

REGIONAL REPORT – HOUSTON, USA – JULY 2010



Project Management Update from Houston

*By Quang Ton, CABM, CGEIT, CISM, PMP
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Photo of the attendees present for the 2010 PMI Houston Conference & Expo at the George R. Brown Convention Center

In June, the PMI Houston Chapter did not have their regular monthly meetings at the North, Galleria, SouthWest, Houston Central Library, and University of Houston venues. Instead they invited the project management practitioners for the PMI Houston's main professional development event of the year: *2010 PMI Houston Conference & Expo*.

Their theme for this year was "**Optimize Business Results through Innovative Project Management Practices**".

The conference took place between Monday 14th June 2010 and Wednesday 16th June 2010 at the George R. Brown convention center in downtown. Over 500 attendees participated to this successful event featuring various topics around: Professional Development, Project Management (PM), PM from an Oil & Gas Perspective, Program Management, Agile Project Management and Tools used in Project Management.



Steve Schuster, Quang Ton and a volunteer at the PMI Houston booth (15-Jun-10)

Among many presentations, the following keynote speakers made this conference unique and magnificent:

- Traci Duez – returned to apply her background in science and coaching to help project managers and executives measurably improve their thinking and leadership skills using the breakthrough science of neuro-axiology.
- Pat Johns – A keynote speaker, an author, a global adventurer, an international photo-journalist and a corporate leadership trainer. Pat was recently featured on Fox TV as an authority on leadership and perseverance. Pat has been ... regularly working in Washington, DC with several high profile groups including, General Dynamics, CIA, US Marshals Service and the Project Management Institute. His diverse programs are intended to show us how we can create greater efficiencies in the way we communicate, realize our dreams and have genuine fulfillment in our lives.
- Michelle Labrosse – An entrepreneurial powerhouse with a penchant for making success easy, fun and fast. She is the founder of Cheetah Learning, honored by PMI as the Professional Development Provider of the Year at the 2008 PMI Global Congress. Michelle was also recognized by PMI as one of the 25 Most Influential Women in Project Management in the world. A dynamic speaker, Michelle has received standing ovations for her ability to weave business and Project Management topics with a “down home” sensibility and humorous anecdotes.
- Rory Vaden – A Business Motivational Speaker, Author, and Self-Discipline Strategist whose insights have been shared on Oprah radio and featured in print media such as SUCCESS Magazine. Rory has degrees in Business Management, Leadership, and an MBA. He is the Co-Founder of a multi-million dollar sales training company. Southwestern Consulting. As a two time world champion of public speaking finalist for Toastmasters International, Rory has shared his compelling “Take The Stairs” message with people in Taiwan, China, Canada, the UK, and the USA.
- Walter Viali – A Project Management and Project Management Office (PMO) Management Consultant, and a certified Project Management Professional (PMP). Walter has extensive knowledge and experience in Strategic Business Planning, Business Reengineering, Information Systems Planning, Portfolio Management, Process and Project Management, Project Management Office (PMO) implementation and Joint Application Development (JAD) session leading. He has significant experience in Process and Project Management assessments based on the Software Engineering Institute's Capability Maturity Model (SEI CMM) and PMI's Organizational Project Management Maturity Model (OPM3). Walter was recently appointed by PMI to be the Region 6 (South and Southwest U.S.) Component Mentor for 2011 – 2013.

The Westsite meeting featured ***“Lean Program Mgmt Principles. Practices and Tools for Accelarting Value Delivery”*** by Dr. Julian is President: In this session, Dr. Julian provided a framework and toolset for systematically accelerating delivery at the project, program and portfolio levels. Drawing on over 15 years of experience working with teams to deploy lean principles, participants had the opportunity to learn how some of the best project-based organizations in the world are using these practices to reduce cycle time, improve quality and develop a high performing learning organization that continuously improves from one phase, iteration and project to the next.

Please go to <http://www.pmihouston.org/p/cm/ld/fid=17> to view upcoming events this month.

PMI Houston Newsletter:

The Project Management Institute – Houston Chapter, Inc. published their newsletter on a monthly basis, the contents are diverse going from the message from one of their Board members, chapter meetings announcements, compelling feature articles to the art project to promote creativity and innovation with the project manager skill set.



The edition for June 2010 is now available on their web site at:

<http://www.pmihouston.org/download.php?sid=1731>.

About the Author:



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Quang Ton, CABM, CISM, CGEIT, 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 Project Manager of the QHSE (Quality Health Safety & Environment) Business Systems for [Schlumberger Limited](#), 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, programs and strategy to secure information and offer 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®), Certified in the Governance of Enterprise IT (CGEIT®) and Foundation Level in Information Technology Infrastructure Library (ITIL). Additionally, Quang has been active in leadership positions with the Project Management Institute ([PMI](#)®) (Director at Large and VP of Communications) and Schlumberger Limited (Eureka SIG Leader in Process Management). In February 2010, he received the leader recognition from [Princeton Global Network](#). Quang lives in Houston, Texas, USA and can be contacted at pmi.qton@yahoo.com.