



PMI South Caribbean Chapter

Staying Connected

May 2007, Volume 18

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President's Message

Dear Fellow PMISCC Members,

There is a high level of excitement as we are in full planning and implementation for our Conference 2007. We have finalized our programme, sponsors, facilities and everything is coming together for a bumper conference. We have sent out separately to our membership the latest conference brochure. We look forward to your presence and participation to make this the most successful conference so far.

In February 2007 we crossed the 400 mark in our membership and interview our 400th member in this issue. Congratulations to all who worked diligently to get our membership to this level and my encouragement to them to move our membership to the next level.

Of the 75 applicants who sat the last PMP examination, 48 were successful. T&T continues to have a pass rate 66% that is much higher than the world average of less than 50%. My congratulations go out to all the new PMP's and our encouragement to continue to maintain your status as you move up your career. We look forward to all of you becoming active members of PMISCC.

Your board continues to be very active, with three board meetings since our last newsletter. We are focusing on our membership drive, our website, and our plans for our Technical conference. At our board meeting in May, we will revisit our strategic plan to ensure we are achieving our goals and to update the plan with some new initiatives.

And finally we have a new look Newsletter, with a more modern design. Let me have your comments and feedback as we continue to upgrade our newsletter.

Mike Charles
President
2007

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From the Editor



As I look at this months newsletter I am excited (not because it's completed) but because of the good things in store for the membership. The biggest change this issue is the format which now has a more up to date feel. Forgive me if I am not the most fluent writer, I am of course only a Project Manager who aspires to get much better at this as time goes by which in scheduling terms means by next issue.

Speaking of the next issue here's a look of some of our debut columns which will become newsletter regulars:

- PMISCC Member in the Spotlight
- New from PMI International
- PMP/CAPM Examination Timetable

If you happen to know of a Project Manger who should be in the spotlight, a particular article you'd like to read concerning the PMI International a good joke, suggestions for an article and of course feedback on the newsletter please write rrjagai@tstt.net.tt.

Feature Article

4th Annual Conference, “Business Success Through Project management – Best Practices for the 21st Century”

The Annual Conference is PMISCC largest event of the year and is full of benefits for employers, PMI members, accredited PMPs, budding project managers and the project management community at large. This year the conference will be held on the 18th and 19th September 2007 at the Centre of Excellence.

Your hard working coordinating committee has finalized many of the details described in the last newsletter. Twenty-seven local and internationally accredited project managers have been chosen to share their knowledge and experiences on best practices in the 21st Century. The Honorable Colm Imbert, Minister of Works and Transport is carded to make the opening address. Keynote speakers Mr. Steven C. Rollins, Chief Project Strategist at ALLPMO and Mr. John Schmitt, President of PM Advisory Group will share their presentation of 18th September and 19th September respectively.

Interested attendees are being asked to register early to secure your place to participate in the offering of these key training themes right on your doorstep:

- Project Management as a Core Competence
- Project Management in Achieving Strategic Objectives
- Project Management as a “Key Success Factor”
- Establishing the Project Office in the Organization
- Project Portfolio Management
- The Future of Project Management
- Project Risk Management

The conference provides an excellent opportunity to fulfill PMP obligations by gathering PDU's towards recertification. Other key benefits are exposure and understanding of:

- Best Practices in Project Management
- Global Trends in Project Management
- Organizational Change to Facilitate Management of Projects
- Management of Multiple Projects
- The Project Lifecycle
- The Role and Function of the Project Manager
- Identifying Issues That Affect the Successful Completion of Projects
- Lessons Learn in Project Management

From everything that you've read I implore you not to miss this note worthy event. Every year employers spend hundred of thousands of training dollars mainly to send professionals to overseas training, do not miss this opportunity to take part in similar training with the added edge of doing so in relation to your local business sectors.

4th Annual Conference Sponsors

| | |
|---|--|
|  <p>The Petrotrin logo features a stylized oil drop with a flame-like shape on the right, all enclosed in a red-bordered square. The word "Petrotrin" is written in red below the graphic.</p> |  <p>The Teck logo consists of a red, three-dimensional ring with the word "Teck" in black text inside the ring.</p> |
|  <p>The logo for bhpbilliton Trinidad and Tobago features an orange graphic of three vertical bars of varying heights above the text "bhpbilliton" and "Trinidad and Tobago" in a grey sans-serif font.</p> |  <p>The SAMSUNG logo is the word "SAMSUNG" in white, bold, uppercase letters, centered within a blue, horizontally-oriented oval.</p> |
|  <p>The CBI logo features the letters "CBI" in white, bold, uppercase font, set against a blue, globe-like background with a white outline.</p> | <p>SAMSUNG ENGINEERING</p> |

RESERVE YOUR SPACE NOW!

FOR MORE INFORMATION

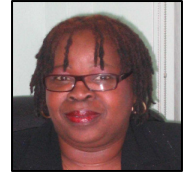
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**CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE
MACOYA, TRINIDAD & TOBAGO, WEST INDIES**

September 18th & 19th, 2007

Training and Education News

By Cynthia Hayes



As the PMISCC continues to grow in stature, the importance of Project Management as a discipline is also evolving. This is evident by the high number of participants testing to become Project Management Professionals (PMP). Seventy-five (75) candidates tested for this most challenging examination on April 20, 2007, forty eight (48) were successful in attaining the PMP credential.

The Education and Certification Committee is in the process of researching areas that will provide the best options for PMPs to attaining their Continuing Education Units (CEU) and Professional Development Units (PDU) towards recertification. In the next issue of our Newsletter, look for a detailed listing on areas where you can attain PDUs towards your recertification.

The PMISCC looks forward to new PMPs active participation at our monthly Technical Sessions, Conferences, and involvement in the various committees under each Vice President. These are all means whereby your can attain PDUs towards your PMP recertification in the next three years.

PMP/CAPM EXAMINATION

The next sitting of the PMP and CAPM Examinations will take place on Friday June 15th, 2007 at the Arthur Lok Jack Graduate School of Business, Max Richards Drive, Uriah Butler Highway, North West Mount Hope.

| | |
|-------------------|---------|
| Costs: PMP Member | US\$250 |
| Non-member | US\$400 |
| Resit member | US\$150 |
| Resit non-member | US\$300 |
| CAPM Member | US\$225 |
| Non-member | US\$300 |

Application forms are available online at www.pmi.org. Applications can be made in 2 ways:

Submission to the PMISCC secretariat by 4:00pm on 11th May 2007

1. On-line registration with credit card payment to do the Paper-Based Examination by 15th June.
2. All applications must be received, reviewed, approved and payments made by 11th May 2007
3. Site code is 607 and Goup ID is 0607062007(PMP) & 0607062007C (CAPM)
4. Further information can be obtained from the Secretariat, tel 658-4200 x 4206 or jemma.ramjattan@petrotrin.com

Congratulations, You're Certified PMP's



IIL /ABS

1. Maureen Mills-Serrette
2. Ahmed Ali
3. Diane Ali
4. Vanessa Bushe
5. Darryl Persad
6. Geeta Ramsumair
7. Shamila Ragoobir
8. Cynthia James-Cramer
9. Khiron Williams

SELF STUDY

10. Ronnie Theodore
11. Kelvin King
12. Keith Meade
13. Benny Bhola
14. Kashmini Persadsingh
15. Shivanand Maharaj
16. Patrick Quan Kep
17. Michelle Heeralal
18. Mark Morales

PROMASERV

19. Hatim Ali
20. Hugh Smythe
21. Clinton Howell
- 22.

INDEPENDENT CONSULTANTS

23. Vijai Singh (Clyde Pilgrim)
24. Shivam Parsuram (Knowledge Future)
25. Keiron Swift (ATC Group)
26. Joyce Barnett (Ministry of Education)

CIPRIANI

26. Edmund Thomas

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS & COMPUTER SCIENCE

27. Verna De Silva

MICROSEARCH

28. Roger Peters
29. Brenda James
30. Bebe Ajodha
31. Sharon Moonan-Seepaul
32. Prya Maharaj
33. Wendell Persad
34. Desiree Augustin
35. Avril Ross
36. Marlon Herry
37. Luc De Meneges
38. George De Gannes
39. Ricardo Mahadeo
40. Reval Maharaj
41. Ria Sham Poo
42. Judith Pereira
43. Glen Ragoonanan
44. Jerry Rampersad
45. Stephen Goolcharan
46. Lisa Caesar
47. Curtis Manar
48. Shayphan Smith

Is This Credential Right For Me - PgMPSM *By Cynthia Hayes*

Program Management Professional

If you answer “yes” to all of the questions below PMI recommends that you pursue the PgMPSM credential.

1. Do you have a Bachelor’s degree, the global equivalent or higher degree *and* four years of professional program management experience? If not, do you have a High School diploma, Associate’s degree or the global equivalent *and* seven years of professional program management experience?
2. Do you have at least four years project management work experience?
3. Do you manage multiple, related projects directed toward a strategic business objective?
4. Do the programs you manage contain complex activities that span functions, organizations, geographic regions and cultures?
5. Do you build credibility, establish rapport and maintain communication with stakeholders at multiple levels, including those external to the organization?
6. Are you responsible for defining and initiating projects, and assigning project managers to manage the cost, schedule and performance of component projects, while working to ensure the ultimate success and acceptance of the program?
7. Do you maintain continuous alignment of program scope with strategic business objectives and make recommendations to modify the program to enhance effectiveness toward the business result or strategic intent?
8. Do you determine and coordinate the sharing of resources among your constituent projects to the overall benefit of the program?
9. Do you possess the knowledge and skills to be effective in the project, business and/or government environments and to make decisions that accomplish strategic objectives?
10. Do you have advanced skills in finance, cross-cultural awareness, leadership, communication, influence, negotiation and conflict resolution?
11. Are you familiar with *A Guide to the Project Management Body of Knowledge (PMBOK[®] Guide)* and *The Standard for Program Management First Edition*?

Special Notice From the PMI

Christina Rockwell, CAPM - PMI's Registered Education Provider (REP) Processor Issued Special Message #19 to all REP

Registered Education Provider,

PMI would like to remind R.E.P.s that *in order for any candidate to apply for any PMI Credential all of the courseware needed for contact hours necessary to fulfill the Project Management Education requirements must be completed at the time of application.*

Please do not advise your students to submit a PMI Credential Application before they have successfully completed the course used for the necessary contact hours needed to sit for the PMI Credential Examinations.

If it is discovered upon application audit, that an applicant candidate has not successfully completed the project management course before the date the application was submitted, then the application would be failed due to misrepresentation and applicant will not be able to sit for any PMI Credential Examination, *including any existing examinations as well as any examinations PMI may offer in the future.*

Please be aware that advising students to register for the PMI Credential Examinations prior to completing their coursework needed to fulfill required contact hours of Project Management Education is **potential grounds for removal from the R.E.P. Program.**

Project Management Institute
May 10, 2007

Special Report

Second Public Seminar on 'Project Management Practices in the Caribbean'

By Professor K. F. Pun

On Saturday 12th May 2007, the Faculty of Engineering of The University of the West Indies (UWI) hosted the Second Public Seminar on 'Project Management Practices in the Caribbean', in collaboration with the Engineering Management Society Chapter of the IEEE Trinidad and Tobago Section (IEEETT) and the Association of Professional Engineers of Trinidad and Tobago (APETT).

The theme of the Seminar was to facilitate the region-wide awareness and use of best project management practices in the emerging CARICOM context. It was held at Room 101, Block 1, the UWI's Engineering Faculty Building, between 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 pm.

The Seminar was officiated and facilitated by Professor Kit F. Pun, Deputy Dean (Research & Postgraduate Student Affairs) of the Faculty of Engineering. Eng. Alvin Lutchman, Chairman of IEEETT delivered a welcoming address to participants. There were four presentations and an experience-sharing session. The four invited guest speakers were:

- 1) Mr. Richard Aching of the Intellectual Property Office;
- 2) Mrs. Souzanne Fanovich of the Office of the UWI's Campus Registrar;
- 3) Mr. Alvin C. Daniell of Comfort Engineering Limited; and
- 4) Mr. Nigel Sookdeo of BHP Billiton Trinidad and Tobago.

The presentations and the experience-sharing session focused on project management practices covering intellectual property considerations, project management challenges in construction, distance education and energy sector operations.

Over 60 participants including invited guest speakers, industry delegates, faculty members and students attended the Seminar. Feedback from participants was overwhelmingly good. Over 96% of returned evaluation form rated the Seminar either 'Very Good' (58%) or 'Good' (38%).

Continued on Page 10

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Many participants commented that the presenters were very knowledgeable about their areas of expertise and the presentations were interactive and informative with practical examples in the local contexts. The experience-sharing session, though only 25 minutes, allowed experience sharing among speakers and participants on divergent nature of project management practices in Trinidad and Tobago.

Besides, participants have indicated their interests in continuous participation and suggested some themes and/or topics for the forthcoming seminars. An excerpted list of these topics is as follows:

- Risk Management in Private and Public Sectors
- Best Practices for Proactive Project Management
- Management of Technological Innovation (including IP)
- Procurement and Marketing
- Government ICT Project
- Assessment of the Maturity Level of PMP in the Caribbean
- PMP in Non-engineering Industries
- Registration and Certification of Project Management Professionals in T&T
- Project Management in the Manufacturing Sector
- Lessons Learnt on Past Projects
- Project Financing

Finally, the Organizing Committee thanked all distinguished guests and participants for their kind support and assistance. The programme of the Seminar ended at around 12:30p.m.

PMISCC 400th Member

By Tara Manick



In April 2007, PMISCC celebrated a major milestone with the registration of its 400th member, George Brent De Gannes. Brent as he is called is a Fleet Chief Petty Officer with the Coast Guard who has been doing some home construction as a hobby. Really, as he says, it is to prepare him for his return to civilian status when he retires in the next three years. And it is by mere luck or more a measure of Brent that he became the 400th member. He had registered for the PMP examination in November 2006; however, he felt he was not ready for the exam at that time. Consequently he registered for the April 2007 examination and the rest as they say is history for after writing the examination he applied for membership and fortuitously became the 400th member. We had to remind Brent that the PMP certification was not necessary to become a member of PMISCC but more a keen interest in the profession of Project Management and development of the profession as a whole.



***Fleet Chief Petty Officer
George Brent Degannes
PMISCC 400th Member***

So for what does a Coast Guardsman use PMP? Interestingly, Brent felt that the PMP training while certainly relevant for his hobby in construction is very applicable in his full time job. He says that much of his work consists of non-routine operations which he treats as a project with a definite start, end and specific deliverable. So in preparing for many of his non-routine tasks he uses the fundamentals of project management to chart his task so he can complete in on time and fully achieve its objective. To us, this truly represents the essence of Project management.

Brent is very pleased to be recognized by PMISCC and has a lot to say about the organization. He felt that PMISCC had the right strategic direction and was achieving its objective of promoting the profession of project management in spite of its size compared to other professional organizations. He felt that the 'man in the street' may not fully appreciate PMISCC and would like to encourage the organization to target a wider audience.

Our congratulations to Fleet Chief Petty Officer Brent De Gannes and welcome his active participation in PMISCC.

Technical Session Calendar

By Avianne Karamath



The following Technical Sessions are scheduled:

| | |
|---------------|---|
| June 07 | Setting Up a Virtual Office in Trinidad Presenter by Don Darrus |
| August 07 | Utilizing Local Content for Major Project Development Presenter Rod Coleman |
| Time | 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm – Registration 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm - Presentation |
| Venue: | To Be Announced |
| Cost: | Members 120.00 Non Members: \$150 |
| Bonus: | Attendees earn 1.5 PDUs |
| Registration: | Pre registration is required as there are limited seats available. |

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