

PMI Today

PMO Symposium Experts Provide Advice on the Future of the PMO

By Louis La Plante

Held on 11–14 November 2012 in Las Vegas, Nevada, USA, the PMI® PMO Symposium attracted more than 600 executives and project professionals seeking to create or advance their organizations' project management offices (PMOs).

Offering a variety of networking opportunities and advanced sessions, the PMO Symposium brought together those seeking to hear from experts from around the world.

PMI President and CEO Mark A. Langley kicked off the event by calling on PMOs to enable organizational success, not just manage projects.

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Burt Rutan

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PMI® Global Congress 2012—
North America

Are You Ready? Practitioners From Around the Globe Urged to Build the Skills Executives Need

By Louis La Plante

Marcus Buckingham



In 2010, the world's best athletes converged in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, for the Winter Olympics. Two years later the city hosted a different breed of high performers, as nearly 2,300 project professionals from 66 countries gathered for the PMI® Global Congress 2012—North America.

Mark A. Langley, PMI president and CEO, kicked off the event with the big question: Are you ready? "Do you have the skills your organization's executives are looking for?" he asked. "Do know what those skills are?"

Going in armed with those skills is the best way for project professionals to position themselves—and their organizations—to gain a competitive edge.

"Everywhere I go, organizations are highly focused on investing in [project

management] as the strategic competency that we know it is," said Mr. Langley. "They see it as a way to deliver value efficiently, effectively and repeatedly to all stakeholders."

From diversity in project management to emotional intelligence, speakers covered a variety of topics, sparking conversations that continued during the event's many networking opportunities.

What Type of Leader Are You?

Part of being ready takes knowing what type of leader you are.

Keynote speaker and author Marcus Buckingham advised attendees to

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PMI New York City Chapter www.pminyc.org

Chapter Training Benefits African First Ladies, UN-Supporting Youth

The PMI New York City Chapter formed two new strategic partnerships in 2012 with the United Nations and affiliated organizations—the RAND Corporation and the World Federation of the United Nations Association (WFUNA). The chapter is also working on a potential partnership with the George W. Bush Presidential Center that stemmed from an event with RAND.

As part of these partnerships, the chapter delivered project management training to these organizations using the PMI Educational Foundation’s Project Management Skills for LifeSM curriculum, which was customized for the specific needs and projects being implemented at these organizations.

First Ladies Fellowship Program

RAND’s African First Ladies Fellowship Program initiatives partners with Africa’s first ladies, supporting their efforts to become champions of change for the health and education of millions of women and children across the continent. This initiative introduces Africa’s First

Ladies and their advisors to various strategies for establishing and managing an effective first lady’s office with leadership development for improving executive decision making.

As wives of presidents and prime ministers, Africa’s first ladies occupy a unique position at the pinnacle of society. The PMI New York City Chapter was contacted by RAND to deliver project and program management training for these representatives, as the first ladies specifically requested this type of training for the Fellowship Program.

During the week of the General Assembly at the United Nations in New York City, Julia Bell, PMP, PMI New York City Chapter program manager of administration, and Paula Storonsky, PMP, PMI New York City Chapter vice president of programs, delivered this training to the first ladies’ chiefs of staff. The course was offered as “train-the-trainer,” where the

chiefs would then take the course material back to the first ladies. Chapter President Joshua Lerner, PMP, attended a private pre-event to this training, attended by first ladies from Benin, Comoros, Republic of



PMI New York City Chapter President Joshua Lerner, PMP, with former U.S. first lady Laura Bush, keynote speaker at the RAND event

Congo, Malawi, Mali, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Tanzania and Zambia.

The event had Laura Bush, former first lady of the United States, as the keynote speaker. In attendance was also former first lady of the United Kingdom Cherie

Blair, wife of former Prime Minister Tony Blair, as well as various celebrities.

The chapter was able to establish an excellent partnership with RAND, including the various chiefs of staff and fellows who attended our training, who have since indicated they are interested in gaining additional project management training and perhaps certification. The chapter has also established a potential partnership with the George W. Bush Presidential Center Women’s Initiative, with a potential speaking engagement from Mrs. Laura Bush.

Training for WFUNA Youth Seminar

PMINYC also partnered with WFUNA, an organization that works for a stronger and more effective United Nations. The chapter delivered a project management course for students from six different countries: Brazil, Malaysia, Mexico, South Korea, United Kingdom and the United States.

The United Nations’ eight millennium development goals (MDG), approved by the General Assembly in 2000, was the



African first ladies with former first ladies Cherie Blair (UK) and Laura Bush (USA)

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single most important element of this WFUNA youth seminar, because each project discussed by the students had to be aligned with one or more of them. These goals were:

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
2. Achieve universal primary education
3. Promote gender equality and empower women
4. Reduce child mortality
5. Improve maternal health
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
7. Ensure environmental sustainability
8. Global partnership for development



PMI New York City Chapter Vice President of Administration Bill Ruggles, PMP (back row, left) and Program Manager of Administration Julia Bell, PMP (back row, 5th from right), delivering training to WFUNA students

Since the target fulfillment year is 2015, there are still three more years in which the PMI New York City Chapter can assist in helping these and other young adults initiate, plan and execute their MDG-aligned projects. The chapter's training team, comprised of Bill Ruggles, PMP, vice president of administration, and Julia Bell, PMP, program manager of administration, used each participant's actual MDG-aligned project for his or her country as the primary focus of the course, including using the projects as real-world examples in the break-out exercises in the class.

PMI Goes Mobile

Now you can stay connected with the world's largest project management community with the new myPMI mobile app offered by PMI.

If you are a PMI member, certification or credential holder, or registered user of PMI.org, you can access this convenient and easy to use app for iPhone and Android. It is an ideal way to engage with other PMI members and access your personalized dashboard of myPMI information, anytime, anywhere! On-the-go functionality includes:

- Maintaining your professional profile on myPMI
- Checking your certification status and tracking your professional development units (PDUs)
- Searching for and following information about PMI events
- Connecting to your personal network of PMI colleagues and experts in the communities of practice

- Tracking your membership and renewal status

Specific activities are available for members and credential holders:

Members can download the app and receive full on-the-go access to PMI. You can easily obtain articles, information, and tools and templates to help you do your job every day. Use the myPMI app to locate experts in our communities of practice, track your membership, find an event, post in blogs, search for tools and knowledge or share expertise with your colleagues. Getting started is easy; just log in to the myPMI mobile app with your PMI.org login user name and password.

Certification and credential holders can download and use the mobile app's streamline to report and track on-the-go PDUs. You can also search for project management training events to update and expand your project skills. Getting started is easy; just log in to the myPMI mobile app with your PMI.org login user name and password.

The myPMI mobile app is available for download now via app stores for the iPhone* and Android. Visit www.PMI.org/Movies/mypmiapplanding today and get connected!

*Requirements: Compatible with iPhone and iPod touch. Requires iOS 5 or later.

