

# PROJECT MANAGEMENT SYMPOSIUM

May 1-2, 2025



PROJECT MANAGEMENT  
CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE

A.J. CLARK SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING  
Civil & Environmental Engineering Department



# Agenda At A Glance

## Thursday, May 1

- 8:00 Registration Begins
- 8:50 Welcome & Featured Speaker  
MARK LINES
- 10:00 First Morning Sessions
- 11:00 Second Morning Sessions
- 11:45 Lunch & Networking
- 12:30 Featured Speaker  
BEN ROYCE
- 1:30 First Afternoon Sessions
- 2:30 Second Afternoon Sessions
- 3:30 Third Afternoon Sessions
- 4:30 Featured Speaker  
DR. MORRIS THOMAS
- 5:15 Networking Reception

## Friday, May 2

- 8:00 Registration Begins
- 9:00 Featured Speaker  
CYNTHIA GAYTON
- 10:00 First Morning Sessions
- 11:00 Second Morning Sessions
- 12:00 Third Morning Sessions
- 12:45 Lunch & Networking
- 1:30 Featured Speaker & Workshop  
LAURA BARNARD
- 3:00 Closing



## Symposium Evaluation

We value your feedback. Be sure to complete the overall symposium evaluation at the conclusion of the event. Submit for a chance to **win free admission** to next year’s symposium in May 2026!

# Welcome to our 12th Annual Project Management Symposium!

When we launched this Symposium in 2014, we set out to create a space where project management professionals could come together to share, challenge, and grow. Twelve years later, that mission feels more vital than ever.

You might notice something different this year: **no Agile Track**. That’s not an oversight—it’s a milestone. Agile is no longer confined to one lane. It’s fully integrated into how we work, showing up across all four tracks—**People in Projects, Federal Project Management, Project Management Skills, and Strategic Project Management**. It’s been adopted, adapted, and embedded with PMs choosing their own ways of working (WoW) across public policy to research, infrastructure, and enterprise delivery.

We’re also operating in a moment shaped by big shifts: the **so-called “global reset” of trade**, reduced support for federal professional development, and the early impacts of **AI’s rise** across our profession. In response, we’ve worked hard to keep this Symposium accessible, despite the headwinds.

Yes, **AI is changing the game**—from risk sensing and automation to smarter collaboration and predictive insights. You’ll see that across this year’s sessions. But let’s not forget: the greatest leverage is still inside our own minds. The way we think, organize, and manage the systems we’re now automating will determine how much value AI can actually unlock. AI isn’t a silver bullet—it’s an accelerant. It works best in environments with **trust, clarity, focus, and empowered teams**—and that’s where project managers come in.

Just two weeks ago, the University of Maryland hosted the **Coordination Crisis Conference**, highlighting how modern work often fails under the weight of misalignment, excessive meetings, and unclear ownership. But the solution isn’t just better tools—it’s **better management**. Project management remains one of the most effective levers we have to improve how work happens and how value gets delivered.

With the **PMBOK 8th Edition** on the horizon, a growing overlap between project and product roles, and AI communities reshaping how we lead, we have a lot to explore. Let’s do it together—with purpose, with urgency, and with the creativity this community is known for.

**Welcome back - it’s time to recharge and redefine our shared future, together.**



**John Johnson**  
Professional Program Manager  
University of Maryland  
Project Management Center for Excellence



**Kathleen Frankle**  
Marketing Manager  
University of Maryland  
Project Management Center for Excellence



## Free WiFi

Connect to wireless access point “UMD-guest” and open a web browser. For detailed instructions see back cover.

Thursday  
Friday

**USER**  
pmsymposiumday1  
pmsymposiumday2

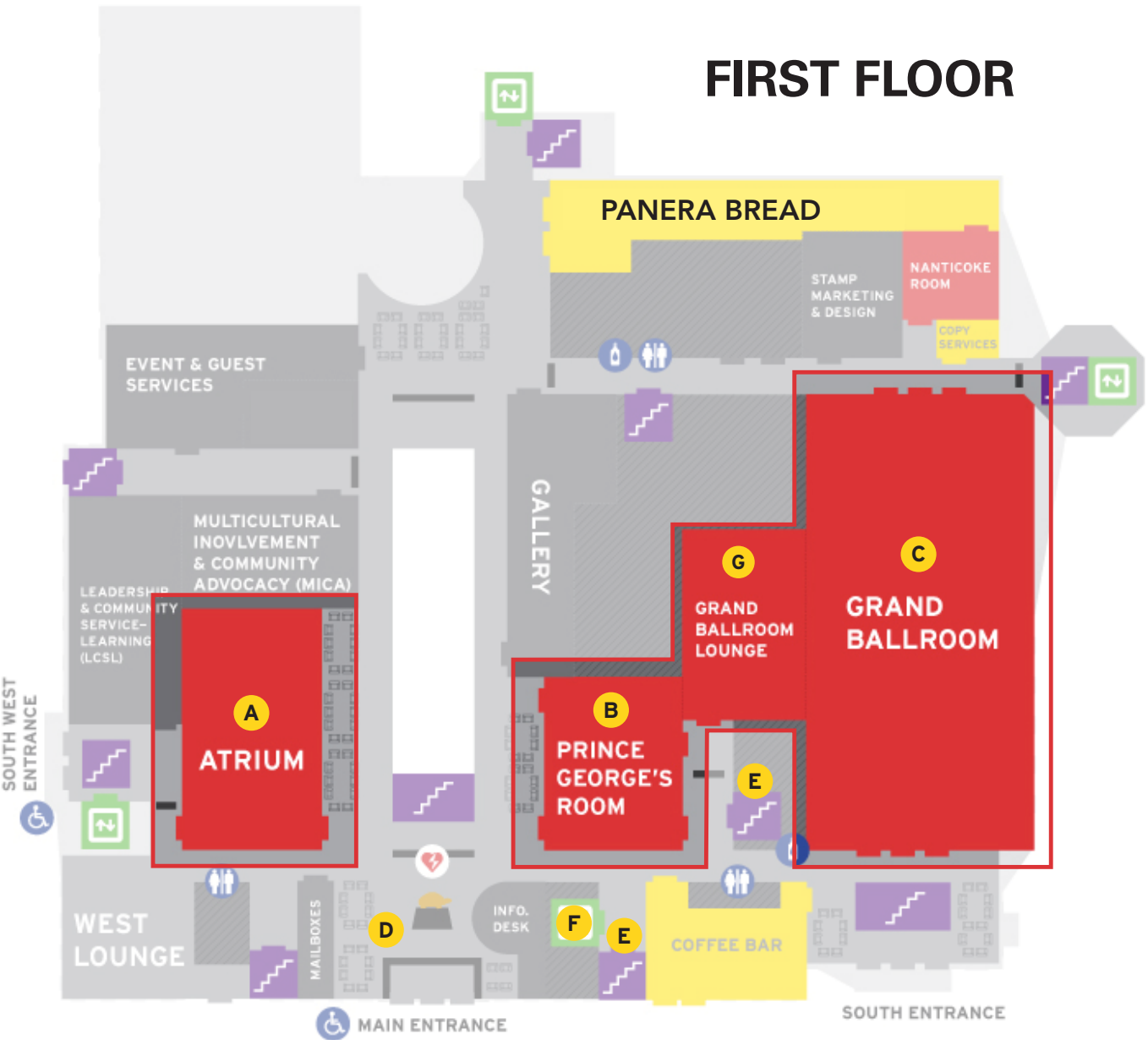
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# Meeting Rooms

# Meeting Rooms

All symposium meeting rooms are shown in red below.

## FIRST FLOOR



- A** People & Projects Track
- B** Federal Project Management Track
- C** Featured Speakers, Opening & Closing
- D** Registration
- E** Stairway to 2nd Floor
- F** Elevator to 2nd Floor
- G** Food & Drink

## SECOND FLOOR



- H** Project Management Skills Track
- I** Strategic Project Management Track
- J** Stairway to 1st Floor
- K** Elevator to 1st Floor



# Professional Development Units (PDUs)

Below is a chart indicating the number of PDUs you can earn through all the Symposium sessions. 1 PDU = 1 hour of professional development.

Session Type	Description	PDUs
Live	Follow along with the live program (attend one session per time slot). There are eight (8) sessions on Thursday and five (5) sessions on Friday for a total of thirteen (13) sessions. The last session on Friday is worth 1.5 PDUs instead of .75.	12 sessions @ 0.75 PDUs each + 1 @ 1.5 PDUs = 10.5 PDUs.
Recorded	<p>All live sessions delivered on May 1-2, 2025 will be recorded. Once the Symposium has ended, the links to the recordings will be posted on the website. All participants will receive log-in information to access the recordings.</p> <p>Each recorded session is worth 0.75 PDUs. If you review all the recorded sessions, you can earn up to 18 PDUs (this number assumes you've watched all 13 live sessions discussed above, so it only counts the left over regular sessions).</p>	24 sessions @ 0.75 PDUs each = 18 PDUs.
On-Demand	These sessions are pre-recorded and are available to all registered participants. Each on-demand session is worth 0.75 PDUs.	15 sessions @ 0.75 PDUs each = 11.25 PDUs.
Totals	51 sessions @ 0.75 PDUs each + 1 session @ 1.5 PDUs = 39.75 PDUs.	

## PDU COMPLETION CERTIFICATES

There are two types of PDU certificates available for the 2025 Project Management Symposium. You will need to complete the form(s) in order to receive a certificate(s). A PDF version of the completion certificate will be emailed to you. If you want credit for the PDUs from PMI, then YOU will need to enter each individual session you attended into PMIs Continuing Certification Renewal System.



PDU Certificate Request Form -  
LIVE Event, MAY 1-2, 2025

If you have any issues, please contact the Project Management Institute and they will walk you through the process of reporting your PDUs.



# LEARN TONIGHT IMPLEMENT TOMORROW

## On-Demand Courses For In-Demand Skills

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PROJECT MANAGEMENT  
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MANAGEMENT

AT A GLANCE

Thursday May 1st

8:00AM	Registration: Lobby of Adele H. Stamp Student Union Networking and Light Breakfast			
8:50AM	<b>Welcome &amp; Featured Speaker: Mark Lines</b> Have We Reached “Peak Agile”? Why, and What is Next?			
9:45AM	Break			
Track Room Moderator	<b>People in Projects Atrium (1107)</b> Bill Brantley	<b>Federal Project Management Prince George’s (1211)</b> Greg Baecher	<b>Project Management Skills Charles Carroll (2203)</b> Damien Peters	<b>Strategic Project Management Benjamin Banneker (2212)</b> John Dreissnack
10:00AM	The Power of Persuasion in Project Management: Communicate to Influence! – Coleman	Hardening Federal Procurement: Using Agile-at-Scale with Product Management and Discovery – Johnson	Project Failure is NOT an Option: Making Projects Successful – Murphy	Reactive to Proactive: Injecting Collaborative Project Planning to Improve Delivery Success – Johnson and Rumeau
10:45AM	Break			
11:00AM	Communicating Bad News: Practical Ways to Say What No One Wants to Hear – Onuoha	Strengthening Delivery Success in Federal Projects: Why FAC-P/PM Certification Matters – Gay	Reimagining Project Management – D’Mello	Agile Amplified: Driving Success in Complex Healthcare IT Projects – Welcome
11:45AM	Lunch & Networking			
12:30PM	<b>Featured Speaker: Ben Royce</b> AI in Project Management: Revolutionizing Risk Sensing, Automation, and Collaboration			
1:15PM	Break			
1:30PM	Project Manager to Project Motivator: Unlocking the Secrets of Strength-Based Project Management (SBPM) – Miller	Managing by the Numbers: Using ROI to Lead a Federal Training Redesign Project – Brantley	Project Controls Overview for Project Management Professionals – Aziza, Zeidan, and Dahl	Building a Project Management Core to Support Scholarly Research – Brouwer and Wylie
2:15PM	Break			
2:30PM	Beyond the Project: Mentoring the Next Generation of PMs – Trach	Team Based Planning – A Framework for Modernizing Public Sector Program Funding – Bunce	The Citizen Scientist’s Guide to EVM: Bringing Clarity to Project Performance – Young and Phillips	Jumping in the Deep End: Creating a PMO from Scratch – Hepp
3:15PM	Break			
3:30PM	Public to Private Sector: Navigating Transitions for You and Others – Menzies	No one Wants Your Awesome Product. They Want an Awesome Experience! – Martin	From Blueprint to Completion: How Smart Contracts Are Redefining Managing Project Phases in Infrastructure Projects – Halimi	Creating Experience-Driven Organizational Culture – How to drive transformative change with project and portfolio management – Zeitoun
4:15PM	Break			
4:30PM	<b>Featured Speaker: Dr. Morris Thomas</b> Reimagine Your Project Leadership Through the WHOLE Experience Framework			
5:15PM	Networking Reception			

AT A GLANCE

Friday May 2nd

8:00AM	Registration: Lobby of Adele H. Stamp Student Union Networking and Light Breakfast			
9:00AM	<b>Featured Speaker: Cynthia Gayton</b> Getting to Yes Without Getting In Trouble: Lessons Learned for Industry and Government			
9:45AM	Break			
Track Room Moderator	<b>People in Projects Atrium (1107)</b> Bill Brantley	<b>Federal Project Management Prince George’s (1211)</b> Greg Baecher	<b>Project Management Skills Charles Carroll (2203)</b> Damien Peters	<b>Strategic Project Management Benjamin Banneker (2212)</b> John Dreissnack
10:00AM	Harnessing Emotional Intelligence for Project Management Success – Wilson	Modeling Optimization across Multidimensional Portfolios – Driessnack	Intentional Hybrid Project Management – Zucker	Next Gen Project Risk Management – The Value of Project Production Analytics – Damnjanovic
10:45AM	Break			
11:00AM	Innovative Strategies to Balance High Performance and Burnout in Project Management – Gregory	Replacing ANSI 748 with a TESTED and PROVEN EVM System that has been in Use for 120+ Years – Giammalvo	Effective Project Controls – Busby	From Risk to Resilience: Strengthening IT Project Outcomes with Risk Assessments – London
11:45AM	Break			
12:00PM	The Well-being Experiment: How Curiosity Can Drive Success in High-Intensity Projects – Ozokwelu	User savvy PMIS technology implementation to drive change management – Mehta	Show Me Your RAID Log – Essendrup	Navigating Stakeholder Engagement in UMD’s Campus Network Refresh – Morales-Herrmann and Prem
12:45PM	Lunch and Networking			
1:30PM	<b>Featured Speaker and Workshop: Laura Barnard</b> The IMPACT Driver Framework: Shift from Tactical Execution to Strategic Leadership			
3:00PM	Closing			







8:50AM Featured Speaker  
Mark Lines

Grand Ballroom

Have We Reached “Peak Agile”? Why, and What is Next? | *Ways of Working*

Agile has been around in its many flavours since the mid 90’s. Yet after 30 years, organizations are still struggling to realize its promised benefits. Why is this so? In recent years, Mark has also seen organizations give up agile altogether after several attempts at transformation and agile adoption.

If agile is so simple and effective, why are entire conferences dedicated to getting it right? In this slightly controversial talk Mark explains why agile as a movement is currently struggling, and how we can build on our past learnings to apply more effective approaches. By doing so, teams will be reenergized.

Thursday  
May 1st

Thursday May 1st

11:00AM Sessions

People in Projects

Communicating Bad News: Practical Ways to Say What No One Wants to Hear | *Power Skills*

In the realm of project management, delivering bad news is an inevitable task that can induce anxiety and strain relationships between team members and customers, ultimately jeopardizing project outcomes. This presentation, led by Leah Onuoha of Gunnison Consulting Group—a Washington Post and USA Today “Top Place to Work”—is designed to equip project managers of all experience levels with practical strategies for effectively communicating bad news to customers, team members, and management.



Speaker  
Leah Onuoha

Room  
Atrium (1107)

Federal Project Management

Strengthening Delivery Success in Federal Projects: Why FAC-P/PM Certification Matters | *Power Skills*

This presentation will highlight the importance of FAC-P/PM certification in building a qualified and accountable project management workforce within the federal government. FAC-P/PM provides a structured framework to ensure federal project managers can lead acquisitions, contracts, and programs successfully, while adhering to key regulations and federal policies.



Speaker  
Bruce Gay

Room  
Prince George’s (1211)

Strategic Project Management

Agile Amplified: Driving Success in Complex Healthcare IT Projects | *Ways of Working*

How do you tackle the challenges of delivering high-impact results in complex healthcare IT projects? In this session, we’ll take you behind the scenes of a real-world initiative where Agile methodologies were used to achieve a 25% improvement in project outcomes. Through interactive discussions and data-driven insights, we’ll explore how iterative processes like retrospectives accelerated timelines, enhanced collaboration, and aligned deliverables with clinical and operational goals.



Speaker  
Kenneth Welcome

Room  
Benjamin Banneker (2212)

Project Management Skills

Reimagining Project Management | *Business Acumen*

The presentation will provide examples of AI deep learning techniques that can be integrated into the proposed model. After attending this presentation, participants will be able to: explain the limitations of present-day project management and argue why it needs reimagining, outline an organizational work model that could address most of the present PM limitations, articulate how AI is integrated into the model.



Speaker  
Dr. Joseph D’Mello

Room  
Charles Carroll (2203)

People in Projects

The Power of Persuasion in Project Management: Communicate to Influence! | *Business Acumen*

In today’s fast-paced project management environment, the ability to persuade and influence others is a critical skill for achieving success. The Power of Persuasion in Project Management: Communicate to Influence! is a dynamic training program designed to enhance communication skills. This training empowers Project Management professionals with the skills to craft compelling messages, build credibility, and overcome resistance.



Speaker  
Kevin Coleman

Room  
Atrium (1107)

Federal Project Management

Hardening Federal Procurement: Using Agile-at-Scale with Product Management and Discovery to Drive Up Federal Project Success Rates | *Ways of Working*

Discover the power of integrating product management and discovery-driven practices in transforming federal procurement. Learn how agile-at-scale methodologies, fueled by product management principles, enhance resilience, mitigate risks, and maximize outcomes in government initiatives.



Speaker  
John Johnson

Room  
Prince George’s (1211)

Strategic Project Management

Reactive to Proactive: Injecting Collaborative Project Planning to Improve Delivery Success | *Power Skills*

Have you ever entered a project or program mid-stream and had to correct course? What can you do differently to set yourself up for success for future projects and programs? Join Nicole Rumeau and Courtney Johnson, Assistant Directors of Pre- and Post- Award Management at the Applied Research Laboratory for Intelligence and Security (ARLIS) at the University of Maryland to discuss developing dynamic, cross-functional portfolio planning.

Speakers

Room | Benjamin Banneker (2212)



Courtney Johnson



Nicole Rumeau

Project Management Skills

Project failure is not an option: Making Projects Successful | *Business Acumen*

Project success hinges on clarity, flexibility, and alignment. As objectives evolve, we must ask: are we measuring meaningful results or simply generating more output? Remember, two-thirds of software features never get used: are we building what truly matters? Rather than relying on inflexible metrics or sprawling dashboards, concentrate on outcomes that reflect stakeholder priorities. Combine methodologies, establish a clear definition of success, and track the indicators that drive genuine value—not just activity.



Speaker  
Frank Murphy

Room  
Charles Carroll (2203)



12:30PM Featured Speaker  
Ben Royce

AI in Project Management: Revolutionizing Risk Sensing, Automation, and Collaboration | *Ways of Working*

Join Ben Royce, Adjunct Professor at Columbia University and leader at Google Cloud, as he explores how AI is transforming the four pillars of project management—knowledge management, financial management, planning and execution, and asset management. Discover how automation, risk sensing, and transcription tools are revolutionizing how project managers navigate real-world challenges, minimize risks, and streamline operations while maintaining control and clarity in complex environments. Learn how these advancements not only enhance productivity but also safeguard reputations in today’s fast-paced, AI-driven landscape.


Grand Ballroom

1:30PM Sessions

People in Projects

**Project Manager to Project Motivator: Unlocking the Secrets of Strength-Based Project Management (SBPM) | Power Skills**

So many people today are trying to become the best versions of themselves and many of them in the project management field are wondering how they can be better themselves while also making those around them on their teams, the contractors, the consultants, and others, better versions of themselves to achieve greater success together. One growing trend to make this happen is through Strength-Based Project Management (SBPM).


 **Speaker**  
Dr. Myles D. Miller

**Room**  
Atrium (1107)

Federal Project Management

**Managing by the Numbers: Using ROI to Lead a Federal Training Redesign Project | Ways of Working**

Redesigning a federal training program is challenging, especially with compliance, workforce readiness, and budget constraints. Learn how the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office used the Phillips ROI Methodology to manage the Supervisor Certificate Program (SCP) redesign. Discover how ROI guided success metrics, stakeholder expectations, design decisions, and investment justifications.

 **Speaker**  
Dr. Bill Brantley


**Room**  
Prince George's (1211)


Strategic Project Management

**From Vision to Reality: Building a Project Management Core to Support Scholarly Research | Ways of Working**

This session aims to illustrate the benefits and process of integrating project management into academic research settings based on the successful implementation of the Research Project Management Core at Duke University. The presentation highlights the need for formal project management structures to address challenges like managing complex projects, meeting funding deadlines, and balancing competing responsibilities.

**Speakers** **Room** | Benjamin Banneker (2212)

 Rebecca Brouwer


 Jamie Wylie


Project Management Skills


**Project Controls Overview for Project Management Professionals: how project controls can benefit both projects and project managers | Ways of Working**

This presentation will provide an overview of the diverse disciplines within project controls and the critical functions they serve. Attendees will receive tips to get the most out of project controls support. Additionally, the session will explore the benefits of a career in the project controls industry as well as insights on how program and project managers can successfully pivot into this dynamic field.

**Speakers** **Room** | Charles Carroll (2203)

 Khaled Aziza

 Mark Zeidan

 Natasha Dahl

2:30PM Sessions

People in Projects

**Beyond the Project: Mentoring the Next Generation of PMs | Power Skills**

Mentors are crucial for fostering professional growth, success, and satisfaction and project managers are naturally suited for this role. At a pivotal point in my career as both a mentee and a mentor, I will utilize my distinct lens to discuss the advantages and challenges from both angles. Culminating in a practical framework for providing effective mentorship and navigating obstacles in mentoring relationships, this presentation is valuable to project managers, new and senior alike.


 **Speaker**  
Tessa Trach

**Room**  
Atrium (1107)

Federal Project Management

**Team Based Planning - A Framework for Modernizing Public Sector Program Funding | Ways of Working**

When it comes to technology in the Public Sector, it seems virtually everything has changed in the past couple of years. Why is it that the way capital planning and funding are managed looks the same as it did decades ago? In many ways, teams are still working with a traditional capital planning and investment control model that emerged when client/server computing was all the rage. These legacy approaches are inefficient and wasteful and are fundamentally misaligned with the modern technologies and realities of today's public sector agencies.


 **Speaker**  
William Bunce

**Room**  
Prince George's (1211)

Strategic Project Management

**Jumping in the Deep End: Creating a PMO from Scratch | Power Skills**

This presentation will cover the steps involved in laying the foundation for a PMO within an established, dynamic IT environment. From defining what constitutes a project, to implementing standardized processes, and a new project management tool, attendees will gain practical insights into how to foster buy-in, work on change management, and sustain project management practices in a high-performance organization.

 **Speaker**  
Ally Hepp


**Room**  
Benjamin Banneker (2212)


Project Management Skills

**The Citizen Scientist's Guide to EVM: Bringing Clarity to Project Performance | Ways of Working**

You don't need to be a data analyst to harness the power of Earned Value Management (EVM). This session empowers the citizen scientist – the curious, hands-on project contributor- with a practical and approachable way to implement and use EVM. Learn how to track progress using simple inputs (scope, schedule, and budget), and applying key performance insight to flag issues early for corrective action, and forecast project costs and finish date.

**Speakers** **Room** | Charles Carroll (2203)

 Amber Young

 Barbara Phillips



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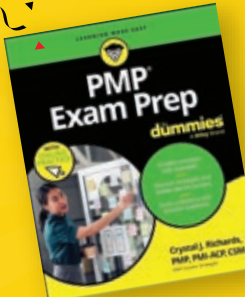
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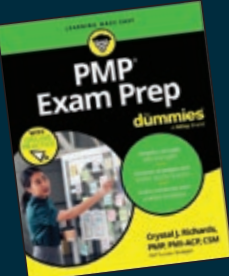
Symposium Book Giveaway!





**PMP Exam Prep For Dummies**  
by Crystal J. Richards,  
PMP, PMI-ACP, CSM

**Thursday 9:45am**



**Crystal RICHARDS**

**Studying Just Got Easier**

*Live Book Signing*

YoShow Place  
621A Southlawn Lane  
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May 3, 2025  
11AM-2PM ET  
Please RSVP: info@themindsparg.com




3:30PM Sessions

People in Projects

**Public to Private Sector: Navigating Transitions for You and Others | *Ways of Working***

Transitions can be challenging, regardless of age or circumstances. This session delves into the various stages of transition, specifically focusing on the shift from the public to private sector. By gaining insights into these stages, you will be equipped with actionable steps to effectively manage this change. We will explore the phases of transition and provide activities that support your personal and professional growth.

 **Speaker**  
Sandra Menzies

**Room**  
Atrium (1107)

Federal Project Management

**No one Wants Your Awesome Product. They Want an Awesome Experience! | *Power Skills***

You take the time to build a functioning digital product, but how well designed is it? Have you focused on the customer experience to build for your users with their needs at the center? We'll walk you through a human-centered design process so that you'll end with a toolset to enable good user experience that helps drive their work and eases their burden.

 **Speaker**  
Beth Martin

**Room**  
Prince George's (1211)

Strategic Project Management

**Creating Experience-Driven Organizational Culture - How to drive transformative change with project and portfolio management | *Ways of Working***

Organizations continue to struggle in this decade with creating the supportive culture that makes the best use of the dynamic mix of process, people, and technology. These three attributes of transformation have matured over time, yet their integration, and linkages to creating the right supportive and adaptable work environment has missed the mark.


 **Speaker**  
Al Zeitoun

**Room**  
Benjamin Banneker (2212)

Project Management Skills

**From Blueprint to Completion: How Smart Contracts Are Redefining Managing Project Phases in Infrastructure Projects | *Ways of Working***

Increasing development of distributed ledger technology (DLT), specially blockchain, has led to adoption of smart contracts across various sectors such as infrastructure projects. Smart contracts are programmable applications that autonomously execute, verify or facilitate the enforceability of a contract, and offer several potential benefits to project stakeholders.

 **Speaker**  
Zahra Halimi

**Room**  
Charles Carroll (2203)

4:30PM Featured Speaker

Dr. Morris Thomas

**Reimagine Your Project Leadership Through the WHOLE Experience Framework | *Power Skills***

In today's fast-paced project environment, technical skills alone aren't enough. This keynote session introduces project managers to the innovative WHOLE Experience Framework (WEF) – a powerful approach for creating sustainable, people-centered project environments. Learn how to leverage the five key elements – Welcoming, Holistic, Open, Liberating, and Empowering – to enhance team performance and project outcomes. Explore insights from this framework to elevate your leadership approach and create more sustainable project environments.

Grand Ballroom

9:00AM Featured Speaker

Cynthia Gayton

**Getting to Yes Without Getting In Trouble: Lessons Learned for Industry and Government | *Business Acumen***

Cynthia Gayton author and engineering law expert draws on her years of experience as a lawyer, entrepreneur, engineer and advocate for important causes to provide lessons learned on good contract negotiations. You'll hear about what to do and what not to do, from how to prepare, to what questions to ask (and not), to how to stop yourself from creating trouble in execution. You'll hear the real-world stories and patterns, where the names and situations have been changed to protect the innocent, all so that you can get to "yes" with getting in trouble.

Grand Ballroom

10:00AM Sessions

People in Projects

**The Emotional Advantage: Harnessing Emotional Intelligence for Project Management Success | *Power Skills***

Emotional intelligence (EI) is a vital yet often underutilized skill in project management. It directly impacts how leaders communicate, motivate, and resolve conflicts within their teams and with stakeholders. In this session, The Emotional Advantage: Harnessing Emotional Intelligence for Project Management Success, participants will explore the five key components of EI—self-awareness, self-regulation, motivation, empathy, and social skills—and learn how these attributes can transform project outcomes.

 **Speaker**  
Andrea Wilson

**Room**  
Atrium (1107)

Federal Project Management

**Modeling Optimization across Multidimensional Portfolios | *Business Acumen***

UMD research on Multidimensional Portfolio Management is being implemented within the US Department of Defense. This presentation will discuss modeling efforts for optimization of funding across the multidimensions of an enterprise portfolio schema, at outline in the research along the Value Chain. The presentation will discuss how the ontology is needed for both vertical and horizontal integration with specific examples in an interaction with the audience. It will discuss the challenges of optimization within an uncertainty framework that preserves options.

 **Speaker**  
John Driessnack

**Room**  
Prince George's (1211)

Strategic Project Management

**Next Gen Project Risk Management - The Value of Project Production Analytics | *Business Acumen***

Operations management methods such as production models have recently been an important addition to the project management toolbox. With a better understanding of how processes contribute to work completion (engineering design, fabrication, or construction), project managers can now optimize resources and capacity requirements, design supply chains, and actually control the work being done.

 **Speaker**  
Ivan Damjanovic

**Room**  
Benjamin Banneker (2212)

Project Management Skills

**Intentional Hybrid Project Management | *Ways of Working***

The project management profession finds itself at yet another inflection point. Interest in Agile is waning. Hopes are pinned on AI. At the same time, Hybrid project management is on the rise, as reported by PMI's Pulse of the Profession (2023). In this presentation, Alan Zucker illustrates the value of visualizing our choices as a Palette and begins the dive into how those choices should be made. Participants will recognize the opportunity and responsibility of making context-driven decisions when planning and executing their projects.

 **Speaker**  
Alan Zucker

**Room**  
Charles Carroll (2203)



11:00AM Sessions

<b>People in Projects</b>  <b>The Thin Line: Innovative Strategies to Balance High Performance and Burnout in Project Management   Ways of Working</b>  If you're a project manager pushing for high performance, you've likely brushed up against burnout. The line between achieving peak productivity and burnout is thin—and often blurred in high-stress environments. In "The Thin Line: Innovative Strategies to Balance High Performance and Burnout in Project Management," I'll help you take a closer look at how you can maintain high productivity while preserving your energy and well-being. Join me to redefine your approach to productivity and create lasting success.  <div><b>Speaker</b> Samantha Gregory</div> <div><b>Room</b> Atrium (1107)</div>	<b>Federal Project Management</b>  <b>Replacing ANSI 748 with a TESTED and PROVEN EVM System that has been in Use for 120+ Years   Business Acumen</b>  Two major papers published in DAU's blog argue that current Earned Value Management (EVM), as practiced under ANSI 748, fails to deliver value for money. Drawing on decades of experience, the authors call for a reboot. This presentation outlines a simple, proven EVM system—used for over 50 years—built in Excel, using AI and SPC tools. Templates will be provided for projects, teams, and individuals.  <div><b>Speaker</b> Paul D. Giammalvo</div> <div><b>Room</b> Prince George's (1211)</div>
<b>Strategic Project Management</b>  <b>Resilience and Risk Assessments   Ways of Working</b>  Participants will gain a comprehensive understanding of the risk assessment process, exploring the types of risks that commonly derail IT projects, from scope creep and budget overruns to resource constraints and cybersecurity threats. The session will walk through each step of a thorough risk assessment process, explaining how to identify, evaluate, and prioritize risks, as well as the specific areas of an IT project that a risk assessment should cover—from technical risks to timeline and compliance concerns. Special risk considerations will be outlined for AI project risks.  <div><b>Speaker</b> Robert London</div> <div><b>Room</b> Benjamin Banneker (2212)</div>	<b>Project Management Skills</b>  <b>Effective Project Controls   Power Skills</b>  The presentation will discuss the interplay between project controls and project management, and how effective project controls can empower a project manager to direct project success, but also indirect project success in relationships, communication, and goodwill with internal and external stakeholders. Project controls are often overlooked, taken for granted, or relegated to the sidelines. However, the disciplines associated with project controls are catalysts to effective project management careers and should be given their rightful spot on cross-functional and effective project teams.  <div><b>Speaker</b> Jeremy Busby</div> <div><b>Room</b> Charles Carroll (2203)</div>

12:00PM Sessions

<b>People in Projects</b>  <b>The Well-being Experiment: How Curiosity Can Drive Success in High-Intensity Projects   Power Skills</b>  This session will introduce project managers to a practical approach to incorporating well-being, framed not as an all-or-nothing initiative but as a series of adaptable, low-effort "experiments." By fostering a mindset of curiosity, project managers can test small, impactful changes that support personal health and team morale without sacrificing productivity. Attendees will leave with simple, actionable strategies for developing a project culture that embraces well-being and maintains high performance under pressure.  <div><b>Speaker</b> Linda Ozokwelu</div> <div><b>Room</b> Atrium (1107)</div>	<b>Federal Project Management</b>  <b>User savvy PMIS technology implementation to drive change management   Power Skills</b>  This presentation will share my experiences in the implementation of PMIS to drive modernization and standardization while addressing common challenges in change management. I will explore the importance of clear communication and proactive stakeholder engagement, especially across diverse stakeholders, to keep projects within budget and on schedule. We'll also discuss the evolution of PMIS technology and practical strategies for creating alignment among varied stakeholders.  <div><b>Speaker</b> Prathmesh (Prath) Mehta</div> <div><b>Room</b> Prince George's (1211)</div>
<b>Strategic Project Management</b>  <b>Navigating Stakeholder Engagement in UMD's Campus Network Refresh   Power Skills</b>  In this presentation, we will explore the comprehensive communication and engagement strategies employed during the University of Maryland's (UMD) Campus Network refresh project. This large-scale IT initiative required meticulous planning, transparent communication, and active stakeholder engagement to ensure its success. We will delve into the methods used to keep all parties informed, manage expectations, and foster collaboration across the campus community.  <div><div><div><b>Speakers</b></div><div>Kevin Prem</div></div><div><div><b>Room</b>   Benjamin Banneker (2212)</div><div>Sandra Morales-Herrmann</div></div></div>	<b>Project Management Skills</b>  <b>Show Me Your RAID Log   Ways of Working</b>  Projects don't go wrong because of the activities on your Kanban board or your 1000-line project plan. Projects go wrong because of unmanaged risks, forgotten action items, out of control issues or poor decisions. That's why the most important part of the plan is planning for your plan to not go according to plan. But there is an old standby project management tool, the RAID log, specifically developed to keep projects on track, and course-correct when things go wrong. Whether you need to run or rescue a project, RAID logs can help you succeed.  <div><b>Speaker</b> Kim Essendrup</div> <div><b>Room</b> Charles Carroll (2203)</div>



# Fun Photos

# Grand Ballroom

Thursday 9:45am-7:00pm

Friday 9:45am-3:30pm

DON'T MISS IT!

## Symposium Book Giveaway!



**The IMPACT Engine:**  
Accelerating Strategy  
Delivery for PMO and  
Transformation Leaders  
by Laura Barnard



Friday 3:00pm

1:30PM Featured Speaker  
Laura Barnard

**The IMPACT Driver Framework: Shift from Tactical Execution to Strategic Leadership | Business Acumen 1.0 and Leadership .5**

This hands-on, interactive workshop will take you through the IMPACT Driver Framework, a game-changing system for aligning your work with strategic priorities, optimizing execution, and securing executive buy-in. Through a series of fast-paced, high-value exercises, you'll learn how to reframe success in terms that matter to leadership, simplify execution for maximum efficiency, and craft compelling messages that drive action.

Grand Ballroom

14 | FRIDAY MORNING

FRIDAY AFTERNOON | 15



# Professional Certificate Programs

## Professional Certificate Benefits

- Online, Self-Paced
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Learn how to manage and deliver successful construction projects.



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Lead Product Strategy and Drive Success Across the Product Suite.



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Learn how to lead system Integration of Low-Code, No-Code (LCNC) platforms across the entire Product-Platform Lifecycle.



**Program Management: Enabling Value Driven Change** (4 Courses)  
Learn How to Manage and Lead Change with Programs.



**Project Management Professional (PMP) Exam Prep Training - Crystalizing Methods, Terminology and Techniques** (4 Courses)  
Pass the PMP Exam on the first try by Crystalizing the methods.



**Designing and Delivering the Citizen Developer Training Program** (3 Courses)  
Ensure you have the right training program to make your citizen developers highly productive and effective.



**Product Management** (5 Courses)  
Lead the product life cycle from discovery to delivery.



**Project Risk Management: Effective Decision Making Strategies** (3 Courses)  
Enable better, more confident decision making with program and project risk management.



**Digital Transformation Playbook for Government** (3 Courses)  
Learn how to apply the foundational knowledge of Digital Strategy and Execution to the Government sector.



**Product Visioning and Strategy: Preparing for Agile Execution** (2 Courses)  
Generate big ideas and a culture of innovation.



**Environmental Project Management: Co-Creating Sustainable Solutions** (3 Courses)  
Creating Sustainable Solutions to Complex Environmental and Societal Threats.



**Program Management and the Art of Communication** (5 Courses)  
Master the communication skills you need to succeed.

## Meet Your Instructors



John Johnson  
Professional Programs Manager, PM Center for Excellence, UMD



Neil Schulman  
Lecturer, Civil and Environmental Engineering



Dr. Bill Brantley  
President and Chief Learning Officer, BAS2A



Dr. Il-Horn Hann  
Professor of Information Systems, UMD



Vanessa Vargas-Nguyen  
Science Integrator, Center for Environmental Sciences, UMD



Richard Arnold  
Director of STEM Engagement, Center for Environmental Sciences, UMD



William "Bill" Dennison  
VP for Science Application, Center for Environmental Sciences, UMD



Tushar Rathod  
CEO, Vedic Professional Services



Jake Artz  
Engagement Delivery Manager, Salesforce

## Meet Your Instructors



Cait von Schnetlage  
CEO, Full Suite Solutions



Dr. James Green  
Director of Entrepreneurship Education, UMD



Daniel Forrester  
Chief Growth Officer, Steady



Al Zeitoun  
Transformation Partner, Transformation Partner Projects & Company



Crystal Richards  
Instructor, PMP, PMI ACP, CSM at University of Maryland



Gregory Baecher  
Professor, Civil and Environmental Engineering Center for Risk and Reliability



Jocelyn S. Davis  
President & Co-Founder, Nelson Hart LLC



# On Demand Sessions

## Why 78% of Your Organization Couldn't Care Less About Your Transformation Project and What to Do About It

Attendees will gain valuable insights into why employees disconnect from transformation efforts and how this directly affects project success. The session will provide practical tools and strategies to help project managers influence and re-engage their teams, even in complex organizational settings.

Power Skills



**Speaker**  
Kevin Judge

## Unity, Purpose, and Prosperity: The Ubuntu Approach to Successful Project Management

This presentation explores how the principles of Ubuntu – a philosophy rooted in Southern African traditions – can significantly enhance a project manager's effectiveness.

Ways of Working



**Speaker**  
Keshni Washington

## The Empathetic Project Manager

Learn the difference between empathy and sympathy, why it matters, and how building this muscle can enhance your PM brand and strengthen your relationships with your client and team.

Power Skills



**Speaker**  
Tamara Baptiste

## Project Management - Don't Touch The Hot Plate Twice

This presentation is about the journey of change management and how you help the organization to not touch the hot plate twice.

Power Skills



**Speaker**  
Anisha Manvatkar

## Navigating the Future of Project Management: Ethical Implementation and Strategic Adoption of AI

This session offers a comprehensive exploration of the transformative role of AI in project management, focusing on strategic deployment, ethical considerations, and future trends.

Power Skills



**Speaker**  
Edwin Ferrer-Romero

## Motivating High-Performing Teams to ensure Project Success

Leaders must consider the environment that they create for their team and the culture that exists within their organization and/or department. By creating an environment that encourages teamwork and communication, leaders foster a culture that establishes clear goals and through their own actions, set a positive example that focuses on team and organizational goals.

Ways of Working



**Speaker**  
Dr. Kenneth R. Green

## Leading into the Future: Essential Leadership Skills for Project Management 5.0

This session is ideal for project managers, team leaders, and executives looking to enhance their leadership skills and stay ahead of the curve in a rapidly changing project management environment.

Power Skills



**Speaker**  
Abbigail Meah-Ali



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### Education & Training Programs Available

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Master of Science (MS)

Master of Engineering (MEng)

Master of Professional Studies in  
Project Management (MPPM)

Graduate Certificate (GCEN)

Doctorate of Philosophy (PhD)



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- STEM undergraduate degree
  - No GRE
  - GPA 3.0\*
- \*Lower GPA accepted with balancing professional experience

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- Information Technology

#### Topics You Will Learn:

- PM Processes and Standards
- Project Procurement and Finance
- Project Risk Management
- Contracts and Law
- Leadership and Team Performance

CLASSES  
ONLINE AND  
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## On Demand Sessions

### Kickstart Your Citizen Development Journey: Build Project Management Apps and Automations with Copilot in Microsoft Power Platform

This session will guide participants through the practical steps of building project management apps and automations, even if they have little to no coding experience.

Power Skills



**Speaker**  
Rafsan  
Huseynov

### Inside Out: A PM's Journey from Anxiety to Joy

This presentation focuses on the emotional journey many of us go through—from moments of anxiety and stress to rediscovering joy in our work.

Power Skills



**Speaker**  
Adrienne Tiltman

### Empower Yourself and Others: The Art of Effective Advocacy in Project Management

By defining advocacy and showcasing its significance, I aim to equip participants with actionable strategies they can implement immediately as self-advocates, peer advocates, and team advocates in their project management roles.

Power Skills



**Speaker**  
Jackie Reisner

### Effective Prompts for Effective Project Managers: The Role of Prompt Engineering to better leverage LLMs

In this presentation, we'll explore a variety of best practices and approaches to prompts tailored to project management scenarios, demonstrating how different prompt structures can influence the responses you receive—and why understanding and mastering this can make all the difference in your role.

Ways of Working



**Speaker**  
Andre Rogers

### Don't Let Them Take Money Out of Your Pocket! Negotiation Skills for Project Managers

If you face high dollar sales, expensive disputes, increasing operational costs, or regular customer backcharges, this session has your back. We will cover the Bargaining Cycle and partnership approach and skills to get you winning outcomes.

Power Skills



**Speaker**  
Rick Czaplewski

### Do you have senior management support?

This presentation introduces a novel framework, developed to measure both the maturity of a key project management practice, earned value management, and the environment supporting it.

Business Acumen



**Speaker**  
Barbara Phillips

### Busting Barriers to Risk Management!

The presenter will lead an interactive discussion involving how to implement an effective risk management program. Attendees will share challenges they have encountered in their organizations and successful strategies will be discussed.

Ways of Working



**Speaker**  
Susan Parente

### Building AI-Resilient Organizations: Integrating AI Governance and Ethics into Project Strategies

Attendees will learn actionable strategies to cultivate a culture of continuous learning, ethical decision-making, and adaptability, ensuring their organizations are prepared for the challenges and opportunities AI presents.

Ways of Working



**Speaker**  
Charles Igwe

### AI-Powered Architecture: Design and Project Agility

Through case studies and comparative analyses, this presentation demonstrates how AI tools address project uniqueness while maintaining standardized management protocols, and provides strategic recommendations for successful AI integration in AEC project management.

Ways of Working



**Speaker**  
Jailane Atef Amer





## FREE WIFI

1. Connect your device to the "UMD-Guest" network.
2. Open a web browser.
3. If the browser doesn't automatically direct you to the login screen then go to the umd.edu website, this will cause the login screen to appear.

4. Scroll down to the bottom of the page click on the Red "Already have an account? CLICK HERE" button.

5. Type in the username and password for the current date and click login. Remember that all usernames and passwords are in lowercase type.

NOTE: If you receive the "Success" pop-up but don't have internet access try to turn your wifi off and then back on.

	USER	PASSWORD
Thursday	pmsymposiumday1	ikiyanumstab
Friday	pmsymposiumday2	lowporcubacc