

# PMI Mid-Mo Chapter News

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## Chapter Website Milestones

### *New Tool to Enhance Communication*

Hats off to Chapter Website Committee members Carol Elliott, PMP, of Shelter Insurance, and Nathan Eatherton of the University of Missouri for diligent work to provide the Chapter with an Internet presence. Elliott and Eatherton devoted significant time and effort to conceptualize, design, and develop the new site, which initially will be hosted on the PMI web site.

The site will provide the following content:

- Home Page with internal links and news.
- Chapter Information page with "about us" data.
- Chapter Events page with events such as meetings and workshops, and links to points of contact.
- Newsletter page containing this publication.
- Board Members page with full contact information.
- Areas of Interest page with links to sister chapters, PMI website pages, and other organizations.
- Contact Us page with the chapter's official mailing address and central point of contact.

[See Website on page 2](#)

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## *FIRST WORKSHOP A SUCCESS*

### *Interrelated Topics Tied by Oakwood Systems*

The Capability Maturity Model and Microsoft Project 2000 Workshop held Feb. 24 at the Ramada Inn in Jefferson City provided two dozen attendees their money's worth, and more. Attendee Ron Parker won the door prize, a full licensed copy of Microsoft Project 2000, worth \$500 retail, courtesy of Paul DeBaum of Microsoft Project Support, Microsoft Corporation.

In addition to the giveaway, the half-day event included good humor, bad weather, and insightful and highly useful presentation material.

First up was presenter Jim Bouchey of Oakwood Systems Group, Inc. ([www.oakwoodsys.com](http://www.oakwoodsys.com)).

Bouchey, a management consultant in Oakwood's Nashville office, presented on the Carnegie Mellon University Software Engineering Institute's Capability Maturity Model, or CMM, linked at (<http://www.sei.cmu.edu/cmm/cmms/cmms.html>).

Bouchey knowledgeably covered need-to-know aspects of the CMM. First he defined the model as "a focused and sustained effort towards building a *process infrastructure* of effective software engineering and management practices." Next, Bouchey said the CMM is a common-sense application of process management and quality improvement concepts to software development and maintenance. Then, he provided an overview of the CMM:

1. It contains five levels – *initial* (in which projects are unpredictable and poorly controlled), *repeatable* (with a standard, consistent process), *defined* (characterized by fairly well understood processes), *managed* (with processes measured and controlled), and *optimizing* (which is focused on continuous process improvement).

[See Workshop on page 3](#)

In January the Chapter Board approved hosting of the site by national PMI headquarters, and the volunteer website committee was formed. That same month the committee completed a content survey of other components' websites, submitted proposed content to the Board, built a demo site and demonstrated it to the Board, and gathered required content from the Board.

In mid-February, the committee settled on content formats, an update schedule, and a domain name. As this newsletter was being published, the committee completed changes necessary to launching the site. A live demonstration of the site was planned for the March 22 Chapter Meeting at the Ramada Inn ([www.ramadajeffcity.com](http://www.ramadajeffcity.com)) in Jefferson City to acquaint members with the new tool and provide its approved URL (Internet link address).

In April, the committee is schedule to propose Internet Service Provider (ISP) criteria to the Board. In May a list of three to five proposed ISPs will be provided to the Board so selection of one may result in hosting the site on a commercial server that provides development space and other desired features.

Chapter VP of Communication Frank Cox will serve as the single point of contact for Web related matters beginning with the scheduled launch of the site on March 22. ❖

## IN THE NEWS

**Roundup and Excerpts Reprinted  
with Permission from PMI Friday Facts**

**Certification Program** – PMI conducted a Certificate of Added Qualification (CAQ™) Project Management Office (PMO) study in Dallas in February. Project Management Professionals (PMP®) with PMO experience participated as the study's panelists. The panelists developed and validated performance domains and competencies that describe the tasks PMPs could be expected to perform in a PMO environment. More will follow in later issues of the newsletter.

**R.E.P. Update** – As of February, PMI completed the registration of its 270<sup>th</sup> non-component Registered Education Provider. A complete listing of REPs with their links is online at [www.pmirop.org](http://www.pmirop.org).

**PMI Welcomes EDS** – The PMI Corporate Council, at [www.pmi.org/corporatecouncil](http://www.pmi.org/corporatecouncil), recently welcomed corporate shaker EDS as its newest participant. Check the link out for a complete listing of participants and links to their home pages. For more information, send email to [corporatecouncil@pmi.org](mailto:corporatecouncil@pmi.org).

**Career Headquarters** – PMI's Career Headquarters is an online career center that is dedicated to providing project management employers and job seekers with services to meet their employment needs. Among other offerings, the center ([www.pmi.org/CareerHQ](http://www.pmi.org/CareerHQ)) enables members to benefit from free resume postings and reduced rates for employer job postings. Access the link, or contact the center at [CareerHQ@pmi.org](mailto:CareerHQ@pmi.org).

**Project Management ROI** – The PMI Project Management Research Program, headed by Professor C. William Ibbs of the University of California at Berkeley, is aimed at a "Quantitative Demonstration of the Value of Project Management" and seeks participants. The effort under the program is focused on determining the return-on-investment (ROI) represented by investment in project management. Link to information about the study at [www.ce.berkeley.edu/pmroi](http://www.ce.berkeley.edu/pmroi). For more information via PMI, send an email to [r&d@pmi.org](mailto:r&d@pmi.org). Ibbs' email address is [ibbs@ce.berkeley.edu](mailto:ibbs@ce.berkeley.edu).

**Ah, the Possibilities!** – The demand for professional project managers is partially reflected in PMI's membership statistics for March. As of March 9, membership stood at 71, 617 worldwide. The Mid-Missouri Chapter contributes 83 members or .12% to the PMI membership. On the lighter side, using Excel forecasting, the Chapter would only need another 633 members (an average of eight new members per month through November 2007) to achieve 1% of the current Institute membership – or only one more new member per month, on average, than the Chapter gained in its first 12 months of existence.

**Online Voting** – PMI is migrating to Internet based balloting to provide a convenient, secure, accurate way to elect the Institute's Board of Directors. This year, members may vote on paper or electronically. Log in with your member password at [www.pmi.org/members](http://www.pmi.org/members) to state your preference. ❖

## Chapter Board Members

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Workshop continued from page 1

2. The organizational capability maturity level indicates process capability and is recognized via key process areas (KPA), in which the organization strives to achieve goals. The KPA are organized by common features supporting software implementation or institutionalization. Each KPA contains key practices that describe infrastructure or activities.
3. CMM benefits include advancement from level one, in which project schedule and cost targets are typically overrun, to level five and continuous improvement. Along the maturity path, defects and rework are reduced, less time is used per task, consistent practices are established, project communication improves, and project teams more consistently deliver as promised.
4. Most organizations should focus on level two KPA: software project planning, tracking, and oversight to establish basic project management controls.

Following Bouchey was Lloyd Miller, PMP, also of Oakwood, who opened his segment on Microsoft Project 2000 and Project Central with this: "What do Microsoft Project and a hockey stick have in common?" (*Answer a the end of this article.*)

As a tremendous thunderstorm raged outside, Miller smoothly stepped attendees through many new features in Project 2000 (P2K): increased viewing flexibility, easier reporting features, improved capacity and performance, increased analysis features, and lots of new help features. He also mentioned that PCs and workstations designated for P2K use should be configured with 128MB to 256MB RAM.

Transitioning to Project Central, a Web add-on that allows two-way communication to everyone in a project, even those without P2K loaded, Miller said Central can only be viewed with Internet Explorer v5.0 or greater, or a special browser that comes bundled with P2K.

Concluding, Miller recommended expert help in implementing Project Central. In a valuable side note, he said Microsoft Project Workgroups, "a great tool", may be preferred over Project Central because Workgroups only requires access to a MAPI compliant 32-bit email system, and Workgroup Handler is software that comes free with P2K. ❖

(*Answer to Miller's Question: They're both tools!*)

## Useful Decision-making Tool Available to Chapter Members

The Microsoft Excel worksheet below is intended to help project stakeholder-teams come to terms with what is most to least important overall in a project. As noted in the worksheet, stakeholder voting must occur (and be entered where indicated) as early in a project as possible in order to get priorities straight during project conceptualization. After voting occurs and entries are made the user then selects the range of cells including all equal signs (=) to all rankings (8.3 to 2.3 below right) and sorts the data in descending order. I designed the worksheet to be simple to use and easy to communicate, so it also includes the bar chart below the worksheet to aid in reporting and presentation. Contact me for a free working copy. *-Frank Cox, Editor*

Project Stakeholder Voting										Overall Priorities Ranked High to Low			
Stakeholder	Scope	Time	Cost	Integrate	Quality	HR	Comm	Risk	Procure				
Jacob	7	6	3	2	8	3	2	9	1	1	=	Quality	8.30
Jane	4	4	3	1	8	3	6	8	4	2	=	Risk	7.00
Julie	6	4	3	1	7	3	9	8	4	3	=	Scope	6.30
Jennifer	6	4	3	2	9	2	9	9	2	4	=	Comm	5.60
James	6	4	3	1	9	3	9	8	1	5	=	Time	5.00
Jocelyn	6	3	5	2	8	2	9	8	1	6	=	Cost	4.20
Joyce	6	4	5	2	7	4	3	8	1	7	=	HR	3.00
Judy	6	7	5	4	9	4	3	5	1	8	=	Procure	2.50
Jo	8	7	6	4	9	3	3	5	5	9	=	Integrate	2.30
John	8	7	6	4	9	3	3	2	5				
Name11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
Name12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
Name13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
Name14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
Name15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
Name16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
Name17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
Name18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				

Voting must occur while exploring requirements and before contracts are let or resources are tasked per statement of work (SOW) or work breakdown structure (WBS). Ranked results should be communicated to staff and contractors, and contractors should acknowledge the priorities in a SOW-driven project assessment quotation (PAQ).

