From the President’s Desk…

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What makes you get out of bed in the morning? What is your passion & purpose?

These were some of the questions that inspirational keynote speakers left us pondering with at the PMI Asia Pacific LIM in Singapore. A number of Project Board Members had the chance recently to attend PMI Asia Pacific Leadership Institute Meeting in Singapore followed by R10 Meeting from PMI Australia and New Zealand Chapters. The inspiration, energy and learning opportunities were tremendous. The collaboration between the Australian and New Zealand Chapters is reaching new heights, as we share best practices and leverage from each other’s experiences.

There is no better time than now to invest in project management and hire project managers. In today’s continuous economic pressures combined with a drive to optimise resources utilisation and improve sustainability, business and leadership skilled project managers are the enablers of strategy implementation. A recent Economist Intelligence Unit report, sponsored by the Project Management Institute (PMI), “Why good strategies fail – Lessons for the C-suite”, addresses how C-level executives engage in the implementation of strategies, and explores the barriers that impede the integration of initiatives into business operations and results. According to the study, companies will set themselves apart by carrying out the necessary strategic responses as quickly as possible. While executives agree that executing strategic initiatives successfully will be essential or very important for organisations competitiveness, firms struggle to bridge the gap between strategy formulation and day-to-day implementation. With appropriate C-level ownership and support, a focus on the key initiatives and projects that are strategically relevant, and the provision of sufficient business and leadership skilled personnel to implement high-priority strategic initiatives, organisations are more likely to succeed producing strong results – and who’s better to drive that than our skilled project managers?

As the market is tough, your best bet is to network, attend an event, volunteer, register for a workshop and improve your skills. Our latest addition to our workshops is the Career Building for Project Managers. We’d like to thank Paxus for the special offering and look forward to more collaboration enabling and better equipping our members with job landing skills. The risk management master class by Dr. David Hillson is a must for all Project Managers – managing projects is synonymous with managing risks, and who’s better than our International Facilitator, the Risk Doctor to enlighten us on Risk.

Our events are going from strength to strength, as we travel through a journey that focuses on benefits and equip with an understanding of program management, when to set-up a program and how. We’d like to thank DDLS for their continuous support.

We’ve been reviewing our mentoring program, gathering input and feedback from our members, mentors and mentees. Your contribution will enable us to improve this popular offering as we tailor it for today’s needs. Watch the space.

We are also strengthening our collaboration with the PMI local Registered Education Providers, exploring opportunities.

We’d like to thank Daniela Polit for her contributions to the Building Better Futures (BBF) portfolio and wish her all the best in her endeavours. We extend a warm welcome to Julia Checchia, whose passion for the BBF, especially the Teachers and Students Program (iPM4U) has been unwavering and will take the portfolio to new heights.

Success stories and opportunities created following our PMI Australia 2013 Conference in May are still coming, as one of our reputable sponsors is discussing internship opportunities offering to an educational institution trainees, and our the winner of PMI Australia Project of the Year award in 2013 is a candidate for PMI Global Project of the year award. We wish the Adelaide Desalination Project (ADP) all the best in October in New Orleans.

With passion and purpose, we look forward to seeing you at the next event.