLUDE:

> Sharing project management best practices and lessons learned.
> Cultivating a community of reflective practitioners.
> Building cross-Center relationships in support of the “one NASA” vision.
> Developing the leadership expertise of the Agency’s veteran and emerging project managers.

To learn more about Masters Forums and other APPL services, find contact information at www.apl.nasa.gov.