

REGIONAL REPORT – TEXAS, USA – NOVEMBER 2008



Project Management Institute - Leadership Institute Meeting in Denver, Colorado, USA (North America)

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The PMI Leadership Institute Meeting is a wonderful event that offers Volunteer Leaders the opportunity for a powerful networking and information-sharing experience...

The meeting featured regional leadership education for the organization and administration of components within North America

The Leadership Institute Meeting immediately precedes the PMI Global Congress 2008 - North America.

This year, it was held in Denver, Colorado (USA) between 16 and 18 October 2008 at the Denver Convention Center.

A banner for a blog post. The top half shows a night-time city skyline with several skyscrapers illuminated. Overlaid on the right side is a white box with the text "Voices on Project Management". Below the skyline image is a white box containing text: "Live from Denver, Colorado" and "PMI's new blog, Voices on Project Management, is the place for all things project management—and right now, it's the place to get insight on PMI Global Congress 2008—North America. Read more >". There are also small navigation arrows on the right side of the skyline image.

Voices on Project Management

Live from Denver, Colorado

PMI's new blog, Voices on Project Management, is the place for all things project management—and right now, it's the place to get insight on PMI Global Congress 2008—North America.
[Read more >](#)

For the first time, in the PMI history, this meeting had 730 attendees from 90+ countries and the Global Congress had over 4,000 attendees.

About Denver, Colorado...



The City and County of Denver is the capital and the most populous city of Colorado, in the United States. Denver is a consolidated city-county located in the South Platte River Valley on the High Plains just east of the Front Range of the Southern Rocky Mountains. The Denver downtown district is located immediately east of the confluence of Cherry Creek with the South Platte River, approximately 15 miles (24 km) east of the foothills of the Rocky Mountains.

Denver is nicknamed the Mile-High City because its official elevation is exactly one mile, or 5,280 feet (1,609 m) above sea level.[2] The 105th meridian west of Greenwich passes through Denver Union Station, making it the reference point for the Mountain Time Zone.

A Selected Agenda:

Wednesday, 15 October 2008

Registration



First Timer Orientation

Thursday, 16 October 2008

Leadership Institute Meeting Opening Session (Gregory Balestro & Philip Diab)

Leadership Institute Meeting Keynote Speaker (Mark Mullary)

Leadership Institute Meeting Overview

Enterprise Architecture: Current and Future Projects (Frank Schettini)

Component Award Ceremony & Luncheon

Virtual Communities Project Panel Discussion (Brantlee Underhill, Peter Pfeiffer & Kathi Kroop)

Component Learning & Sharing (John Baley)

Learning & Sharing (Role & Specialty individuals)

Friday, 17 October 2008

Catalog of Core and Extended Services - Formerly PMF

(Michael Flint, Ron Taylor, Diane White, Debra Arnett, Bob Eckert & Patricia Garofano)

Creating Stars Through Acknowledgement - Retaining Your Best People Through Acknowledgement

(Frank Saladis)

Leadership Showcase & Silent Auction Lunch

Building High Performance Team through Delegation, Counseling, Coaching and Mentoring

(Karthikeyan Kumaraguru)

Listening Smarter (Dave Prior, March Lurch, Bob Tarne & Petra Goltz)

Leader to Leader Discussion

Leadership Institute Meeting Reception

Saturday, 18 October 2008

Communication for the Component Leader - the Balance Between

Advocacy and Inquiry (Nathaniel Quintana)

The Effective Negotiator (James Vaughan)

Planning a Successful Professional Development Day

(Amy Crocker, Gina Shrek & Ellen Peterson)

Leadership Institute Meeting Closing Session

The PMI Houston Chapter, Inc. were very well represented by the numbers (19 attendees) at the Leadership Institute Meeting, see the names by alphabetical orders as shown below:

- Andy Stuart, VP Professional Development
- Bill Shield, Director of Marketing
- Bob Masch, VP e-Business
- Caroline Gormley, President
- Diane Wilson, VP Membership
- Don Grosskreutz, Board Advisor
- Giovanni Fanduiz, Program Director
- John Gorman III, Senior VP External Operations
- Kathy Ridley, Senior VP Internal Operations
- Marc DeCantillon, VP Programs
- Marlene King, Director of Public Relations
- Michelle Johnson, Director of PDU and Certification
- Quang Ton, VP Communications
- Philip W Lee, Director of Membership
- Richard Freilich, VP Finance
- Richard Rector, Director of Education
- Sharon Greiff, Conference Project Manager
- Stephen E. Schuster, Board Advisor
- Walter A. Viali, Past President

Caroline, Kathy and Marc also stayed for the 2008 PMI Global Congress.



We joined our peers during the Opening Session as PMI President & CEO, Gregory Balestro and PMI Chair, Philip Diab shared information about this year's North America Leadership Institute Meeting.

In order to more effectively and efficiently support the numerous PMI member and non-member initiatives, PMI has developed an Enterprise Architecture (EA) strategy, Frank Schettini, Vice President of Information Technology provided information on the status of current projects and future plans.

On behalf of the Len O'Neal in charge of the content management of the PMI web site, Frank discuss about the selection criteria that led them to pick SharePoint (versus Telligent, DotNetNuke and HigherLogic) moving forward.

One key element from this session was the PMI's envisioned goal:

*Worldwide organizations will embrace value and utilize
Project Management and attribute their success to it*

During the Component Award Ceremony held on Thursday 16th October 2008, the PMI - Houston Chapter, Inc. received 3 “Recognition of Excellence” awards in the Chapter Category IV for:

- Component of the Year
- Collaboration
- Volunteer Program

In the “Virtual Communities Project Panel Discussion” session, PMI and representatives of the newly transitioning Human Resources and International Development SIGs shared the progress and experiences of leading transformational change to deliver greater member value through increased participation and knowledge sharing.

Keynote Speaker
General
Colin L. Powell
USA, (Ret.)

18 - 21 October
2008 Denver,
Colorado

Former U.S. Secretary of State General Colin L. Powell, USA (Ret.), delivered the keynote address to a record-setting number of attendees at the opening session the PMI Global Congress 2008—North America. [Read more >](#)

On Friday morning, the panelists discussed their experiences with the catalog of Core and Extended Services pilot formerly called Project Management Framework (PMF). Along with providing answers to a number of existing questions, audience participation was solicited to address questions that arise during the interactive session. Beginning with an overview of the catalog and the changes that have occurred this year, the panelists also clarified the services available to communities which would enable them to meet the core services.

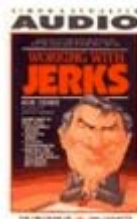
Each participants moved to the extended educational tracks of their choice, these tracks are educational breakouts are delivered in multiple formats, they can be traditional presentations, workshop format, guided discussions, panel discussions or case studies. Educational breakouts are in three Core Knowledge Areas of the Leadership Institute Program:

- Association Governance (AG)
- Individual Leadership Development (ILD)
- PMI Institutional Knowledge (PIK)

In the “Creating Stars Through Acknowledgement - Retaining Your Best People Through Acknowledgement” interactive workshop, Frank provided information on acknowledgement and recognition and their relationship to effective leadership. This workshop provided the attendees with the ability to:

- Assess their skills associated with delivering a sincere acknowledgement.
- Differentiate between sincere acknowledgement and recognition.
- Develop a plan for acknowledging team members and others who have made a positive difference in their professional and personal lives.
- Develop personal action plans to enhance their leadership skills in the area of coaching, mentoring and team building.
- Through the series of exercises and team discussions, participants will develop new skills for building relationships, sustaining existing relationships and overcoming some of the barriers that may exist between co-workers, managers and leaders.

Frank recommended 2 books: Dealing with People You Can't Stand (by Dr Rick Brinkman) and Working with Jerks (by Ron Zemke).



He also distributed a survey about “The Power of Acknowledgement Self-Assessment Tool” derived from Judith W. Umlas.

During the Leadership Showcase & Silent Auction Lunch, the leaders had the opportunities to discover the best practices, tools and accomplishments of other PMI components presented at a mini-tradeshaw. The participants could meet components leaders and distinguished them as one of the best resources while renewing old acquaintances! They could also gain new insights to successfully guide their component’s everyday practices.

As one of the examples, the Seminar at Sea IV was represented by the PMI Clear Lake Galveston Chapter (with AJ Collier) and PMI Houston Chapter (with Walter A. Viali) and for more information, please visit:

http://www.pmiclg.org/index.phtml?menu=other_page&menu2=125



The Silent Auction is a highlight of the Showcase, as PMI Components from around the world donate items that define their geographic area or an area of their specific interest.



Moving on to the beginning of the afternoon, Karthikeyan presented the breakout session about “Building High Performance Teams through Delegation, Counseling, Coaching and Mentoring.

Effective leadership is about inspiring and developing people. To build high-performance teams, leaders need to empower, cultivate and grow people and make them natural high-performers. This can be done by mastering the art of human development through effective use of delegation, counseling, coaching and mentoring.

During this session, the attendees could:

- Analyze the results of a team performance survey and gain key insights from the results.
- Learn about five levels of performance of teams (Dysfunctional, Functional, Motivated, Inspired and Value-Adding) and the application of leadership best practices to help the team achieve its fullest potential.
- Understand, appreciate and apply the art of empowering people using techniques like delegation, counseling, coaching and mentoring to bring the best of our people.
- Learn techniques to measure and grow personal skills that are required to develop and build high performing teams that truly make a difference towards organizational mission.

The questionnaire distributed during the session can be downloaded from:

<http://www.kkarthik.info/Default.aspx?tabid=136>



Later Friday afternoon during the “Listening Smart” interactive session, Dave, Mark, Bob and Petra keyed in on specific tools and techniques that can be used to deepen one’s understanding of what is being said through the non-verbal communication and context clues that accompany the message. By exploring real life examples and role-play scenarios, participants will look at cultural issues, body languages and other non-verbal cues in order to foster a deeper understanding through context.

A key statement to remember from this session is “Listen with your EARS”:

- **E**xplore
- **A**cknowledge
- **R**eflect
- **B**e **S**ilent

And the “ 7% - 38% - 55% ” rule (“Work” - “Tone of Voice” - “Language”).



The rest of the day was dedicated to the “Leader to Leader Discussion” session where participants got a chance to dialogue with the PMI’s Governance Committee and President & CEO.

And the evening was spent on the Leadership Institute Meeting Reception where leaders enjoyed a networking opportunity with the colleagues, PMI Board of Directors and PMI Staff.

On Saturday morning, Nathaniel conducted the “Communication for the Component Leader - the balance Between Advocacy and Inquiry”, the attendees were introduced to the idea of advocacy and inquiry and how it can make them more effective communicators and component leaders. During this session, attendees learned from each other in a highly interactive and energetic session where each person was expected to share and learn from each other.



The following session was about “The Effective Negotiator”, James provided the attendees with the knowledge they need to start improving their negotiation skills. Like any skill, successful negotiation is a combination of knowledge and practice. This session provided them with the

basic knowledge necessary to effectively start them on their way to becoming a successful negotiator.

The Latin root of Negotiation means “It is not a leisure” (neg = not and otium = leisure) and Jim guides the participants through the stage of a negotiation:

- Preparation
- Proposal
- Debate & Bargain
- Closure

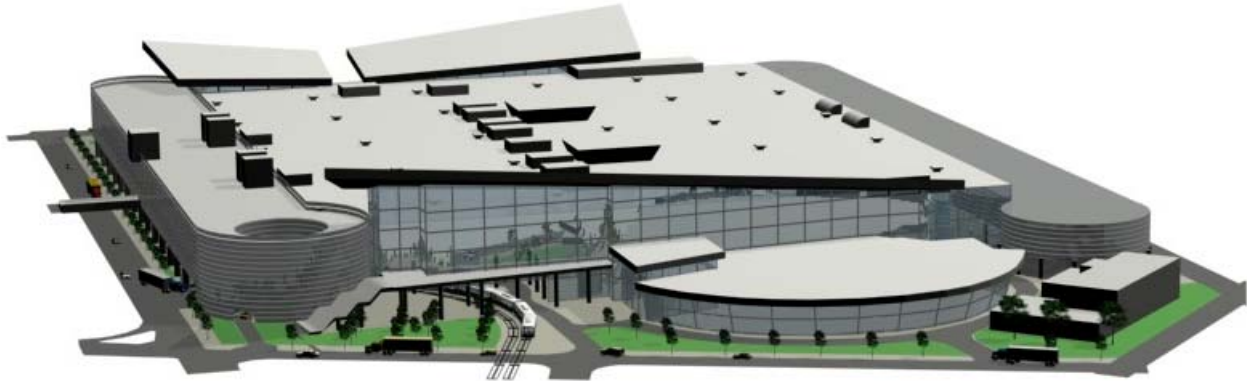


Next, Amy, Gina and Ellen discussed about “Planning a Successful Professional Development Day”, this interactive panel discussion offered the attendees both education and fun. Featuring an event planner, account executive for a speaker’s bureau, a component leader and entertaining moderator, each panelist shared tips on the various elements necessary for planning a successful professional development day. Upon completion, attendees should have gained a better understanding of how to organize a top-notch professional development event.

Finally, the Leadership Institute Meeting Closing Session offered tips and strategies on how to make the most of the experiences gained during this meeting.

Conference Location:

Colorado Convention Center
700 14th Street
Denver, Colorado 80202



For more information, visit <http://componentleadership.pmi.org/octobermeeting2008>

About the Author:



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Quang Ton, CABM, CISM, PMP, is an international correspondent for PMForum and ***PM World Today*** based in the Houston metropolitan area of South Texas, USA. He is also the Service Manager for Schlumberger Oilfield Services, the leading oilfield services provider, trusted to deliver superior results and improved E&P performance for oil and gas companies around the world. Through well site operations and in research and engineering facilities, the organization is working to develop products, services and solutions that optimize customer performance in a safe and environmentally sound manner. He has been working on global projects and program to secure information and offer physically security solutions, implementation and integration for the enterprise of 70,000+ employees located world-wide, his main focuses are in service quality, business processes and operational excellence.

He currently holds a Masters degree in Computer Engineering from the Université de Technologie de Compiègne (UTC) in France as well as a Bachelor degree in Electrical Engineering from the Institut Universitaire de Technologie de Créteil (IUT) in France and he has also acquired several credentials such as Certified Associate Business Manager (CABM), Project Management Professional (PMP), Certified Information Security Manager (CISM) and Foundation Level in Information Technology Infrastructure Library (ITIL). Quang has been active in leadership positions with the Project Management Institute (PMI®) (VP Communications) and Schlumberger Limited (Eureka SIG Leader in Process Management). Quang lives in Houston, Texas, USA and can be contacted at pmi.qton@yahoo.com.