

DSIG NEWSLETTER



Special points of interest:

- We currently have 154 active members from all over the world. See page 6
- 46 DSIG members are PMP certified! See page 5 for an article on the "Benefits of PMP Certification".
- This newsletter needs a name! See page 6 for details on a contest to name the newsletter!
- Tribute to Columbia crew page 7.

FROM THE DSIG PRESIDENT: JOIN US!

-Stewart White

I personally offer my congratulations to the incoming 2003 Diversity SIG Board of Directors. We are fortunate to have this immensely talented and diverse group of individuals representing us in 2003. Our challenge is to maintain and further expand our momentum in 2003. We have the opportunity to continue growing the DSIG component membership, to partner with industry in bringing diverse project management to the forefront, and to collaborate with neighboring PMI components on high quality programs for our membership.



DSIG President Stewart White (second from left) accepting 2002 Chapter of the Year Award for PMI Memphis Chapter with chapter President John Schmitt.

In the previous year, we have grown to almost 160 members – quite an accomplishment considering we've conducted no membership drives or special events. I feel confident that further, phenomenal growth is possible – with your help.

So far, we've relied on a small group of talented, dedicated individuals to support current activities. With your involvement, we can offer top quality programs and increase membership dramatically. So I'm inviting you to volunteer for at least one quality program in 2003. If you are PMP certified, you can earn 5 PDU points this way. It's also an excellent networking and career development experience for everyone.

PMI is built on volunteerism. For over 30 years individual members have created an organization of al-

most 100,000 members worldwide. Volunteerism builds a sense of community in our profession, and breaks barriers of culture, ethnicity, and business categories. It develops leadership and career skills, and provides a sense of accomplishment at having made a difference.

With your help, we can reach our goals for 2003:

- Develop an aggressive PR and membership recruitment program
- Host a multi-track Professional Development Day event - by providing DSIG and PMI

(Continued on page 4)

Diversity challenges assumptions, opens minds, and unlocks our potential to solve any problem we may face.

Inside this issue:

Meet the DSIG Board of Directors	2
PMI Leadership Institute	4
Translations of PMBOK Available	4
Benefits of PMP Certification	5
PMI Introduces PMP Retired	5
PMI DSIG—Representing the World	6
From the Editor	7

100,000 AND COUNTING

On 8 January 2003, at 7:15:03 p.m. (US Eastern Time), Pierre Racine of Vaudreuil-Dorion, Quebec, Canada, became the 100,000th member to join PMI. The contest winner was Sunil V. Varanasy. His guess of 7:15 p.m. on 8 January 2003, nearly matched the exact time that Mr. Racine joined PMI! With more than 100,000 members, PMI is one of the largest global professional associations in the world.

2003 DSIG BOARD OF DIRECTORS

STEWART WHITE

PRESIDENT

Stewart is employed as an Engineering Project Manager at FedEx Corporate Services Scanning Technology Development - IT Division, a subsidiary of FedEx Corporation. FedEx Scanning Technologies develops strategic scanning and imaging solutions for FedEx Corporation which enables productivity and provides real time package tracking features of service. The solutions produced by FedEx Scanning Technologies Division provides FedEx Corporation with a strategic competitive advantage over competition.

Stewart has over 15 years of diverse project management experience in software application development, software process improvement, and complete design and engineering services. Stewart holds a Masters in Engineering Management from Christian Brothers University, and a B.S. in MIS from California State University- Hayward.

Previously Stewart has been a PMI Memphis TN Chapter officer. PMI Memphis Chapter was the recipient of the PMI 2002 Component Award Chapter of the Year (1-4 years), and was recognized at the PMI Leadership Meeting held in San Antonio, TX in October 2002.

SANDRA ROWE, PMP

VP FINANCE

Sandra Rowe, PMP, MBA, MSCIS is a senior project manager at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan. She is the project manager over the project office implementation project and is also responsible for developing and maintaining the project management infrastructure for her division. Sandra also designs and develops project management training programs. She received her PMP in

1995. Sandra lives in Southfield, Michigan and is a regular speaker at project management conferences. Sandra was featured as the cover story in volume 1 issue 4 of **Projects@Work** magazine which can be accessed online at <http://projectsatwork.com/paw/pastissues.htm>.

PATRICE MAJOR

VP eTECHNOLOGY

Patrice Major is originally from Jamaica West Indies and migrated to the U.S.A. in 1981. After completing her Bachelors Degree in Management Information Systems at Pace University N.Y.C campus, she relocated to Northern Virginia where she has lived since 1988. She obtained an M.B.A from George Mason University in June 1997 and currently works for SAIC as a Project Team Leader.

Her work experience spans approximately 15 years of providing business solutions to Commercial and Government clients with a concentration in the mortgage, travel and insurance industries. Her career emphasis has been on working collaboratively in a team environment to identify and analyze requirements and to implement the best technical solution. Patrice has worked as a team leader and an individual contributor to provide full lifecycle systems support in various environments. These include main-frame, client-server and web development.

She became a member of PMI in 1999 and DSIG in 2000. She was appointed to the role of Assistant Vice-Chair of Membership in April 2002 and has subsequently assumed the role of VP of eTechnology. Her immediate goal is to work with the other board members to extend DSIG's visibility by significantly enhancing the website. She is confident that by providing more timely diversity-related information and with the introduction of online seminars (webinars), other leaders will see DSIG as a source of

(Continued on page 3)

2003 DSIG BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(Continued from page 2)

valuable project management information in this ever-increasing diverse workforce.

MARIE EDWARDS, PMP

VP MEMBERSHIP

Marie Edwards is a Process Engineer by training, with emphasis in Business Information and Telecommunications Systems. She has an advanced degree (MPM) in Project Management and PMP certification. Marie has been in the telecommunications field for over 15 years, starting in outside plant engineering then moving to development. Marie has reengineered a Priority Review Process for all corporate IT expenses, collaborating with management to secure executive buy-in. She has also managed several large-scale projects; such as orchestrating sales/sales support personnel in over 200 locations nationwide, preparing them to accept capital and software upgrades. In addition to program and process management, Marie is also involved in Business Impact Analysis studies.

Marie grew up in Tulsa Oklahoma then moved to Nashville, Chicago, Cambridge, and Kansas City. She completed her undergraduate studies at Tennessee State University, with internships at Argonne National Labs and Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She and her husband now reside in Dallas, Texas.

FREDRICKA ROSS-MOLOCK

VP MARKETING

Ms. Fredricka Ross-Molock is a native of North Carolina and currently resides in Glenn Dale, Maryland. She received a Master's degree in Management of Information Systems Technology - Project Management from George Washington University in 2001.

In 1985, Ms. Molock began her career with the federal government. During her tenure she was employed with the Department of Navy, United States International Trade Commission and Defense Automation and Production Services. She was also assigned to the Office of the Secretary of Defense - Joint Task Force as an executive leader for a defense-wide Automation Program.

After her career with federal government, Ms. Molock served as a Project Manager with Thomas and Herbert Consulting firm where she established over \$1,000,000 in business. Later in 1999, Ms. Molock's profession with Amdex Corporation allowed her to analyze current system architectures and to develop improved systems, which operated on a 4.2 million-dollar budget

Currently, as Project Manager for The Bureau of National Affairs, she has introduced new concepts and practices for improving project management methodologies, increasing performance in software development, and implementing innovative business strategies.

Ms. Molock has garnered several commendations throughout her career. She has active memberships with PMI, Outstanding Young Women of America, and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated. Also, she serves on the Woodpointe Association board and has spoken at Defense Logistics Agency Annual Women's Leadership Conference.

Ms. Molock is married to Gregory Molock, Sr. and has one son, Gregory, Jr. Her hobbies are Theatrical Arts, Interior Design, Classical and Jazz music.

ANGELA LESTER, PMP

VP PUBLICATIONS

Angela Lester is a native of Memphis, TN.


(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

She earned a B.A. in Economics from Yale University in 1988. After college, Angela completed the Management Development Program at GE Capital. While at GE Capital, Angela held several positions including Inventory Finance Manager, Senior Credit Manager, and Senior Financial Analyst. She was later chosen as a member of GE Capital's Corporate Audit Staff. She completed several audit engagements before returning to Memphis, TN.

In Memphis, Angela worked for Intelligent Electronics as a Process Analyst and Production Control Manager. She later worked for Ingram Micro after it purchased Intelligent Electronics. At Ingram Micro, Angela served as a Quality Manager, setting up the quality system for its new Frameworks division and achieving ISO 9000 certification in three months. She later served as a Project/Program Manager for Ingram Micro's channel assembly programs.

Currently, Angela is a lead Project Manager at SBC, Inc., working on one of the largest projects in SBC's history. She manages the logistics of deploying DLSAM equipment to over 1500 locations nationwide; over one million DSL lines have been deployed during this project.

Angela previously held the position of VP Finance and currently holds the position of VP Publications for the Memphis Chapter of PMI. She is also a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. 

("From the President" Continued from page 1)

membership with a Diversity-related Professional Development event designed to improve their understanding of Diversity and its importance in the field of Project Management.

- Host a webinar event to facilitate a joint collaboration of PM related activities and provide networking opportunities
- Develop a Diversity related educational information repository that can provide subject matter expertise on diverse pro-

ject management challenges and constraints

- Publish lessons learned and best practice articles from Diversity SIG PMP members

Together, we can do all of this and more. Join us! Develop your career! Your services will not go unacknowledged. I look forward to working with you over the coming year. Together we can make 2003 the best year ever! Join us by emailing the Diversity SIG President at sbwhite@fedex.com or calling 901-375-6075.



PMI LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

Improve your leadership skills! Expand your knowledge! Don't miss the exciting learning and leadership development opportunities available to you through the PMI Leadership Institute. The Leadership Institute is a unique program that offers its students the opportunity to participate with a small group of individuals in active learning sessions and skill building activities. Participants in the Leadership Institute are goal setters – and goal achievers! They gain valuable knowledge and feedback through personal development planning, peer networking, active discussion and mentoring. For more information on how you can become a participant in the PMI Leadership Institute, we encourage you to visit the PMI Web site at your earliest convenience at http://www.pmi.org/info/GMC_LeadershipInstFile.asp, or contact Linn Wheeling, Manager, Worldwide Component Affairs at linn.wheeling@pmi.org.

Excerpt from PMI Friday Facts

TRANSLATIONS OF PMBOK NOW AVAILABLE

Chinese, Spanish and Brazilian Portuguese translations of the PMBOK® Guide are now available! Five other official non-English-language translations to soon follow! To better support project practitioners around the world, and to maintain global project management standards, PMI® is releasing eight

(Continued on page 6)

BENEFITS OF PMP CERTIFICATION

-Leigh Shepherd, PMP

Leigh Shepherd, a project manager for Memphis Networkx, shares how she has benefited from PMP Certification.

I had been working in Project Management for about three years when I first began hearing about PMP Certification. I had come to a point in my career where I knew I needed something extra to challenge me more and give work a little more "oomph". I enjoyed project management and wanted to stay with it, so I began talking to other project managers for ideas. They told me about the PMP, what it was, and the benefits of obtaining Certification. They said that it was valuable in today's market, and would possibly create more opportunities for me. The more I researched the more I realized that this was exactly what I had been looking for.

I found out about the Memphis PMI Chapter exam prep course being offered here in June of 2001. After taking the class I felt like I had more of a handle on what I was going into. I continued studying, talking to others preparing to take the test, and began taking computer-based practice tests. Those really got me prepared for the format, and going into the test was less intimidating for me than it would have otherwise been, I believe.

I took the test after several months of studying, and walked out that same day with my PMP Certification. And my reasons turned out to be well founded. The next month I had a job interview with a company in a sector in which I had no previous experience – broadband communications. They were looking for a project manager who was PMP Certified. They weren't as concerned about the sector-specific experience – they knew that since I had my certification, I had project management experience and knowledge and these were transferable. I was able to talk to them about specific project management tools and methodologies that I could bring with me and begin applying right away. The next month I started work at the company, and I immediately began using tools such as the work breakdown structure, network diagrams, and risk assessments to organize the work and to educate myself about the projects. The certification allowed me to move into another sector because the company had confidence in my ability, and then to prove my value from the start.

Getting my PMP Certification was an extremely valuable career move. It not only opened up more opportunities for me, but it gave me the confidence to step into a completely unfamiliar sector. I came in with more tools and resources than I otherwise would

have had, too, making me even more valuable to the company and even more enthusiastic about tackling the challenges.



PMI® Introduces "PMP Retired" Status

PMI's Certification Board Center Board of Directors recently approved a "PMP Retired" status to recognize individuals with the Project Management Professional (PMP®) accreditation who have demonstrated a lasting commitment to the project management profession, but whose primary income is no longer derived from project-related employment/services. PMPs in good standing who wish to voluntarily relinquish their active PMP credentials due to retirement, and who have abided by the PMI Project Management Professional Code of Professional Conduct, are eligible to apply for PMP Retired status.

To qualify, PMPs must no longer be receiving primary remuneration for practicing project management and must have been a PMP in good standing for at least 10 consecutive years. Individuals who are granted this new distinction will not need to meet requirements of the PMP Continuing Certification Requirements program. Although not a credential for practice, PMP Retired status will entitle individuals to recognition in the registry of PMPs and to participate in activities of the PMI Certification Program.

Anyone interested in applying for PMP Retired recognition should mail a written request to PMI Headquarters, Attn: Certification Department, Four Campus Boulevard, Newtown Square, PA, 19073-3299, USA.

In an effort to better inform PMPs that their PDUs have been completed, the Application for Certification Renewal is now being sent to qualifying PMPs as soon as PMI Headquarters receives confirmation from PMI Records that all required PDUs have been accumulated.

From The Editor

Over the years, space shuttle missions became so routine that the missions stopped becoming front page news. Many people were not even aware when a shuttle mission was taking place. I was not one of them. I dreamed of becoming an astronaut as a child. Although I did not follow that dream, I remained fascinated with space travel and followed every shuttle mission. When I became a Project Manager, I became aware of the amazing project management skills at work behind the scenes of every shuttle mission and appreciated the skill and teamwork necessary to lift a shuttle from the earth into orbit and to bring it down safely. Unfortunately, the Columbia did not make it back to earth, but the mission was not a failure. Every time I see pictures of the crew of the Columbia, I am reminded that this mission was a picture of diversity. The crew was made up of people of different races, sexes, nationalities, and religious beliefs working together on a wondrous project to the stars. I would like to use this space in the newsletter to remember this brave crew.

-Angela Lester, PMP



Michael P. Anderson, 43, a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Air Force, was a former instructor pilot and tactical officer. Anderson logged over 211 hours in space.



Rick Husband, 45, a colonel in the U.S. Air Force, was a test pilot and veteran of one spaceflight. Selected by NASA in December 1994, Husband logged more than 235 hours in space.



Laurel Clark, 41, was a commander (captain-select) in the U.S. Navy and a naval flight surgeon. Selected by NASA in April 1996, Clark was making her first spaceflight.



William C. McCool, 41, a commander in the U.S. Navy, was a former test pilot. Selected by NASA in April 1996, McCool was making his first spaceflight.



Ilan Ramon, 48, a colonel in the Israeli Air Force, was a fighter pilot who was the only payload specialist on STS-107. Approved by NASA in 1998, he was making his first spaceflight.



Kalpana Chawla, 41, was an aerospace engineer and an FAA Certified Flight Instructor. Selected by NASA in December 1994, Chawla logged more than 376 hours in space.



David M. Brown, 46, a captain in the U.S. Navy, was a naval aviator and flight surgeon. Selected by NASA in April 1996, Brown was making his first spaceflight.



Project Management Institute

“Building professionalism in project management”

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