

Building professionalism in project management.TM

100's Nugget

Project Management Institute Eastern Iowa Chapter

P.O. Box 1811 Cedar Rapids, IA 52406-1811

http://www.pmieasterniowa.org communications@pmieasterniowa



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2009 Issue 3 March 2009

Our Next Chapter Meeting - March 10th

This month's chapter meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 10th, 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. at the Clarion Hotel and Convention Center at 525 33rd Ave SW in Cedar Rapids. The Clarion Hotel and Convention Center phone number is (319) 366-8671.

Program: The program for the March 10th meeting is a presentation entitled "**Project Management Communities of Practice**", presented by Ray Jorgensen.

About the Program: What is a Community of Practice? How can I start one? How does it work? What topics does the PM CoP explore? How can I get involved in a CoP? We'll explore the life-cycle of a community of practice, demonstrating tools and techniques that enable extended sharing and collaboration across a large and diversified enterprise.

About the Speaker: Mr. Raymond W. Jorgensen is an advocate for system engineering & project management excellence. He is currently serving as a corporate knowledge resource for Rockwell Collins for system engineering & project management processes, tools, and training. He has published numerous papers at INCOSE symposia and continues to promote excellence in the application of the systems engineering discipline. He received a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from Michigan Technological University, a Master of Systems Engineering from Iowa State University, and is currently pursuing his PhD in Systems Engineering at Stevens Institute of Technology.

Program Schedule:

7:30 - 7:45 Registration, breakfast, and social time

7:45 - 7:50 Opening by chapter president / chapter officers

7:50 - 8:40 Presentation / Discussion

8:40 - 9:00 Final announcements and wrap-up

Our Menu (subject to change):

- English Muffin Sandwich w Eggs and Bacon
- Fresh Fruit
- Regular / Decaf Coffee / Hot Tea
- Milk

Cost: \$10.00 to chapter members and \$15.00 for guests.

Please note that the Chapter's attendance policy has changed to include a registration fee for all attendees. This is different from the previous policy of allowing attendees who were not eating to attend free of charge.

If you have not done so already, please RSVP no later than March 5th to programreg-istration@pmieasterniowa.org. Once you send a RSVP, cancellations *must* be received by **noon**, Friday, March 6th to avoid your being invoiced as a no-show for this chapter event.

Muthuraman M, PMP, Director of Logistics, PMI Eastern Iowa Chapter



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President's Corner

Managing your Career - Getting Strategic!

Career management is, ironically, one of the biggest challenges facing today's Project Managers. According to a survey conducted by Parity, 64% of organizations consider project management skills to be the most important for their employers to learn. 72% intend to invest in project management training for their employees.

However, 66% of the employees surveyed indicated that they did not have the time to balance work commitments with professional training.

Too often, employees take a passive stance regarding the development of their own careers. They rely on managers to push them through the most necessary courses. Contractors are in an even more precarious position, having total responsibility for identifying and resolving development needs.

Strategy for managing your career:

Regardless of the economic climate, the key to managing your career is to develop and maintain a strategy that includes the following components:

- 1. A clear understanding of your goals and objectives
- 2. A productive use of job search methods
- 3. Ongoing career management and professional development.

Take a proactive approach to the situation. It will go a long way toward helping you regain a sense of control and direction.

How PMI can help to chart a course for your Career?

Whether you are a novice to project management or a veteran, there are resources available within the PMI community to help you take your career to the next level.

Find out how PMI can help you at any stage of your career (http://www.pmi.org/community/Practitioner.html)

Use the Web for research: check current job titles. Are there any new educational requirements? What is the salary level for the kind of position you are interested in?

Find out how to <u>Find out what new credentials are available</u> (http://www.pmi.org/CareerDevelopment/Pages/PMICredentialOverview.aspx)

Networking is still your best bet for finding a new position. If the idea of networking scares you, start close to home. Attend a local PMI meeting. Get in touch with local PMI volunteers and find out opportunities to server on the PMI volunteer committee that provides an excellent opportunity to network in the corridor. Speaking of volunteers, welcome aboard, Mark Bazzell, Carol Meeks and Nita Inani who joined the PMI Eastern lowa Chapter as Director of Website, Director of Certifications and Director of Volunteers respectively.

If you have the time and resource to network, seek networking opportunities within PMI communities that could be a rewarding networking experience.

(Continued on page 3)



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Managing your Career - Getting Strategic! (Continued)

Find out how to PMI communities

(http://www.pmi.org/GetInvolved/Pages/PMI-Components-and-Communities.aspx)

Attend Events events

(http://www.pmi.org/CareerDevelopment/Pages/PMI-Global-Congresses.aspx)

Research published in 2005 by the career services consulting firm, Lee Hecht Harrison, reported that more than 65 percent of all jobs are filled before they are even posted. Networking is your way to tap into that hidden job market.

Practice ongoing career management and professional development.

Once you have landed your next great opportunity, don't neglect your career development.

Strategic professionals are always on the lookout for their next opportunity; maintain that all-important network and ensure your project skills are up to date. Do all you can to properly position yourself for the unexpected.

The key word to regain control in a challenging job market is *strategy*. Focus on your goal, use search methods effectively and efficiently, and maintain a proactive career management plan. You will be better positioned to recognize and take advantage of opportunities that come your way.

Source(s) for this article: http://www.articlecat.com, www.pmi.org and PMI magazines

Regards,

Paddy Puthige

President

Eastern Iowa Chapter

Behind the Scenes

By Tammy Sweat, PMP

The Board of Directors had their first meeting on January 27th. Amongst other discussions, the following decisions were made:

- In review of meetings held over the last several years, it appears as if the December and January meetings are always cancelled due to inclement weather. As a lot of unfulfilled planning and effort goes into each scheduled meeting, the Board voted not to schedule chapter meetings in the future for those months.
- The Board would like to survey all chapter members to get an idea of what topics they are interesting in learning about both at the Professional Development Day and at regular chapter meetings. Pursuing the survey will move forward.
- The Board is researching the possibility of setting up a LinkedIn site for all chapter members to use so that contact and sharing can continue outside of the chapter meetings. David Tominsky is in charge of this effort.
- Members of the Board are planning to attend the PMI Region 2 meeting held in South Bend, IN in May.
- The Board welcomes the new Director volunteers graciously!

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Senior Project Manager, Professional Development Day

Our chapter is currently looking for a distinguished leader interested in being the Project Manager in charge of the 2009 Professional Development Day. To apply, complete the Contact Us form on the PMI Eastern Iowa website located at: www.PMIEasternIowa.org.

Senior Project Manager, Job Description

The Senior Project Manager (Sr. PM) will receive:

A Project Charter from the Board

An approved budget from the Board

The Sr. PM has the authority to:

Solicit and form a team of volunteers (PDD Committee) to assist with the project Commit expenditures within the limitations of the approved budget

The Sr. PM is responsible for:

Developing a detailed project plan for the event that will be updated and submitted monthly to the Board for review.

Creation of a project schedule in addition to the documented project plan to detail timelines involved for activities.

Documentation of key decisions presented as an project artifact.

Creation of a program issues/risks/actions (IRA) log.

Management of the project plan, project schedule, key decisions document, and IRA log to insure timely follow up on all items.

Posting all documents related to the PDD to the Chapter's SharePoint site (WSS).

Directing the PDD Committee.

Communicating specific roles, responsibilities, and expectations for each volunteer.

Consistent communication to the PDD Committee and Board.

Hosting a monthly status call for the PDD Committee and Board.

Effective management of the approved budget for the event.

The successful execution of the Professional Development Day.

This volunteer position is eligible for 5 PDUs and free registration to the Professional Development Day!

IT'S YOUR TURN TO SHINE!





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Market Place Demand for Project Management Professionals

By Suzanne Prymek, PMP

During these times of economic crisis, we all worry about job stability and if we will be one of the chosen few who will survive the massive layoffs that many industries today are experiencing. One way to make sure that you can increase your chances of avoiding layoff is to continually increase your value as a Project Manager.

In order for corporations to perform with less, the demand will grow for hiring certified Project Managers. Certified Project Managers are responsible for monitoring and controlling the project costs, planning the work, and controlling scope and overseeing the execution of projects to ensure that deliverables are still meet within the triple constraints – time, cost and quality.

One way to increase your value as a Project Manager is to become certified as a Project Management Professional through PMI. More corporations are adding requirements to job postings indicating their preference for certified Project Managers over those who are not certified.

According to The Standish Group, (http://netsolcorp.com/whypmp.htm), "8 out of 10 IT Projects Fail". With odds like that, can you risk leaving your project implementation to chance? Now more than ever, the industry acknowledges the need for certified Project Management Professionals.

According to PMI (www.PMI.org) the ten top reasons organizations support PMP certification are:

- 1. Your workforce will understand processes and terminology.
- 2. Your workforce will be more disciplined.
- 3. Your workforce will know what to look for before they start a project.
- 4. Your workforce will value team work.
- 5. Your clients will have increased confidence because your project team uses baseline of terminology and practices.
- 6. Your clients will have increased confidence because your credentialed project team has an ethical code.
- 7. Your clients will have increased confidence because your project team has knowledge of the most up-to-date global practices.
- 8. You will have repeatable processes and improved project results.
- 9. You will retain employees by investing in their professional development.
- 10. You will help grow the profession of project management.

Each person prepares for the certification test in a manner that is conducive to their success for passing the exam. Some people work with a study group, consisting of others who are also preparing to take the exam. Others prefer to take a "boot camp" type prep course that allows you to prepare in a short period of time. There is no one correct way to prepare for the exam. If you are having difficulty in coming up with your own strategy for preparation, there are many PMPs in our chapter that could be used as a resource for to sharing their preparation experiences with you. This will allow you to develop your plan of action so you too can become a PMP!

Earn PDUs by attending IEEE ProCon 2009 in May!

By Carol Meeks, PMP

First published in February's newsletter, this May 12th event held at the Cedar Rapids Marriott provides a Project Management track, led by Jamie Northrup. By attending both the morning session "Proactive Project Risk Management" and "Lean Project Management" in the afternoon, you'll earn 8 PDUs that can be applied to maintaining your PMP certification. Please refer to our newsletter or go to www.ProCon2009.org to learn more about the courses and register.



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Exclusive Complimentary 1-Day Conference Pass* for PMI Eastern Iowa Chapter Members to attend BrainStorm Chicago

This event features their highly acclaimed Business Process Management Conference and BPM & SOA Certificate of Training Programs

Where: Sheraton Chicago Hotel & Towers

When: April 6-9, 2009

Details: BrainStorm Chicago Brochure ~ Agenda-at-a-Glance



PMI Eastern Iowa Chapter is pleased to announce our partnership with BrainStorm Chicago.

As part of the partnership, we have secured a limited number of 1-Day Guest Passes* (a \$795 value) for PMI Eastern Iowa Chapter members.

- Your 1-Day Conference Pass* includes:
 - Access to all Conference Sessions covering: Business Process Management, Service-Oriented Architecture, Business Architecture, Business Rules/Business Decision Management and Organizational Performance
 - Earn PDUs BrainStorm Chicago is a Registered Education Provider (REP)
 - Best practices and lessons learned from world-class organizations
 - One-on-One meetings with selected Presenters, Practitioners, Analysts, etc
 - Dedicated daily networking opportunities
 - Complimentary 30-Day Professional Membership on BPMInstitute.org
 - Complimentary 30-Day access to archived conference sessions onlineand much more...

To take advantage of this Exclusive Conference offer, please enter **Priority Code PMIEIE** when registering.

Please note: a \$99 Administration Fee will apply (which covers materials, breaks, lunch, evening reception, etc).

Alternatively, call BPMInstitute.org directly at 508-475-0475, x15 with questions.

ADDITIONAL OFFERS FOR PMI EASTERN IOWA MEMBERS

Enroll in any BPMInstitute.org and/or SOAInstitute.org Training Course** (over April 6-9) and receive another 50% off!

View all Training Courses

Please call BPMInstitute.org directly at 508-475-0475, x15 to register for Training or a combination of Conference and Training.

^{*} This offer is based on availability. These rates are for End-User Practitioners Organizations only. Non-sponsoring Solution Providers, consultants, etc. are ineligible and may register at the \$2,500 non-sponsoring Solution Provider rate. Companies interested in sponsoring should conta sponsor@brainstorm-group.com. This offer is for new registrations only - no refunds will be given. BPMInstitute.org reserves the right to make final determination on eligibility. ** Buy any BPMInstitute.org/ SOAInstitute.org Training Course and get a second of equal or lesser value for 50% off.
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February Meeting—Recap

The program for the February 10th meeting was a presentation entitled "Better Presentations, 102", presented by Mark Latta, PMP. Mark provided the chapter members tips on how to craft their next presentation for maximum impact.

Chapter Meetings Schedule (subject to change)

	Date and Time	Location	Topic and Presenter
2	March 10th, 2009	Clarion Hotel & Convention Center, 525 33rd Ave SW, Cedar Rapids	"Project Management Communities of Practice" by Ray Jorgensen.
 5 5	April 14th, 2009	Clarion Hotel & Convention Center, 525 33rd Ave SW, Cedar Rapids	"Black Bag of Tricks" by Terry Knecht
	May 12th, 2009	Clarion Hotel & Convention Center, 525 33rd Ave SW, Cedar Rapids	"Creating a Culture of Project Management Execution", by Jamie Northrup, PMP.

Membership Update - Remember to send in your membership renewals, either through mail or online.

The PMI Eastern Iowa Chapter membership stands at 298, with 156 PMP®s and 1 CAPM®.

New PMP®s

Congratulations Elizabeth Strasser from Aegon USA, for passing the certification exam on January 14th.

New Members

Welcome New Members Matthew Behmer, PMP, Continental Corporation; Chris Berg, Jason Betts and Dwayne Simpson, Rockwell; Jennifer James, Pearson; Michael Lackman, CIT Solutions.

PMI Chapter Transfers

If you have a need to transfer chapters because you have moved or relocated due to employment location changes, be sure to update your membership data at the PMI global website, www.pmi.org.

Listed below are the top 5 companies according to membership counts.

Rank	Company	Member Count	PMP Count
1	Pearson	89	54
2	Rockwell Collins	34	16
3	Vangent, Inc.	17	19
4	Aegon	14	6
5	Intermec Technologies	11	6

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Chapter Sponsored Professional Development (subject to change)

The following chapter sponsored professional development opportunities are available. Note that these chapter sponsored courses are being offered from a non-REP (Registered Educational Provider). Send Chapter Sponsored Professional Development questions and ideas to professional@pmieasterniowa.org.

Date	Time	Cost	PDU(s)	Location	Title
3/16/09	5-9 pm	125 PMI Member 150 Non-Member	4	Kirkwood	Time Management and Schedule Execution
4/20/09	5-9 pm	125 PMI Member 150 Non-Member	4	Kirkwood	Project Cost and Earned Value Management
5/11/09	5-9 pm	125 PMI Member 150 Non-Member	4	Kirkwood	Project Integration Management, and Execution
6/15/09	5-9 pm	125 PMI Member 150 Non-Member	4	Kirkwood	Project Quality Management and Six Sigma Delivery
7/20/09	5-9 pm	125 PMI Member 150 Non-Member	4	Kirkwood	Project Risk Management and Proactive Planning

Priority Management Training Schedule (subject to change)

The following Priority Management sponsored professional development opportunities are available. Please find more details at http://www.prioritymanagement.com/rsmith/workshop_schedule/ or send questions to rsmith@prioritymanagement.com.

Date	Course ID	PDUs	Location	Title
March 26 & April 2	1161-TN060100	7	Web workshop at your desk	Working Smart with Microsoft Outlook

New Horizons Training Schedule (subject to change)

The following courses are available at New Horizons of Cedar Rapids in the coming months.

Date	PDUs	Location	Title
3/3/2009	N/A	New Horizons	ITIL V3 Awareness
3/16/2009	21	New Horizons	Introduction to Project Management
3/17/2009	7	New Horizons	Microsoft Project 2003 – L1
3/18/2009	7	New Horizons	Microsoft Project 2003 – L2
3/18/2009	21	New Horizons	Introduction to Project Management



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PMI - Eastern Iowa Chapter Contacts

2009 Board of Directors

President Paddy Puthige, PMP president@pmieasterniowa.org

VP of Communications and Publicity Tammy Sweat, PMP communications@pmieasterniowa.org

VP of Education Suzanne Prymek, PMP education@pmieasterniowa.org

VP of Finance Brian Thorn, PMP financial@pmieasterniowa.org

VP of Operations Bhaskar Pulikal, PMP operations@pmieasterniowa.org David S Tominsky

Past President Darin Hart, PMP pastpresident@pmieasterniowa.org

outreach@pmieasterniowa.org

2009 Directors

VP of Outreach

Director At-Large Thom Lusardi, PMP atlarge@pmieasterniowa.org

Director of Certifications Carol Meeks, PMP certification@pmieasterniowa.org

Director of Corporate Outreach Steve Sawyer, PMP corpoutreach@pmieasterniowa.org

Director of Individual Outreach Ray Kratville, PMP indoutreach@pmieasterniowa.org

Director of University Outreach Open unioutreach@pmieasterniowa.org

Muthuraman M. PMP **Director of Logistics** logistics@pmieasterniowa.org

Director of Marketing Open marketing@pmieasterniowa.org

Director of Member Relations Open membership@pmieasterniowa.org

Director of Newsletter newsletter@pmieasterniowa.org Open

Director of Professional Development Barry Ehrig, PMP professional@pmieasterniowa.org

Director of Programs Open programs@pmieasterniowa.org

Director of Technology Open technology@pmieasterniowa.org

Director of Volunteers Nita Inani, PMP volunteers@pmieasterniowa.org

Director of Website Mark Bazzell, PMP website@pmieasterniowa.org

Other Contacts

Chapter Monthly Program Registration **Program Registration** programregistration@pmieasterniowa.org

Chapter Training Registration Training Registration Online registration.

Chapter Website Administrator Contact Director of Website. Webmaster



12th Annual Cedar Rapids Professional Development Conference "ProCon 2009"

Growing Global Leaders

Tuesday, May 12, 2009

Marriott Hotel and Conference Center 1200 Collins Rd. NE, Cedar Rapids

SPONSORED BY The IEEE Cedar Rapids Section

SUPPORTED BY
Rockwell Collins, Alliant Energy,
Pearson and Premier Advisors

Leadership Track

Project Management Track

Presented by Debra Salz from Prevention Services & Strategies

Super Stars, Shooting Stars, and Falling Stars – Coaching and Mentoring for Today's Workplace

- Facilitate a discussion about the critical role coaching and mentoring have in your workplace; helping bring an employee from where they are to where they want and need to be.
- Identify the connections between a coaching and mentoring environment; resulting in increased performance and employee satisfaction.
- Identify characteristics and skill sets of an effective coach and mentor.
- Develop an Action Plan in which each participant can take away specific strategies to incorporate into their workplace, including their distributive team members.

High Performance Teams

- Define and determine what comprises an effective team.
- Explore and share characteristics of productive and effective teams.
- Determine advantages of working within a team environment – a strengths-based approach.
- Share essential questions to ask during team development, increasing its performance and productivity.
- Learn new strategies to build team motivation - applying them to your workplace environment.

Presented by Jamie Northrup from Triple Constraints

Proactive Project Risk Management

This course examines project risks from both a top-down and bottom-up perspective using a proven five-step risk management process. Participants will learn how to evaluate and respond to risk at the project and task levels using effective tools and a highly regarded assessment model. Included in the class are a number of real world exercises that take you from risk identification at the beginning of a project through the challenges of ongoing assessment of risks throughout the project. You will practice a proactive approach to risk management - based on a clear understanding of the powerful nature of both qualitative and quantitative approaches to risk management.

Lean Project Management

The goal of project management is the successful planning, execution, and delivery of projects. Organizations need to develop an effective project management system in order to facilitate this goal. A project management system is comprised of people, process, and technology. Lean project management helps understand conventional project delivery systems and augments them in the areas of people, process, and technology to deliver results, "in half the time, all the time.

IEEE ProCon 2009

12th Annual IEEE Cedar Rapids Section Professional Conference Growing Global Leaders! Tuesday May 12, 2009 Marriott Hotel 1200 Collins Road NE, Cedar Rapids

	Track 1	Track 2								
7:30-11:30	Super Stars, Shooting Stars, and Falling Stars – Coaching and Mentoring for Today's Workplace	Proactive Project Risk Management								
11:45	Lunch (included in registration fee)									
	Luncheon Speaker:	Premier Advisors								
12:00 - 12:45	Protecting Investments and Investing During Financially Unstable Times									
1:00 - 5:00	High Performance Teams	Lean Project Management								

Please circle the session you intend to participate in: *

Morning: Track 1 Track 2 Afternoon: Track 1 Track 2

*Note: You are free to switch between tracks in the morning and afternoon – this information is for planning purposes only

Register Online starting in February at www.ProCon2009.org/ or use this form!

REGISTRATION FORM

Please print information in capital letters as you wish it to appear in the conference list of attendees and on your badge.

Use a separate form for each registrant.

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