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Project Management Institute  
Michigan Capital Area Chapter

# MAXIMUM FLOAT

## Michigan Capital Area Chapter Newsletter

Volume VIII, Issue V

February 2007

www.pmi-mcac.org

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## Message from the President

John Le Tourneau, PMP

Hello Everyone! For those that were not able to make the January meeting, you missed an excellent presentation by Teri Takai, the CIO of the State of Michigan. The feedback from the attendees found the presentation to be very informational and interesting. Director Takai spoke about the history of the formation of the Michigan Department of Information Technology (DIT) and the Project Control Office. Her presentation can be found on the Michigan Capital Area Chapter web site in the chapter business area.

Our February program meeting on the 20th is also looking to be a very good presentation. Mr. Philip Hughes is going to talk to us about his experiences working in "new" environments. He will talk about "working in an environment where language and culture are radically different, and a whole new set of perspectives – and experiences – await." Please join us, it should be fun.

*See President, continued on page 3*

### Program Meeting Announcement

**February 20, 2007**

Program Meeting at 6:00 PM  
Clarion Hotel and Conference Center  
3600 Dunckel Drive, Lansing, MI

**Speaker:** Phillip Hughes

**Topic:** "Wow, this place is different...alien environments, culture shock, and project management."

To Register go to : <http://www.pmi-mcac.org/>  
And use the Monthly Program Meeting Link

### Inside this Edition

Message from the President .....	1, 3
Vice Presidents Corners .....	3, 4
Financials.....	4
Risk Doctor.....	5
Monthly Program Information .....	6

## International Institute for Learning, Inc.

### MICHIGAN CLASS SCHEDULE

To view full course schedule visit [www.iil.com](http://www.iil.com)

#### Earn PDUs and Advance Your Career!

##### The Project Management Certificate Program: The Kerzner Approach® to Project Management Excellence

Project management certification demonstrates to current and potential employers that you possess a solid foundation of experience and education in project management that can have a positive impact on bottom-line results. Join the thousands of project managers who have taken this course on their way to PMP® certification!

\$2,895.00 | 46 Hours | CEUs: 4.6 PDUs: 46  
Apr 4-5, 2007 Dearborn, MI  
May 15-16, 2007 Grand Rapids, MI

##### Building High Performance Teams

The goal of this course is to provide you with the skills to properly lead and/or participate in productive project teams. You will identify the key processes and skills necessary for successful high-performance teams.

\$1,295.00 | 14 Hours | CEUs: 1.4 PDUs: 14  
Apr 23-24, 2007 Sterling Heights, MI

##### Accounting and Finance Principles for Project Management Practitioners

Each project professional must have a thorough grounding in principles of accounting and finance in order to determine the project's contribution to economic value and to ensure that the project results in a competitive advantage with maximum cash flow. Learn what you must do in order that any last minute or unplanned costs, expenses, or allocations do not affect your project's financial outlook.

\$1,295.00 | 14 Hours | CEUs: 1.4 PDUs: 14  
Apr 16-17, 2007 Grand Rapids, MI

##### Stakeholder Relationship Skills for Project Managers

This 2 day course is designed to provide project managers with the ability to analyze the complexities of major stakeholder relationship categories, apply the most appropriate interpersonal relationship skills to the different categories of relationships and align the dynamic needs of the stakeholders with a project's objective throughout the project life cycle.

\$1,295.00 | 14 Hours | CEUs: 1.4 PDUs: 14  
Apr 12-13, 2007 Sterling Heights, MI

##### OPM3® Standard Knowledge Course

If you are seeking in-depth knowledge on PMI's OPM3® standard or even considering working as a consultant or assessor in the new and emerging field of the Organizational Project Management Maturity Model (OPM3), this program will provide you with the necessary knowledge to build upon for future success. The 2-day OPM3 Knowledge Course, provided in cooperation with DNV, is an excellent way to prepare for the entrance exam, the first step in becoming a PMI Certified OPM3 Assessor or Consultant.

\$1,495.00 | 14 Hours | CEUs: 1.4 PDUs: 14  
Jun 21-22, 2007 Dearborn, MI

##### Project Estimating and Scheduling

The goal of this course is to equip you with the necessary knowledge, skills, and techniques so that you can establish realistic schedules and budgets for projects that support business objectives and meet client expectations.

\$1,295.00 | 14 Hours | CEUs: 1.4 PDUs: 14  
Apr 10-11, 2007 Dearborn, MI

## APMC™

[www.iil.com/apmc](http://www.iil.com/apmc)

### Advanced Project Management Certification The Kerzner Approach® to Best Practices (APMC™)

#### Your Potential. Your Company's Bottom-line. We Connect the Two.

A huge part of your company's success is your success as a project manager. Increased efficiency and productivity in project management bring increased return on investment for your company. So go ahead, propel your career and help your company reap rewards!

The APMC™ live eLearning curriculum is designed to help you learn how to control complex project management issues—from managing risks and quality to managing scope and budgets.

- Take from 3-12 months to complete the 64-hour online program
- Earn 64 PDUs when you attain your APMC™
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Find out if you qualify! New Program Series begins Quarterly.



Advanced Project Management Certification  
Kerzner Approach® to Best Practices

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### The Project Management eLibrary: The Project Management Certificate Program

#### Web-based, on-demand PM training for the Individual or Enterprise

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11 Modules/28 Lessons  
45 hours/45 PDUs

- Self-directed, dynamic, interactive, *PMBOK® Guide - Third edition* aligned content available right from the desktop
- Includes assessments, engaging graphics, interactive activities, knowledge checks, PMP® Exam Tips, scenario-based simulations, helpful hints and more

Take a FREE program tour at [www.iil.com/pm/elibrary](http://www.iil.com/pm/elibrary).

If your organization has a group to train, please contact Dustin Kanady at 800.325.1533, ext-5071 or email [elibrary@iil.com](mailto:elibrary@iil.com) for more information on our enterprise pricing.

## CONTACT

For more information on these programs, please contact Kathy Tchernychova at 212.515.5125 or [Kathy.Tchernychova@iil.com](mailto:Kathy.Tchernychova@iil.com)

For queries on onsite/group training, please contact Michael Connolly at 212.515.5161 or [Michael.Connolly@iil.com](mailto:Michael.Connolly@iil.com)



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## ***President, continued from page 1***

For those of you who are members of PMI and have not explored the many aspects of the PMI Member Community, <http://member.pmi.bluestep.net/>, I recommend that you do so. The site has a number of valuable features including a News and a Featured Discussion area where members can communicate with one another, valuable surveys, and information about the free EReads section of the web site. The topics and content change all the time and you can ask questions of other experienced project managers. You will need a valid PMI ID number and member password to access the site.

Take care and we'll see you at the next program meeting.

## ***Vice President – Membership***

**Dan Buonodono, PMP**

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the following member to our Chapter: Mr. Jeff Schultz, Jawood Business Process Solutions LLC. Welcome aboard Jeff!

The following Chapter member has attained their Project Management Professional (PMP) certification in January: Mrs. Laurie Taylor, PMP. Congratulations Lorie!

Our Chapter currently has 223 members, up from 217 just twelve months ago!

Please take the time to complete the Annual Membership Survey when it arrived in your email inbox. The Chapter Board values your input.

I am looking forward to seeing you all at our next program meeting on Tuesday, February 20<sup>th</sup>!

## ***Vice President – Logistics***

**Pam Sawatzki, PMP**

It was great to see so many people at the January dinner meeting and we are hoping for a repeat performance four next meeting on Tuesday, March 20, 2007. Our speaker is Phillip Hughes and his topic will be "Wow, this place is different...alien environments, culture shock, and project management". Something we can all relate to! It will be a great way to gain some new insights and understandings of what we can do when we find ourselves in this position.

Make plans to join us at the Lansing Clarion Hotel. Go to our website and register today.

## ***Vice-Presidents Reports – continued on pg 4***



**Vice President -- Finance**

Karl Meier

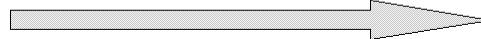
**Michigan Capital Area Chapter PMI  
Balance Sheet  
As of January 31, 2007**

Assets	
Current Assets – Checking/Savings	\$22,572.40
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$22,572.40</b>
Liabilities & Equity	
Liabilities	\$0
Equity	
Retained Earnings	\$22,934.58
Net Income	(\$362.18)
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$22,572.40</b>
 Total Liabilities and Equity	 <u>\$22,572.50</u>

The above Balance Sheet is generated from the Chapter's accounting system and does not suggest audited information.

**MAXIMUM FLOAT**

*Michigan Capital Area Chapter Newsletter*



**Published Monthly prior to  
Chapter Meetings**

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Dan Buonodono	Contributor
Pam Sawatzki	Contributor
John LeTourneau	Contributor
Karl Meier	Contributor
Amy Piper	Contributor

**Publicity@pmi-mcac.org**



## RISK DOCTOR BRIEFING



### THREE TENSES OF RISK IDENTIFICATION: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

© November 2006, Dr David Hillson PMP FAPM

[david@risk-doctor.com](mailto:david@risk-doctor.com)

***Yesterday is history; Tomorrow is mystery;  
Today is a gift – that's why we call it "the present"***

A risk cannot be managed unless it is first identified, and the purpose of risk identification is to identify all knowable risks. A range of techniques are available for identifying risks, and people often wonder which one is the best. Should we interview all stakeholders, or hold a workshop, or perhaps review a prompt list or distribute a risk questionnaire?

Risk identification techniques fall into three categories, which have different time perspectives – past, present and future.

1. *Historical review.* These look at what has already happened in the past, either during this situation, or in others which are comparable. They rely on careful selection of reference points to ensure that they are genuinely similar, and intelligent filtering of data to ensure that only relevant previous risks are considered. In each case, historical review methods ask whether risks which were identified before might arise this time.
2. *Current assessments.* These techniques require detailed consideration of the current situation, analysing its characteristics against given frameworks and models in order to expose areas of uncertainty. Unlike historical review approaches, current assessment techniques do not rely on outside reference points, but are based purely on examination of what exists today.
3. *Creativity techniques.* There are many risk identification approaches which encourage people to use their imagination to find possible risks which might affect future achievement of objectives. These techniques depend on the ability of stakeholders to think creatively, either individually or in groups, and their success is often enhanced by use of a skilled facilitator.

Each type of risk identification technique has strengths and weaknesses, and no single technique can be expected to reveal all knowable risks. Historical review techniques depend on how relevant previous experience is to the existing situation. Current assessment techniques rely on the quality of the diagnostic process and how well people really understand what is going on. The success of creativity techniques is driven by the ability of participants to imagine the future.

As a result the best solution for risk identification is to use a combination of techniques, perhaps selecting one of each type: past, present and future. For example it may be best to use a risk identification checklist (historical review), together with assumptions analysis (current assessment) and brainstorming (creativity). It is also good practice to involve different stakeholders in identifying risks, preferably in groups, as they are likely to see things from a variety of perspectives. An organisation which relies on a single point of view or only uses one type of risk identification technique is likely to miss important risks, leaving it exposed to threats that could have been avoided, and resulting in missed opportunities. Multiple perspectives offer a broader view of risks that might have an impact, leading to more effective risk identification.

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To provide feedback on this Briefing Note, or for more details on how to develop effective risk management, contact the Risk Doctor ([info@risk-doctor.com](mailto:info@risk-doctor.com)), or visit the Risk Doctor website ([www.risk-doctor.com](http://www.risk-doctor.com)).

## ***Monthly Program Meeting Information***

The MCAC Chapter Program Meetings are held at the Clarion Hotel and Conference Center, 3600 Dunckel Drive, Lansing, MI 48910

MCAC Chapter Program Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month, September through May, excluding December. Bonus Programs are often held prior to the Program Meeting (normally from 5:15 to 6:00). Please go to <http://www.pmi-mcac.org> for additional information.

**Costs:** \$25 for members and \$30 for non-members. Anyone who does not register in advance will be charged an additional \$5 at the door. If you are not pre-registered, we may be unable to accommodate you due to restaurant limitations.