

PMI WA-Chapter Newsletter

February 2009

Volume 2009, February Issue

PMI WA-Chapter, President's Message

Dear Members,

As we begin a new calendar year, so to does a new Board take office. I welcome and congratulate three new Directors:

Chris Rowlands
(Membership Director);

Colin Alchin
(Events Director); and,

Clinton In't Veld
(Education Director).

Congratulations are also in order for Graham Colborne and Jan Bryson who are taking up new positions on the Board Executive as Vice-President and Board Secretary respectively.

The full list of Board Members and their offices appears below.

I suspect that 2009 will be an exciting year for all of us in the WA Chapter.

Membership continues to grow, and is likely to continue to do so, given the obvious commitment and enthusiasm of the new Board and the flow of new ideas and initiatives I hear from them.

The enthusiasm of our younger members on the Board combined with the experience and knowledge of others should produce outcomes that strengthen the Chapter, ensuring that we continue to provide value to you the members, especially in these difficult economic times.

Those of you who attended the November Chapter meeting will remember Ron Gibson's comments about the

need to cultivate your networks and maintain the currency of your skills, especially when the job market tightens.

The Chapter provides plenty of opportunity to do just that, and I encourage you to take advantage of those opportunities by attending our regular events and enrolling in education and training seminars and courses such as the Projects In Action (PIA) workshops, PMEd education seminars, and PMP prep training.

Watch out for more details, here and on our website.

Nigel Rarp, PMP
President, PMI WA-Chapter



Your Board for 2009

Following the election of officers at the Chapter meeting in November, your Board for 2009 became operational on 1st January. Members are:

| Position | Name | email | Term ends |
|----------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| President | Nigel Rarp, PMP | president@wapmi.org.au | Oct 2010 |
| Vice President | Graham Colborne, PMP | vicepresident@wapmi.org.au | Oct 2009 |
| Finance | Greg Gelfi, PMP | finance@wapmi.org.au | Oct 2009 |
| Secretary | Jan Bryson, PMP | secretary@wapmi.org.au | Oct 2010 |
| Certification | Nenad Susic, CAPM | certification@wapmi.org.au | Oct 2009 |
| Communications | Herman Veltkamp, PMP | communications@wapmi.org.au | Oct 2009 |
| Education | Clinton in't Veld, PMP | education@wapmi.org.au | Oct 2010 |
| Events | Colin Alchin, PMP | events@wapmi.org.au | Oct 2010 |
| Marketing | Alden Lee, PMP | marketing@wapmi.org.au | Oct 2009 |
| Membership | Chris Rowlands, PMP | membership@wapmi.org.au | Oct 2010 |

From the Desk of the Certification Director

2009 Exam Dates for Western Australia

In It is with great pleasure that I am writing to you for the first time since taking up the post of the Certifications Director mid last year. My first six months in the role has been quite busy with coordination of the September exam preparation course as well as transitioning from the role of a Certifications Portfolio volunteer to Certifications Director. I must make you aware that I would not have been able to achieve this transition without the unre-served support from the entire Board. Thus, I must extend my most sincerest appreciation and gratitude to my colleagues for their help. Fully settled and with the festive season behind us, I have had some time to con-

sider the way ahead for the Certifications portfolio of your Chapter. Without getting into too much detail in my initial address, my aim this year is to further both consolidate and improve my portfolio for your benefit. I will be able to provide more specific information about this following the Chapter Strategic Planning Day in early March. However, irrespective of the outcomes of the Strategic Planning Day, my intention is to provide an opportunity for you, the members of our Chapter, to actively participate in getting the most out of the Certifications Portfolio. Whether this be through you expressing your ideas, thoughts and concerns, or taking a more proactive role

and volunteering your time to the Portfolio, one thing is certain: involving the membership in my decision making for this year is very high on my list of priorities.

The dates and locations of the 2009 paper-based testing sessions in Perth:

March 21, 2009
June 20, 2009
September 19, 2009
December 12, 2009

Location:

Clifton's, Ground Floor, Parmelia House, 191 St. George's Terrace, Perth, WA

Enad Susic CAPM
Certifications Director
PMI WA-Chapter

Mark your Calendar!

PMOZ,
August 2009,

Canberra, ACT

PMOZ—Call for Papers

All Chapter Members should have received advance notice of the PMI National Conference PMOZ, being held in Canberra in August 2009.

The conference is being organised in conjunction with PMGlobal, and co-locating with the Improving Systems and Software Engineering Conference.

MPMOZ is the leading Project Management Conference in Australia and offers a range of dynamic and exciting presentations encompassing all aspects of "creating success" from the high level concepts of translating strategy into action through the tools and techniques employed at the coalface to make individual projects a success.

The call for papers is now open, and the **Web Hot Special Registration** has been extended to 13th February.

You'll find a link to the conference website from the WA Chapter Events page, or go directly to www.pmoz.com.au.

Nigel Rarp, PMP
President, WA-Chapter

Members Corner

CALL TO

MEMBERS

Share your Project Management questions, advice, or perspectives to benefit the PMI WA-

Members Corner

Please contact the PMI WA-Chapter Communications Director to have your piece, article, question, or other material considered for publication in an upcoming newsletter.

Update: Paper-Based Testing Issues (Nov 2008)

Those of you who sat the paper based examination run by Prometric in Perth last November will be aware that there were problem relating to a change in venue.

Complaints were lodged with PMI from both individual candidates as well as the Chapter Board. As a result, PMI investigated the problem and have reported back to candidates, apologising for the problems and inconvenience.

Below is an extract of their findings:

1. PMI's and Prometric's

primary goal is to ensure the candidates satisfactory testing for all our candidates as we completely understand the investment that goes into preparing for an exam and we do our best to make the testing experience as positive and comfortable as possible.

2. We completed our investigation and it has been determined the reason the site location had to be moved at the last minute was due to capacity issues. It was determined that the original site location was not large enough to accommodate the candidates and the decision was made to move the location

into a large room at the Clifton's. Staff were supposed to be on hand to direct candidates to the new room as well as sign directing candidates to the new room.

3. Unfortunately the last minute site change and miscommunication with regards to the site location change caused unnecessary frustration for candidates and PMI does not find this acceptable. PMI is re-evaluating their policy and procedures regarding the paper-based testing to ensure that the does not occur in the future.

PMI Professional Awards

PMI honours professional excellence through the Professional Awards program. Each year, we recognise individuals, organisations, professional development products, and literature through the:

PMI Project of the Year Award,

PMI Distinguished Project Award,

PMI Fellow Award,

PMI Research Achievement Award,

PMI David I. Cleland Project Management Literature Award

and our own PMI Australian Awards.

For the 2009 Awards, now we are open to nomination for the awards.

It is time for you and your colleagues to be recognised for what you have achieved last year. So get your thinking hats on and see who in the Chapter or your project or

organisation deserves to be nominated.

They don't have to be a member of the Chapter - they could be a local PMI member doing lots for PMI globally. Although some Awards are restricted to PMI members, others Awards are open to everyone.

If you'd like more information on any of the awards, please contact the President, Nigel Rarp at president@wapmi.org.au, or PMI at awards@pmi.org.

Project Management Awards

Have your say in our Strategic Plan !!

Which of the following are of interest to you?

What would you like to see the Chapter do in 2009?

What can the PMI WA-Chapter do to increase its value to you as a member?

Would you like to see additional services?

Or, are there services we should drop?

If any of those are of interest to you, or if you have something that is important to you that the PMI WA-Chapter can help/assist you with, now is your opportunity to influence our plans.

The Board's annual Strategic Planning Day will be held on Saturday 7th March.

So if you have any thoughts or suggestions that you'd like the Board to consider, please contact any of the Board members in advance of Friday, 6th March, 2009.

Help make the next WA-Chapter Strategic Plan something that is relevant, current, and valid to you!!

Project Management
Institute,

**Western
Australia
Chapter,**

PO Box 587,
Leederville, WA, 6903
A U S T R A L I A



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

Building professionalism in project management.™

Project Management Institute

Surviving the Global Economic Downturn as a Project Manager!

Another new year, and another new year's resolution goes by the wayside.

Having made a misguided attempt to minimise the amount of media (in this case, the news bulletins) that is viewed in my household – I've succumbed to a veritable daily feast of 'doom and gloom' headlines.

The media would have us believe that the world is headed for a global depression, yet only six months ago were predicting a boom to last another 5- to 10-years.

Only time will tell how history will unfold.

However, most project managers will probably have projects that are being negatively impacted (either directly or indirectly) in the current challenging business environment.

What can we do as project managers do to weather this storm?

Without preaching to the converted, project management is an ideal discipline for organisations to leverage in weathering business challenges.

Does your organisation and senior management understand the true value of project management?

Does your organisation have a project or programme office that is struggling to 'educate' the management about the real benefits of project management?

Would you like to help your colleagues understand why project management can help your business, and in doing so, help yourself and your projects?

The PMI WA chapter is currently considering an 'outreach' program to engage with organisations to promote project management, and the importance of skilled and accredited staff in pursuing business objectives in challenging economic times.

If you know of any organisation, whether it be your own another, that may benefit from such a program, please contact myself at marketing@wapmi.org.au.

Alden Lee, PMP
Director, Marketing
PMI WA-Chapter