



Building professionalism in project management.™

Project Management Institute
Eastern Iowa Chapter

100's NUGGET

2010 Issue 5

May 2010

P.O. Box 1811
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**May
is when**



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**The grass always
looks greener on
the other side.**

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***Think what a better world
it would be if we all, the
whole world, had cookies
and milk about three
o'clock every afternoon and
then lay down on our blan-
kets for a nap.***

Barbara Jordan

Our Next Chapter Meeting - May 11th

The next PMI breakfast meeting will be held on **Tuesday May 11th, 2010** from **7:15 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. at the Clarion Hotels and Convention Center, 525, 33rd Avenue, Cedar Rapids SW.** The Clarion Hotel and Convention Center phone number is [\(319\) 366-8671](tel:3193668671).

PROGRAM: "Planning for Organizational Change", presented by Doug Williams, PMP

ABOUT THE PROGRAM:

Doug's presentation provides a deliberate focus on improving how project planning and delivery needs to be inclusive of the potential organizational impacts, positive or negative. This presentation provides an overview of several essential organizational change management planning concepts and ideas needed to successfully implement small to large levels of "people" change as part of a project. This presentation also accounts for important organizational change areas like communications, deployment, transition, training, and support. This presentation is a must for project managers who work within the information technology areas, as it helps them reconsider the just-build it approaches that often lead to project delivery resistance and rejection.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER:

Doug Williams, PMP is a Senior Consultant practicing organizational change management, project management, and general systems engineering. He has acquired over 20 years experience within varied industries like agri-business, electric utilities, financial services, insurance services, medical systems, non-profit support systems, systems service providers & consulting, state government, and telecommunications. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and is working to obtain a Masters of Science in Organizational Psychology. He is certified Project Management Professional (PMP).

Cost: Chapter Members, \$10; Guests, \$15

RSVP: Please confirm no later than **Thursday, May 6th**, to programregistration@pmieasterniowa.org; use MAY REGISTRATION in the subject line. Cancellations must be received by COB, Friday, May 7th to avoid being charged as a no-show for this chapter event.

Program Schedule:

7:15 - 7:30	Registration, breakfast, and networking
7:30 - 7:40	Ice Breaker theme – "Your last vacation"
7:40 - 7:50	Opening by Chapter President / Chapter Officers
7:50 - 8:40	Presentation / Discussion
8:40 - 9:00	Final announcements and wrap-up

Buffet Breakfast Menu (subject to change):

French toast w/ maple syrup and whipped butter
Golden scrambled eggs w/ cheddar cheese/ Fresh fruit
Regular / Decaf Coffee/ Hot Tea/ Fruit Juice



Feedback – It's a two way street!

Imagine fueling up your car at your preferred gas station. Chances are you are going to keep filling until it cuts off automatically or you'll fill it up until you reach your desired cash value. Well, that was the easy part. Now imagine that you had nothing inside your car to tell you how much fuel you have or have left after a few days. Do you risk making that long trip without the desired feedback of your fuel gauge on your dash board saying 3/4 or FULL? Or do you simply take a chance on going regardless? Let's make matters worse - say your speedometer broke? Do you feel lucky driving down the high street or the interstate without knowing how fast or slow you were really going? What do you use a gauge your speed now? The passing traffic, stationary trees, a bird, a cyclist? You get my point.

Truth is that as professionals we are always making sure that we get continuous feedback or metrics about what we do and where we are. It gives us a level of comfort to know just how far we have gone or, more importantly, how far we still need to go. The same analogy can be applied to our Chapter and its progress.

So, like a ritual, our Chapter Meetings always end with a request to all attendees to spare a few minutes at the end of meeting and give the leadership team your feedback. We are grateful for so many of you that take the time to complete this brief yet important exercise that is merely the beginning of a long self-examining process. A kind of Kaizen – for what we attempt is not anything ambitious, but marginal and continuous improvements.

We strive to keep working on this month after month so that you, the Membership, get what you are looking for. For instance, if the feedback on the speaker is positive and folks are looking for another session, we make sure that it happens. If there are complaints about the facility or food we try to make improvements there. We also use this mechanism to identify new speakers and topics that may be of interest to you. If there are folks who can sponsor the meetings, we try to reach out to them. On the whole, we found the process very valuable for making our chapter function better – so much so that we hold periodically adhoc surveys encompassing many more things of interest to our Membership. So please don't be surprised if you receive a request for a response for yet another survey before the year end.

Our Chapter has a Linked-in page, managed by the Outreach group, to facilitate networking among our members. Several of our members have taken advantage of this feature to network outside of Chapter meetings and discuss Project Management issues of common interest. Similarly, a Twitter feed has also been opened which we plan to use for sharing late breaking news, especially cancellation notices, etc. The Chapter website provides a useful interface to post your blogs or reply to one. As social networking tools are becoming more popular, it is no longer necessary to send email and wait until the next Chapter meeting for a response. Opinions and feedback can be collectively exchanged at much shorter intervals via these tools. Paradigm shift in the feedback loop – you bet it is!

As I benchmark our performance with what other Chapters are doing. I am pleased to say that, despite our small size, we are well above par. With your continued involvement things can only get better. So please keep up with your feedback – good, bad and indifferent.

PS – Do not drive with a broken speedometer – it may be illegal.

Bhaskar Pulikal, PMP®
President



Announcements

Jacquie Haltmeyer**New Director of Professional Development**

Suzanne Prymek, PMP®

Chapter members please welcome Jacquie Haltmeyer as our Director of Professional Development for the chapter. This is Jacquie's first volunteer assignment for the chapter.

Jacquie is currently a Senior Software Project Manager for Vangent. She has many years of experience working within engineering and performing project management.

Jacquie received her BA in Computer Science from the University of Northern Iowa. She received her PMP Certification in 2005, and would like to become networked within the PMI Eastern Iowa Chapter.

Congratulations Jacquie!

**There are still volunteer opportunities available within the chapter.
If you are interested or have questions, please contact a leadership member.**

Behram Kasad**New Director of Newsletter**

Tammy Sweat, PMP®

Chapter members please welcome Behram Kasad as our Director of Newsletter for the chapter. This is Behram's first official role for the chapter.

Behram is currently a Lead Business Analyst at ACT. Behram graduated with an Honors degree in Electrical and Electronics (Nottingham University, England) and earned his MBA in Strategy, Innovation, Information and Technology (Theseus/EDHEC, France). Behram has worked as a Program Manager in both the United Kingdom and in Cedar Rapids; in the public as well as the corporate sector.

Behram has been a member of our chapter since 2006. He also serves on the Board of Directors for another local nonprofit organization, the Professional and Technical Diversity Network (PTDN).

Welcome Behram, to our team!

News you can use

BEHIND THE SCENES

Tammy Sweat, PMP®

Three chapter members traveled to the Region 2 PMI Leadership meetings held in Madison Wisconsin. The chapter created a new advertising policy, and other policies are being revised. All PDD speakers have been secured. The chapter has gained two additional volunteers and the leadership has provided them the necessary passwords and training. The chapter's BOD met in person on the 19th and an all leadership conference call was held on the 13th. The chapter's 2009 taxes are being finalized.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Don't forget you can renew your PMI Membership online at www.pmi.org.

The PMI Eastern Iowa Chapter membership currently stands at **312**, with **168 PMP®s**, 8 new members, and 27 renewals.

Congratulations new PMPs: Jeff Clauson (Feb), Albert Jagnow, Kevin Kuznia, Lori Lasansky

Welcome new members: Raman Aravamudhan, Ramaanchar Technologies; Fred Garner, RD Harrell; Mitchell Klein, Rockwell Collins; Yelena Meier, John Deere; Dax Miller, The VGM Group; Jonathan Peters, John Deere; Wendi Winkie, Pearson; Marsha Wolff, Aegon

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.

DIRECTOR OF INDIVIDUAL OUTREACH AND UNIVERSITY OUTREACH VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Behram Kasad

The Chapter is seeking out a highly motivated members to fill recent openings for the two listed Director positions.

The Director of Individual Outreach serves as a liaison between the Board of Directors and targeted persons who have been identified as having the potential to benefit from learning and applying project management practices.

The Director of University Outreach serves as a liaison between the Board of Directors and targeted universities or colleges identified as having a project management curriculum relating to project management.

If interested, please contact the Director of Volunteers at volunteers@pmieasterniowa.org.



NEW IN 2010

PMI EASTERN IOWA CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Beginning in 2010, the PMI Eastern Iowa Chapter is providing an academic scholarship to be administered by the PMI Educational Foundation (PMIEF) **Scholarship and Awards Program**. PMIEF, a charitable nonprofit organization, supports development of the best and brightest future project management professionals worldwide by providing over 40 academic scholarships to college and university students studying project management and related fields.

The **PMI Eastern Iowa Scholarship Fund** is not only an excellent way to help a student realize their dreams through education, but it is also an opportunity for the chapter and its members to engage local academic institutions and to help promote the chapter's work as well as the project management profession. Also, the chapter has endowed the scholarship so that it will live on in perpetuity.

Applications are due by June 1, 2010

FINAL NOTICE

In order to be considered eligible for a scholarship, applicants must be enrolled in or applying for an accredited academic degree program in project management or a related field benefiting from project management with the following order of priority:

1. A child (or a step child) of a member of the PMI Eastern Iowa Chapter
2. A resident of the Iowa City/Cedar Rapids or Eastern Iowa area attending or planning to attend any accredited college or university
3. A resident of Iowa attending or planning to attend any accredited college or university
4. An individual attending or planning to attend an accredited degree program at a college or university in the tri-state area (Iowa, Missouri, Illinois) or
5. Any individual attending or planning to attend an accredited degree program at any college or university.



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The PMI Educational Foundation, a US 501(c) 3 non-profit organization, is registered in the US District of Columbia and all US states requiring charities to do so. Donations may be tax deductible. To view the financial disclosure statement, please visit www.pmief.org.

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Which PMI Credential is Right for me?

By Cornelius Fichtner, PMP®



The Project Management Institute (PMI)® offers 5 credentials in project management. Are you confused about which is the right one for you? Well, then here I am to help you find an answer.

PMI has a global presence with members in over 170 countries. It is the largest association dedicated to project management in the world. PMI is actively engaged in setting professional standards for project managers which helps them set themselves apart from the rest of the crowd. PMI credentials greatly enhance your employability.

PMI certifications give you the most sought after appreciation and visibility within your organization. It is an important investment for your career because the certificate may increase your job stability, expand your earning potential and provide a competitive stand in the job market.

To be eligible for any PMI credential, you must meet certain educational and project management experience requirements. They are different for each credential and are spelled out in detail in the Credential Handbooks. You'll find a link to each of the 5 handbooks on the PMI website www.pmi.org under "Career Development > About PMI's Credentials".

Go ahead... take a look at one or two of these handbooks. You will soon realize that there is one question that isn't answered in there. The question is "Where do I want to be in 5 years from today?" So instead of immediately reading up on the credentials you may first want to find out where your passion in project management lies, select the appropriate career path and *then* set your eyes on the appropriate credential.

Here is a PMI credential overview including highlights of the eligibility requirements. Please refer to the individual Credential Handbook for the complete requirements:

Certified Associate in Project Management (CAPM)®

If you are a junior project management practitioner and have demonstrated your skills as a project team member then the Certified Associate in Project Management (CAPM) is the best option. You will get the fundamental knowledge of processes and terminology that will help you effectively manage projects. For the CAPM certification all you need is a high school diploma and either 1,500 hrs of professional experience on a project team or 23 hours of project management training.

PMI Scheduling Professional (PMI-SP)®

If your role involves developing and working on the project schedule then PMI Scheduling Professional is appropriate for you. Your knowledge and expertise in developing and maintaining the project schedule will be enhanced with the PMI Scheduling Professional. If you hold a bachelor's degree then you will need a minimum of 3500 hrs of project scheduling. With high school diploma you will require a minimum of 5000 hrs of work experience in project scheduling.

(Continued on Page 7)

Which PMI Credential is Right for me? *(Continued from Page 6)*

PMI Risk Management Professional (PMI-RMP)®

If you demonstrate knowledge and skills in the risk management of a project then PMI Risk Management Professional (PMI-RMP) will suit you best. With a PMI-RMP credential you will develop an expertise in identifying project risks and in mitigating threats and capitalizing on the opportunities. If you have a bachelor's degree then you will need 3000 hrs of work experience in project risk management, but with a high school diploma 4500 hrs are mandatory.

Project Management Professional (PMP)®

If you perform your project management duties under general supervision, lead the team and direct all project tasks then you should go for the Project Management Professional (PMP) credential. You will develop an in-depth understanding and skills to lead and direct project teams to deliver results within the constraints of budget, time and scope. The certification requires 3 years of professional experience with at least 4500 hours spent leading and directing project tasks. With a high school diploma five years of professional experience is required with at least 7500 hours spent in leading and directing project tasks.

Currently, the [PMP Exam](#) is the most sought after project management credential in the world.

Program Management Professional (PgMP)®

Do you handle multiple projects directed towards a strategic business objective? Do you manage programs that contain complex activities that span functions, organizations, geographic regions and cultures? In that case the Program Management Professional (PgMP) is the credential that you should opt for. It will help you gain an insight of multiple projects aligned with organizational objectives.

The eligibility criteria for the PgMP credential is a bachelor's degree with 4 years of project and program management experience. If you hold a high school diploma then you will need four years of project management experience along with 7 years of program management experience.

PMI credentials often lead to career opportunities and advancement. You will be recognized as a competent professional in project management processes for which you will be deeply appreciated by your employers. PMI serves as an unbiased endorsement of your project management knowledge and experience at a global level.

Once you earn a PMI credential (other than CAPM), you also need to fulfill the requirements of the Continuing Certification Requirements (CCR) program. You need to participate in professional development activities on a regular basis to adhere to the CCR program.

So, go ahead and become a certified CAPM, PMI-RMP, PMI-SP, PMP or PgMP. It is a step ahead towards enhancing your career and increasing your professional growth. Put yourself in the limelight and maximize your earning potential without any further delay!

About the author: Cornelius Fichtner, PMP is a noted PMP expert. He has helped over 9,000 students prepare for the PMP Exam with *The Project Management PrepCast* at <http://www.pm-prepcast.com>.

You've Got It – Now Don't Lose It!

Carol Schermann PMP®

This article is the first in a series to review each category of Professional Development Units (PDUs) available to maintain your PMP credential. To learn more about maintaining your credential, go to the Career Development section of PMI.org where you'll find FAQs, a video and much more!

Category 1: Formal Academic Education

PDUs may be earned by completing an academic course after attaining a PMI credential. Courses must be offered for degree credit and be related to project and/or program management.

Examples/Resources:

- GAC-accredited schools are a great place to start. The PMI Global Accreditation Center for Project Management Education Programs (GAC) is a specialized accrediting body that accredits degree programs at the bachelors, masters, and doctorate levels in the field of project management that are offered within accredited institutions of higher education worldwide
- Listing of GAC-accredited schools on the PMI Site: <http://www.pmi.org/CareerDevelopment/Pages/NA.aspx>
- While GAC-accredited schools may not be located nearby to allow for physical classroom attendance, some may offer online degree programs so be sure to check into all your options
- The University of Wisconsin-Platteville, one of the sponsors of our annual Professional Development Day (PDD), offers a Master of Science in Project Management (MSPM) Degree via their Distance Education program. To learn more, go to:
<http://www.uwplatt.edu/disted/project-management.html>.

To learn more about PMI's Continuing Certification Requirements (CCR) Program, please refer to the PMP Handbook. And be sure to login to the CCRS at www.pmi.org to view your personal transcript, submit activities, find providers, and learn more about PDUs.

Calculating PDUs:

- One hour of degree credit in a typical 15-week semester earns 15 PDUs.
- One quarter semester hour (10 weeks) earns 10 PDUs.
- When only a portion of a course relates to project and/or program management, PDUs are calculated on a percentage of the overall curriculum focused on project and/or program management.
- PMI suggests speaking with your college/university to ensure the number of PDUs logged is accurate

Logistics:

- There is no maximum number of PDUs earned in this category
- Each course must be submitted on a separate CCR Activity Reporting Form. PMI does not recognize entire degree programs for PDU credits, only individual courses.




Eastern Iowa Members sharing “a vacation” ice breaker and enjoying breakfast before the April 2010 Chapter meeting.

April Meeting—Ken Bozer, The Doors!

“Decision Making and Critical Thinking Skills” by Jamie Ward.

Jamie Ward presented "Decision Making and Critical Thinking Skills" for the April Chapter meeting. Jamie provided insights to logical thinking, or rather, how humans are programmed with their neurons and learned behaviors so that some critical thinking may not be able to take place. The Chapter thanks Mr. Ward for presenting at the April meeting.

Chapter Meetings Schedule (subject to change)

	Date and Time	Location	Topic and Presenter
	May 11, 2010	Clarion Hotel & Convention Center, 525 33rd Ave SW, Cedar Rapids	“Planning for Organizational Change” by Doug Williams, PMP®
	June 17, 2010 *(see Note below)	Clarion Hotel & Convention Center, 525 33rd Ave SW, Cedar Rapids	“Leading The Way... Bringing the power of project management to people and communities throughout the world!” presented by Lewis M. Gedansky, PhD, Executive Director, PMI Educational Foundation
	July 13, 2010	Clarion Hotel & Convention Center, 525 33rd Ave SW, Cedar Rapids	Making the Transition: Navigating the Shift from Individual Contributor to Manager presented by Tim Sieck, Principal partner Skywalk Group.

***Note—**The June meeting will not take place on the 2nd Tuesday, Mr Gedansky is travelling to Des Moines, Iowa week of June 14th and will join us as a Speaker on the Thursday of that week.



Pete Rainbow (Schneider Electric) enjoying the break-fast and a chat at the April 2010 Chapter meeting



Jamie Ward PMP® sharing his message on “Decision Making and Critical Thinking” at the April 2010 Chapter meeting.

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	PDU's	Location	Title
May 6 & 13	1161-TN060100	7	Web workshop at your desk	Working Smart with Microsoft Outlook
Jun 15 & 22	1161-TN060100	7	Web workshop at your desk	Working Smart with Microsoft Outlook
Aug 5 & 12	1161-TN060100	7	Web workshop at your desk	Working Smart with Microsoft Outlook
Sep 21 & 28	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. Visit www.newhorizonscr.com, email events.cedarrapids@newhorizons.com, or call 319-294-9035.

Date	PDU's	Location	Title
05/11	7	New Horizons	Microsoft Project 2007 – L1
05/24	14	New Horizons	Schedule and Cost Control
05/27	21	New Horizons	Microsoft Project 2007 – L2
06/18	7	New Horizons	Microsoft Project 2007 – L1
06/22	21	New Horizons	Leadership for Project Managers

St. Ambrose University Professional Development (subject to change)

St. Ambrose University's Professional Development Center has partnered with The Lewis Institute to provide several Project Management training programs and a Professional Certificate in Project Management track in 2010. Each program is three-days in length and costs \$1,395, which includes seminar materials, networking luncheons, and professional development units (PDUs). Online registration is available at http://web.sau.edu/cps/pd/registration_pm.php. For more information, contact Jennifer Prinz at 563-441-9950 or by e-mail at PrinzJenniferL@sau.edu.

Dates	Title
May 4—6	eXtreme Project Management

Secrets of Success in Project Management, June 9-10, 2010 University of Wisconsin-Platteville

- *Learn real-world tools and techniques for increasing your project success rate!*
- *Earn up to 32 PDUs*
- *Earn 3 UWP graduate credits in project management*

The University of Wisconsin-Platteville will be hosting the SECRETS OF SUCCESS IN PROJECT MANAGEMENT conference on June 9 and 10. The conference will be preceded by a two-day PgMP® Bootcamp facilitated by Dr. Ginger Levin, PgMP, PMP and Certified OPM3 Assessor.

There will also be two post-conference seminars, "Real-World Project Management Essentials" facilitated by Andy Kaufman, President of Institute for Leadership Excellence & Development, and "MS Project Workshop" facilitated by Wendy Brooke, Professor, UWP.

The conference will highlight many of today's leading edge practitioners, including the widely recognized project management faculty from UWP. These experts will talk about new tools and techniques used to help achieve project success. They will also describe real life examples of how projects went astray and the acquired skills used to save those projects. The UWP is an accredited university best known for its expertise in technical disciplines, located in the tranquil rolling hills of Southwest Wisconsin. UWP has over 150 years of experience in engineering education and over 30 years experience in distance education. The Master of Science in Project Management has attained Global Accreditation from PMI®, the highest level of accreditation offered in this discipline.



Conference Pricing

Registration (04/17/2010 – 06/04/2010): \$450
 UWP student/alumni (before 06/04/2010): \$350
 On-site registration: \$525
 Pre-conference PgMP Bootcamp (includes lunch and instruction manual): \$895
 Post-conference MS Project Workshop (includes manual): \$125
 Post-conference Real-World Project Management Essentials (includes manual): \$125

Conference includes continental breakfasts, lunches, refreshments, hor d'oeuvres.

Information and Registration

For detailed information or to register for this event, visit the UWP Web site at:

<http://www.uwplatt.edu/disted/training/pmc.html>

The detailed conference Agenda can be found at the following link:

<http://www.uwplatt.edu/disted/training/pmc-schedule.html>

Starting Your Project Management Career

Josh Nankivel, BSc PM, PMP

Getting started in project management can be tough. When starting out, there are many questions and challenges to face, and they are different based on your particular background and situation.

People who struggle with this come from various backgrounds:

Project Newbies - You might be a recent graduate or switching careers. If you have no experience whatsoever with working on or managing projects, it can seem almost impossible to get your foot in the door.

Technical Gurus – You have been on project teams and been “in the trenches” getting things done. Now it seems that managing these projects is your calling, but you have to go through a paradigm shift and learn new skills to make the transition.

People Managers – You have been managing people and are good at it. Now you want to expand your horizons and switch from the day-to-day management of functional teams to the dynamic environment of delivering unique projects.

You might be trying to break into project management, or you may be an “Accidental Project Manager” who looked up one day and asked, “What have I gotten myself into?” A project fell in your lap somehow. How do you get good at managing it, now that it is a thorn in your side great opportunity in your life?

The questions I get most from these groups center around expanding knowledge, gaining experience, and planning your career path. Answers change based on individual circumstances. Your personality attributes and background play heavily into the path forward.

Hard and Soft Skills

Natural aptitudes vary from person to person, but you can acquire a level of competency for nearly all project management skills through education and experience.

Hard Skills refer to competency with the tools and techniques of formal project management. If you are analytical by nature, hard skills are relatively easy for you to acquire and master.

Soft Skills or “people skills” include competency in communication and relationships with other people. Outgoing “people persons” have a natural aptitude to be comfortable in this arena, but can also engage in many ineffective approaches when lacking in knowledge and experience. Do not confuse personal attributes with soft skills. I cannot influence personal attributes and aptitudes, but I can teach soft skills.

Building Knowledge

Regardless of which group you belong to, you will need to expand your knowledge base.

Technical Gurus will likely pick up the hard skills quickly, but many of the soft skills practices of managing people effectively and politics may be somewhat new. People Managers will find soft skill nuances in project environments and many of the hard skills will be new territory. Project Newbies may be familiar with some of the theories in project management, but are going to need a lot of real-world knowledge, experience, and coaching to land that first job and formulate their project manager career path.

(Continues on Page 13)

Starting Your Project Management Career *(continued from Page 12)*

Some great sources of real-world project management education include:

Blogs/Podcasts – Use sites like <http://blogsearch.google.com> to find them

- **Books** – Focus on the basics first, follow the cutting edge later

Join PM Organizations – [Local PMI Chapters](#) are a great example

Training – Focus on gaining useful knowledge, certifications come later!

Finding a Mentor and Gaining Experience

A mentor is a huge boon to you if you can find one. You can find mentors by networking locally or online, but be sure you [approach them in the right way](#) and offer benefit to them in exchange for their wisdom. Your goal should be to offer valuable assistance to potential mentors, with the hope (but not expectation) they will reciprocate by sharing their lessons learned.

Do not just ask to “shadow” them. What value are you offering them? Ask if there are tasks (mundane as they may be) that you could do for them, to free their time up. If you are a project team member, ask if you can help compile the status report or take meeting minutes during project meetings.

Donate your time; this is in addition to your current responsibilities. Whether volunteering for another organization or within your own company, this is a great way to gain experience. Within your own organization you should let it be known you are interested in project management; not just through words but by your daily actions.

What You Need To Grow

Is the organization you work for now a good environment for your desired career path?

Does your company make money by delivering successful projects, and/or do they respect Project Management as a formal discipline worth investing in? If so, you will likely see opportunities for entry-level positions in project management that provide specialization such as:

- Project Controller
- Project Coordinator
- Project Assistant
- Project Analyst
- Project Scheduler
- Junior Project Manager

Assistant Project Manager

Other organizations may have a progression of technical or management roles through which you can pass and eventually start managing your own projects. Whatever your situation, put yourself into the best environment possible, and plan out your career path ahead of time so you have a roadmap with goals to follow.

Oh, and when you get there, be a mentor for someone else!

UW-Platteville to Host Program Management Boot Camp

Ian Clark, UWP Distance Learning Center, (608) 342-1468, clarki@uwplatt.edu

The Program Management Professional (PgMP) credential defines the global standard of best practices for people who coordinate interdependent projects.

Monday and Tuesday, June 7 and 8, Ginger Levin, PgMP, PMP, will host a two-day boot camp at the UW-Platteville campus for those interested in attaining the PgMP certification. Levin's workshop, a pre-conference session in conjunction with the Secrets of Success in Project Management Conference, will teach attendees to effectively navigate the program management discipline and prepare for the PgMP certification exam.

"People enjoy the opportunity to interact with others who are taking the exam and to be able to ask questions of an instructor," says Levin. "The boot camp points out study areas that require greater concentration and presents a study plan one can follow afterwards."

The PgMP certification is generally considered to be the most challenging credential to earn from the Project Management Institute. Candidates must pass a rigorous exam, as well as audits and 360 degree ratings from a PgMP panel, sponsors, direct reports, and peers to assess actual program management experience.

"More and more organizations are recognizing the value of this credential which is becoming a requirement to apply for more senior level positions in project management," added Levin.

To learn more about the PgMP Boot Camp, go online at <http://www.uwplatt.edu/disted/training> to view the conference brochure, which details the boot camp and other conference events.

Contact:

Ron Bonlender, Outreach Program Manager, UWP Distance Learning Center, (608) 342-1468, bonlenderr@uwplatt.edu



PMI - Eastern Iowa Chapter Contacts

2010 Board of Directors

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