

PMI WA-Chapter Newsletter

October 2008

Volume 2008, October Issue

Keeping Your Head About You ...

Dear Members,

As I will be completing my two-year term on 31st Oct 2008, this is my last newsletter address to you. It's been a pleasure to let you know what we are up to each month. As a Chapter, we have grown in much more ways than just numbers. Our increased numbers of people turning up at Chapter events represents an increase in value these events provide. The high levels of support between Members through networking is another.

There are many new faces to the Chapter which is encouraging as it means there are less 'incidental project managers' out there, struggling with a role in a profession with little or no support. If you know such souls, please tap them on the shoulder and point them our way.

There are also many links and sources of support, such as education providers, on our website for them to peruse through.

On Oct 8th 2008, we will have our Annual General Meeting. It's important for financial members to attend as we go through the Annual Report. This is your opportunity to see and hear, in summary, the Chapter activities for the year since the last AGM. We also introduce the new Board members, Secretary, and President. A PM Truism applies here "what you don't know hurts you".

As we head into volatile and unknown financial times, your abilities and skills in your PM profession will be tested more than ever before. You will need to continually educate yourself and to seek

alternative ways of managing in order to succeed. Hearing it from others that have succeeded in the past will help you to not go through the same bad experiences. You cannot hope to keep performing at your peak without refilling your own knowledge buckets. Watch the financial markets closely as it most probably affects your projects. Remember: "If you can keep your head while all about you are losing theirs, you haven't understood the problem."

Thank-you for your continued attention to our Chapter newsletter. We will continually improve the content. If you would like to submit a feature for the newsletter, please contact the Editor. Ciao' from me for now.

Steve Meintjes, PMP
President, PMI WA-Chapter

Special Point of Interest!!

Projects-in-Action Program 2008

"Building Quality into PM Processes" will be held on Thursday, 16th of October, 2008.

The workshop will be facilitated by Jane Tempest.

For further information, please go to <http://www.wapmi.org.au/education/crs7.php>

Dr Eben Sholarin, PMP
Education Director

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Annual General Meeting – Wed 8-October

This month's Chapter meeting is special – it incorporates our Annual General Meeting (AGM).

The AGM will be held immediately before the monthly WA Chapter Meeting.

This is your primary opportunity, as a paid-up financial member, to exercise your voting rights, to hear about the Chapter's successes in 2007/8, and to have a direct say in the management of your Chapter.

The agenda for this month's meeting is:

- Opening of Meeting and Welcome (Steve Meintjes, President)
- Apologies

- Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held on Wed 10th October 2007

- Business arising from the previous Minutes

- President's Report

- Adoption of the Financial Report

- Election: Executive Directors
 - President
 - Secretary

- Announcement of Executive Director appointments

- Election of Non-executive Directors
 - Education Director
 - Events Director
 - Membership Director

- This month's Chapter Meeting Presentation

- Announcement of Non-executive Director appointments

- General Business

- Close of Meeting

This is an important event and I look forward to seeing you for our 6-PM (sharp) start.

Nigel Rarp, PMP
PMI WA-Chapter Secretary



eMentoring – Building the Relationship

In this five-part series, Michelle has shared with us:

In the June Newsletter, what mentoring is and what the eMentoring Program is.

In the August Newsletter, how you can get involved.

In the September Newsletter, what support there is for you as a Mentor.

In this October Newsletter, how to build the mentor-mentee relationship.

Be sure to look for the November Newsletter, where Michelle shares with us what she feels she has gained/ learned (expected and unexpected) from being a mentor.

If you have a piece of advice, some experience you have had, or some knowledge you think would benefit your fellow Project Management Community Members, why not get in touch with me, the Communications Director, and we can work out an approach to get your message out.

Your fellow Members and I thank-you, in advance, for your generosity and support. (Ed.)

Phases	Dimensions	Key Points
Early	Relationship	Trust
Middle	Information	Advise
Later	Facilitative Confrontive	Alternatives Challenge
Final	Mentor Model Mentee Vision	Motivation Initiative

The Adult Mentoring Model™ by Dr. Norman H. Cohen

Statement of Understanding. The Statement of Understanding (SOU) is a document designed to capture, in writing, the agreements and commitments made between the mentor and mentee.

The eMP Coach will provide both parties with a copy of the SOU along with guidance on its proper execution.

Communications between Mentors and Mentees.

The mentoring process is a partnership in which both mentor and mentee freely contribute toward the development and nourishment of each other.

All information exchanged between mentor and mentee should remain confidential at all times.

- Be sensitive to the cultural background of your mentor or mentee.;
- In an effective mentoring relationship, both the mentee and mentor contribute open, honest, and continuous feedback. Sometimes, this may be uncomfortable. However, it helps both the mentee and mentor develop and grow both professionally and personally;
- Mentoring pairs who maintain regular agreed contact have a greater chance of fulfilling established objectives. Respond briefly to a message from your mentor or mentee if you do not have the time to offer a full response letting her/him know you will be in contact when you have the opportunity.;
- Do advise each other of your planned absence and unavailability in checking email.

Getting Started – Building an Effective Mentoring Relationship. In your initial meeting, your objectives are to establish basic expectations

and ground rules that will support you throughout the mentoring session.

To establish an open and trusting relationship you also want to be very honest about any reservations that you may have about the mentoring process.

Conducting the Relationship. Here are some of the ground rules you should keep in mind throughout the mentoring term.

- Communicate your accessibility to your mentoring partner;
- Make meeting with your partner and your eMentoring Program Coach a priority.;
- Be prepared for each meeting, and follow through on commitments and assignments;
- Review and update your Statement of Understanding frequently;
- Be open and receptive to different styles and different perspectives and leverage them; and,
- Actively seek networking opportunities.

What if you need help? •

If you don't "click" with your mentor/mentee, ask yourself the following questions:

- Have you given the relationship enough time?
- Have you given the relationship enough attention?

• Relationships are complex and may take months to become solid and stable.

• If you don't feel that you should spend more time developing the relationship, you can exercise a "No Fault" separation by contacting the eMentoring Program Manager and your mentoring partner, then move on and try again.

Michelle Matthews
PMI Member

PMI-sponsored Survey on Earned Value Management (EVM)



Your participation in this survey is critical to advance knowledge in Earned Value Management (EVM) and to improve its practice. As the first study on understanding EVM practice from a global and cross-industry perspective, opinions from practitioners representing different countries and industries are crucial to achieving a thorough and unbiased view on EVM practices.

You can review the survey online at:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=yyq_2b28XBkTNjia6_2bNsHWLg_3d_3d

The objective of this survey is to develop a clear understanding of the current EVM practice and future trends in *different countries and industry sectors*.

I'm the principal investigator of this project and I am an Assistant Professor at the University of Houston, Texas. **At PMI, Mr. Chris Stevens and Ms. Jean Martin are my project liaisons.**

For more information about this study and the research team, please visit:

<http://www.tech.uh.edu/evm>

Thank -you in advance for your assistance and look forward to hearing back from you soon! Please let me know if you have any question about this study.

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**Towards us
adopting,
for Australia,
PMI Global's
"Chapter and
Branch" Model**

PMI Australia – The Journey to Becoming a National Entity

Todd Hutchison, Chair of the Australian PMI Council (APC), addressed all Australian PMI Members in his preliminary notice (May 2008) of the willingness of all Australian PMI Chapters to investigate the set-up of a national PMI Australia Chapter. The APC is the Australian Chapter's peak body and consists of the Australian PMI Chapter Presidents.

Your Board, and the APC, are now investigating the potential to move towards creating a national Australian PMI Chapter in more detail. The

options for the structure of this body are in the process of being appraised, with the most logical being the creation of a National Chapter with the existing Australia PMI State Chapters becoming Australia PMI Branches; that is, we would adopt the "Chapter and Branch" Model, which is one of the governance models sanctioned and endorsed by PMI Global.

Your Board is committed to making this a **transparent and inclusive process** with **full engagement and consultation with you, our Mem-**

bers. A Project Team has been formed and the Charter has been approved so that a Feasibility Study and Business Plan can commence.

For advantages of this strategic move and further information, please visit:

www.wapmi.org.au

'home' page and look under the heading 'News Update' for "PMI Australia – The Journey to Becoming a National Entity"

Steve Meintjes, PMP
PMI WA-Chapter President

"I'm putting up my hand up to get involved with this project and really think that if there's any chance of getting it finished on time, we better get started now"

New Resource: PM-Now

In the pursuit of professional knowledge and best practice, coupled with the enthusiasm gained at a recent PM conference, we have taken upon ourselves to act and create the site PM-Now. PM-Now is a free, collaboration / knowledge base website open to all, affiliated to no particular organisation, that allows PM's to communicate about issues that mean something to them.

To help encourage discussion, the site initially started with "Let's Talk" which included a Blog section for discussing the

PM-Oz Conference 2008 and all the presentations at this Conference. To this end, the concept is currently being expanded to include discussion forums for each area of interest that affect PM's and the way they conduct business, e.g. Cost Control, Procurement, Scope, PMO's, HR, Portfolio Management etc.

So as to make the knowledge base whole, the site is still missing a very important component; that is, presentations and final papers about

subjects of interest. PM-Now would like to be able to provide these to the PM Community and are seeking papers and presentations with the author's approval. If authors would like to be a part of this and submit papers for publication on the site, please email PM-Now.

It's early days yet, but everything needs to start somewhere. Please be one of the first to visit the website.

Mike Manley
www.pm-now.com.au

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The Western Australia Chapter of the Project Management Institute (PMI®) was established in December 2001 as a not-for-profit Australian organisation.

PMI is the largest international professional organisation for the project management profession and is well known for its international defacto standard publication called the "Guide to the Project Management Body of Knowledge" (PMBOK®).

The WA Chapter's vision is "To be the leader in promoting Project Management best practice, professional development, and standards in Western Australia."

www.wapmi.org.au

Member contributions welcome.

Please contact the Editor at: communications@wapmi.org.au

Errors and omissions to communications@wapmi.org.au

Herman Veltkamp, PMP
Communications Director

Building professionalism in project management.™

Project Management Institute

RECOVERING TROUBLED PROJECTS

Rescuing your Project from the Fire

Do you have a 'troubled project', are you constantly fighting fires in your project??

This 2-day course is designed for experienced project managers who are responsible for recovering out of control projects.

You will learn techniques on how to recover these projects and to understand the early warning indicators.

This course is designed for experienced project managers who are or have been responsible for recovering out of control projects.

Learn techniques to recover existing projects and to understand the early warning indicators that a project is heading in the wrong direction.

There are only 20 seats available for this relevant and unique content, so don't miss your chance!

Earn 14 PDUs!

Tuesday 28th to Wednesday 29th October 2008
- Registration 08.00-AM
Venue: Technology Park Function Centre, Bentley

Join this interactive 2-day course with Bob McGannon of Mindavation and learn how to:

Quickly assess the overall health and status of your project

Find and evaluate buy-in from your team and stakeholders

Examine critical paths and victory paths

Revitalise the Project

Plan for communication and communicate the plan

Reassess the team's skills

Keep the project on track

Ensure the project stays out of trouble

Develop your own evaluation checklist

PMBOK® areas covered: Communications Management, Human Resource Management, Integration Management, Quality Management, Scope Management, and Time Management

Mindavation courses are highly interactive with challenging case studies and lectures filled with real life work scenarios.

Participants will team together to apply techniques learnt from the lectures.

All Mindavation instructors are PMI® certified and each have over 10 years of project management experience in multiple industries.

For more details on "Recovering Troubled Projects," please visit www.redhorizonevents.com.au

Jan Bryson, PMP
Events Director

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ISACA
Serving IT Governance Professionals
Perth Chapter