

Thursday, 06 February 2014

Welcome to the Pittsburgh Chapter

Greetings fellow PMI Members,

February is already here and it's a feature packed month for us.

Strategic Plan Review

We enjoyed an engaging Strategic Planning session in January, with Board members and other volunteers coming together to identify opportunities for progress.

Some of the key assets or services we identified as most valuable to you, and that we do well include:

- Education, PDUs, and credential support
- Engaging and informative chapter meetings
- Networking opportunities
- Volunteer opportunities and leadership development

We will continue to enhance and support these valuable chapter services.

Some areas we believe we can improve or grow include:

- Raising visibility in members' organizations of the link between good project management and strategic results – developing a “pull” for good project management from senior managers.
- Developing mentoring and peer support, for members to mature and develop in their professional roles
- Helping connect members with career and other professional opportunities

We will keep you informed regarding our goals and results as we go, and we look forward to your feedback. Please let us know how we're doing, and what suggestions you have to make your PMI Pittsburgh chapter membership more valuable to you.

Lucky Hearts Gala

Many of us looked forward to reviving a signature gala event for the Pittsburgh chapter, to bring our community of practitioners together and sponsor the development of the profession. However after review and deliberation, we have canceled the Lucky Hearts

Gala. Thank you to the students and other volunteers who exerted significant effort and hopefully learned a few real-world tricks for project and event management. We will continue to look for ways to put on great events for you, such as the upcoming our Take Me Out to the Ballgame event in May.

February and beyond

As I mentioned at the start, we have a lot of great things happening in February. The Agile discussion continues for our chapter meeting (free this month for students), PMP Prep training starts on the 22nd, Lee Lambert is holding a “Stakeholder Management” workshop, we have sold-out our first “Coffee Talk” event for the early-birds, and we have a number of volunteer opportunities. Please review the rest of the newsletter for details, and I look forward to seeing you at our chapter meeting.

Cheers,
Matt Craig
Chapter President

Meetings

2014 February Chapter Presentation

When: Thursday, February 13, 2014, 6:00PM - 8:00PM

Topic: Agile and the Project Manager

Presented by: Russell Fletcher, Certified Scrum Master, Certified SAFe Program Consultant

Location: ESWP, 337 Fourth Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

[Register here](#)

Abstract: The Agile methodology is gaining traction worldwide. With it come many questions regarding the role of the Project Manager in an Agile environment. Some suggest that the PM is no longer necessary. Other suggest that the term "Scrum Master" is just a synonym for Project Manager. What is reality? Russ Fletcher will explore the role of PM vs. Agile "Coach" and give an introduction to the Servant Leader concept that is vital for an Agile team.

Bio: Mr. Fletcher is a seasoned IT executive and a recognized Agile methodology expert (Scrum, SAFe, Lean, etc). Beginning with leading development teams, then moving on to whole IT departments and eventually whole companies, Mr. Fletcher has spent more than 20 years making IT a competitive advantage and a strategic strength for his employers, clients and students. For the past six years Mr. Fletcher has championed and led enterprise-wide Agile transformation programs, first as an IT executive, and then as a outside advisor, coach and consultant.

What sets his IT teams and departments apart is their unique combination of high-level strategic thinking with superior, Monday-morning-Inbox tactical delivery. Since 2007 Mr. Fletcher has been using a hybrid form of Agile Development Methodology (primarily Scrum, with practical components of Lean, XP, and test-driven development). Mr. Fletcher's unique blend of business acumen and technical understanding make his development management approach incredibly valuable for employers.

Professional Development

Pittsburgh PMI has quality project management educational opportunities! Please check www.PittsburghPMI.org periodically for more details and to register for these events. (The following training information is subject to change.)

Information below in the Professional Development section of this newsletter follows:

- PMP Preparation Class 2014
- Lee Lambert, Stakeholder Management Workshop, 2/20/14.
- Planning Agile Course, Tentatively May 2014
- PMP/CAPM Certification Study Groups
- Agile PMI-ACP Certification Study Groups
- Future Project Management Training in 2014
- Professional Development Days 2013 and 2014
- Social Media Posting of Pittsburgh PMI Training Information

PMP Preparation Class 2014

Become a certified PMP!

Click [here](#) to register or go to www.PittsburghPMI.org for more information and to register. Look under Professional Development, Training.

This is a great class at a great value for your preparation to become a PMP!

The PMP Preparation Class will be held on five (5) consecutive Saturdays as follows:

- February 22
- March 1
- March 8
- March 15
- March 22

Each day is planned to run from 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM with lunch and other snacks & beverages provided.

35 PDUs will be awarded!

Attendees will receive a text book, study guide, online resources, practice exams, instructor support, and more!

Material is updated per the new Fifth Edition of PMI's A Guide to the Project Management Body of Knowledge (PMBOK® Guide).

Since most of us have the PMBOK® Guide, the cost of the course is kept lower by allowing people to use their own. PMI members can download the PMBOK® Guide for free at www.PMI.org. Paper books can be purchased at many book stores and www.PMI.org.

The location is Ansaldo STS, 1000 Technology Drive, Pittsburgh PA 15219.
Thank you Ansaldo STS!

Tuitions follow:

- Tuition: \$1165
- Pittsburgh PMI Member Discount: \$190 (Please login to website to get your discount.)
- Late fee after 11 February 2014: \$75 -- materials may not arrive until the second day of class

Click [here](#) to register.

Please contact FredBKoos@IEEE.org for information on the following:

- Are you interested in being an instructor for a future PMP review class?
- Do you have any questions about attending the 2014 PMP review class?

Sponsored by Ansaldo STS



Lee Lambert, Stakeholder Management Workshop, 2/20/14.

The Lambert Consulting Group is holding a workshop on Stakeholder Management in Pittsburgh on February 20, 2014.

Lee always gives great seminars! As a result of his extensive contributions, he was awarded PMI Fellow status in 2009!

For details and to register see:
<http://www.lambertconsultinggroup.com>

For a PMI discount use code word “PMI”.

Additional information is in the attached flyer and will be posted on
www.PittsburghPMI.org.

Planning Agile Course, Tentatively May 2014

Pittsburgh PMI is planning another world-class Agile course. Valuable methodologies and tools will be covered to enhance your performance as a project manager. This will also be a step towards being a PMI Agile Certified Practitioner.

More information will follow in upcoming newsletters and at www.PittsburghPMI.org.

PMP/CAPM Certification Study Group

Complement PMP certification training with our live and online study group. This is a self-organized study group enabled by the Pittsburgh PMI Chapter.

Being “self-organized” we are looking for participant and facilitators for our succession plan.

PMP Volunteers are needed to answer questions during PMP Study Group sessions.

Please contact FredBKoos@IEEE.org to be a leader, participate or volunteer as a PMP.

Agile PMI-ACP Certification Study Group

Interest was voiced in the December Chapter Meeting to start an Agile Certified Practitioner (PMI-ACP) study group. This would be modeled after the PMP Study Group above.

Please contact FredBKoos@IEEE.org join this PMI-ACP Self-Organized Study Group.

Future Project Management Training in 2014

We are currently evaluating options for an Agile seminar in 2014.

Please reply to FredBKoos@IEEE.org with suggestions for additional training offered by our Pittsburgh PMI Chapter for 2014.

Professional Development Days (PDD) 2013 and 2014!

The second annual Pittsburgh PMI Professional Development Day was sold out with very positive feedback.

For all who attended, you should have received three follow-up emails with presentations. Please contact FredBKoos@IEEE.org if you did not receive them and if you did attend.

PMP attendees of the PDD can claim seven PDUs with the Pittsburgh PMI PDD 2013 Activity Number follows: C030-PDD2013

See www.PittsburghPMI.org, Prof. Development for more details.

Save the date for the 2014 PDD planned for the first Wednesday of each November, including
5 November 2014.

Sponsor:

PMCentersUSA, <http://www.pmcentersusa.com>



Social Media Posting of Pittsburgh PMI Training Information

In addition to training information being posted on www.PittsburghPMI.org, information is often posted at the following social media locations.

- LinkedIn Group: Pittsburgh PMI
- Facebook: Project Management Institute-Pittsburgh Chapter
- Twitter: @PittsburghPMI (use hashtag #PitPMI for related tweets)

Other useful Twitter handles to follow are below.

- Twitter for the IT LIG: @Pgh_PMI_IT_LIG
- Twitter for PMI: @PMInstitute
- @Fred_Koos for tweets related to our events

Enjoy!

Outreach

Free Chapter Meeting for Students

February 13, 2014

Meet Potential Employers

Enjoy Fine Dining Downtown

Network with more than 100 Professionals

Improve your Team Building skills with our keynote speaker: Jesse Wilson "What's Our Story?" A powerful, engaging, and revolutionary approach to Team Building.

For more information contact Isabelle Zacharias at PMIEF_liaison@Pittsburghpmi.org.

Outreach Events

Coffee Talks: Training with Caffeine

You asked...we listened. We are proud to announce a new event outside of the city and in the morning.

Attention early birds, come to a "Coffee Talk" session. These sessions will focus on communication and interpersonal skills. Of course there will be good, fresh roasted coffee there too! Free coffee and tea will be provided.

The first Coffee Talk on February 12, 2014 at Generoasta coffee shop SOLD OUT! To get on a wait list please register via the [PittsburghPMI.org event calendar](http://PittsburghPMI.org/eventcalendar). Registration ends on February 5th, 2014.

The next "Coffee Talk" session will be on in the South Hills.

When: April 23, 2014 at 6:30 AM-7:30 AM.

Where: Tim Horton's coffee shop (1 Park Avenue Washington, PA 15301)

Topic: TBD

To attend this free event and receive 1 PDU, you must register via the [PittsburghPMI.org event calendar](http://PittsburghPMI.org/eventcalendar). Seats are limited so register early!

Please contact Alan Bachmann at AAABachmann@cvty.com for more information.

Networking Mixer: Take Me Out to the Ballgame!

Date: Saturday, May 10th Time: 4:30 PM

Price: \$25 per person

Location: PNC Park - 115 Federal Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15212

<http://pittsburghpirates.mlb.com>

Join us to see the Pittsburgh Pirates, take on the St. Louis Cardinals, at beautiful PNC Park.

Your price is just \$25, which includes a game ticket in the PMI Pittsburgh block (Grandstand, Section 307).

Spouses and children are also encouraged to join at \$25 per person.

This is more than just a game. We will begin tailgating at 4:30 PM. Hamburgers, hot

dogs, chips, and refreshments will be provided by PMI for every person. So come Hungry!

This is also an excellent opportunity, to network and have fun with fellow PMI Pittsburgh members.

Program Details:

- Arrive at 4:30 PM
- Tailgate begins at 4:30 PM to 5:45 PM (Lot across the street from Allegheny Center Parking Garage)
- Tickets will be handed out at the Tailgate.
 - If not attending the Tailgate, your tickets will be at the Will Call Window (beside Home Plate), at 6:30pm.
- First Pitch at 7:05 PM
- Zambelli Fireworks will immediately follow the game!

[Register](#) now, seats are limited! (Registration will close on March 26th - No walk-ins can be accommodated.)

No refunds or exchanges will be made.

Contact: Jason McMann, PMP @ Jason.McMann@ADP.com for any questions.

Lessons Learned

It is time for the first Lesson Learned Event of the year. Share your experience, learn from others, and do a little networking.

Come join us at Westinghouse in Cranberry, March 19th to discuss “Lesson Learned Tools and Techniques across industries.” In nuclear industry, radiological, industrial and personal safety is critical goal and culture. Lesson Learned is an important part of that culture.

When: March 19, 2014 at 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Where: Westinghouse Electric Company, 1000 Westinghouse Drive, Cranberry Twp, PA 16066

Topic: “Lesson Learned Tools and Techniques across industries”

To attend this free event and receive 1 PDU, you must register via the [PittsburghPMI.org event calendar](http://PittsburghPMI.org/event/calendar). Registration ends on March 12th, 2014 and only has 30 seats available. Snacks will be provided. Please note Westinghouse is a secure location. A driver’s license is required to enter the building and all non-US Citizen Attendees are required to bring their passport and fill out Westinghouse’s Non-US citizen access form (available on the PittsburghPMI.org website).

If you would like to host a Lesson Learned Event / Roundtable discussion, please contact Greg Polens at gpolens@gmail.com

Academic Outreach

5th Annual Inter-Collegiate Project Management Triathlon



Date: March 28-30, 2014

Time: Palumbo Donahue School of Business

Location: Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

The Inter-Collegiate Project Management Triathlon (IPMT) is an undergraduate level competition hosted by Duquesne University and is sponsored as well as supported by PMI and the PMI Pittsburgh Chapter. This event tests competitors' knowledge of the PMBOK® Guide and their responses to project case-based scenarios.

There are three competitive events where the participants can showcase their project management knowledge:

Team Quiz-Bowl: Teams of four students will compete in a Jeopardy-style event. All questions will be based on the PMBOK® Guide and at a difficulty level equivalent to that necessary to achieve the Certified Associate in Project Management (CAPM®) designation. (The form of the questions will be fill-in-the-blank or short answer.)

Individual "All-Star" Quiz-Bowl: This is also a Jeopardy-style event, to be played exclusively by individuals, and it will follow a similar format to the Team Quiz-Bowl. Participants will be selected based upon the degree of knowledge s/he has shown in their individual performance in the team event.

Quick Fire Team Challenge: During the competition weekend, teams of four participants will be given a project management scenario and asked to develop and submit three work

products. Teams will be evaluated on how well the team performs developing the work products. The same teams that participate in the Quiz Bowls will participate in the Quick Fire Challenge.

In between competitive events, participation in team building activities, which require physical and mental dexterity, is encouraged. These activities are designed to provide competitors an opportunity to relax and have fun.

Educational institutions are limited to entering two (2) teams to participate in the IPMT Competitive Events. Universities that have participated in previous IPMT competition include:

Appalachian State University, Boone, NC
Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA
Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Indiana, PA
Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI
New Jersey Institute of Technology, Newark, NJ
University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA
University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC
West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV

For more information or to register visit www.duq.edu/pm-triathlon

Global Outreach

We need your help with PMIEF (PMI Educational Foundation) and Global Outreach.

The PMIEF and Global Outreach team is looking for volunteers for the following positions:

PMIEF School Liaison:

Develop a partnership with school districts from Greater Pittsburgh Area to fulfill their needs concerning the promotion of 21st century skills.

Inform schools about the opportunities of scholarship for teachers, curriculum availability or any other support PMIEF or the PMI Pittsburgh Chapter could offer to promote 21st century values to the students.

2 to 3 hours /month – 1PDU per hour

Chapter of the Year Application Project Manager:

The PMI Global Chapter Awards recognizes PMI Chapters and Communities of Practice that have demonstrated unparalleled dedication and contributions to the project management profession.

This year PMI Global recognized the Pittsburgh Chapter for its great achievements with the 2013 Members Service Award! The Members Service Award recognizes the

Professional Development opportunities and services that a Chapter offers to its members.

Next year the Chapter has decided to go for the Chapter of the Year Award!

We need a Project Manager to lead the application process, define the goals, assemble the team, and gather all the information from the team.

The Project Manager defines and tracks project scope, goals, schedule, budgets, and execution strategies in collaboration with project stakeholders.

1 to 2 hours /week from March to April – 1PDU per hour

If you are interested, please contact Isabelle Zacharias at PMIEF_liaison@Pittsburghpmi.org

Membership

Your Chapter Needs You!

Contribute to the Pittsburgh Chapter, increase your professional network and get to know others involved in your profession. PMPs can earn valuable PDU's in addition to making a contribution to the Project Management Profession! Volunteers and Operational Team members earn up to 5 PDUs per year and elected officers earn up to 10 PDUs a Year.

Check out the [chapter website](#) for more details...

New Chapter Members

As of January 29, 2014 the chapter has 1,455 members. Please join us in welcoming the following new chapter members: [Bhagyamma Annadatha](#), [Stephen Bachorski](#), [Sonal Bansal](#), [Darren Beck](#), [Patrick Beggy](#), [PJ Blinn](#), [William Boeh](#), [Gregory Briski](#), [Michael Chernysh](#), [Kevin Coghlan](#), [Bradley Cole](#), [Rebecca Cooper](#), [Marcus DelRaso](#), [Eileen Froehlke](#), [Lawrence Giannetti](#), [Andrew Hazlett](#), [Mark Jonnet](#), [Richard Kahl](#), [Charles Kannair](#), [Ansley Kime](#), [Linda Klink](#), [Leonora Koranchie - Boah](#), [Sally Krayner](#), [Jesse Kumher](#), [Brett Layden](#), [John Liston](#), [Joyce Litz](#), [Scot MacTaggart](#), [Brad Mandic](#), [Brandon Martin](#), [Mark Nicholson](#), [Mervin Nurss Jr](#), [Danielle Price](#), [Amanda Pritts](#), [Kathleen Regan](#), [Jeremiah Richardson](#), [Jason Rippel](#), [Darnell Singleton](#), [Michael Strosnider](#), [Mohammed Tashkandi](#), [Jenna Tracy](#), [Cindy Walsh](#), [Daniel Zima](#)

New Chapter PMPs

As of January 29, 2014 the chapter has 1,012 PMPs. Please join us in congratulating the following new chapter PMPs: [Randy Crawford](#), [Ryan Fulmer](#), [Patrick Huber](#), [Ricardo Llovet](#), [Michael Sliviak](#), [Michelle Smith](#)

Contacts

Click to view the [Pittsburgh PMI chapter contacts](#).