Project Management Institute. Western Michigan

Professional Development Day 2024

Artificial Intelligence & Project Management

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WHAT IS PDD?

Professional Development Day (PDD) is an annual event dedicated to learning and networking.

The PDD is designed to cover subjects that are relevant and on-trend in project management. It also provides individuals with an opportunity to earn Professional Development Units (PDUs) towards PMI® certification applications or renewals.

Our vision is that you enjoy this event: Our highly valued speakers present on topics of Business Acumen, Ways of Working, and Power Skills, components of the PMI Talent Triangle that will accelerate your success as a Changemaker!

Project Management Institute® Western Michigan

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome Western Michigan PMI Members and Guests to Professional Day 2024!

The Board of Directors is thrilled to have you with us today. Continuing our theme of "Innovate," this year's focus is on Artificial Intelligence. The Project Management Jobs Trends 2024 report for North America highlights the challenges businesses face today, emphasizing the exploding demand for project talent. Crucially, there is a growing need for project professionals with AI expertise to help companies explore numerous opportunities. Strategic priorities include embedding innovative technologies in business models, introducing new revenue streams, digitizing operating models, integrating digital features, improving resiliency, and increasing sustainability.

By upskilling in AI, project professionals can position themselves at the forefront of emerging technologies, driving AI adoption across their organizations and building a sturdy foundation for career success.

WMPMI invites you to engage with our experts during the interactive sessions. As you continue your project management journey, apply these innovative ideas and concepts to your work tomorrow and beyond.

This specialized one-day event is an opportunity to gain advanced knowledge and skills and network with other project management professionals and the WMPMI Board of Directors. Discuss your daily opportunities and challenges, share ideas with other professionals, and introduce yourself to the Board of Directors. Tell us what programs and educational opportunities you would like to see offered. Consider volunteering with the chapter; we would love to have you.

I sincerely thank our impressive speakers, generous sponsors, enthusiastic volunteers, and relentless Board of Directors for making this day possible. Heartfelt thanks to the Board of Directors who work tirelessly throughout the year to serve the needs of the West Michigan PMI Chapter. Many thanks to you, our members, and guests, for joining us today and energizing the room with the excitement of learning new skills.

Kind Regards,
Rosemary Mills | President, WMPMI

AGENDA

7:00 - 7:30 AM	Networking & Breakfast
7:30 - 7:35 AM	President's Welcome Message Rosemary Mills | President, WMPMI
7:35 - 8:45 AM	Opening Keynote: The Future of Project Management through the Eyes of the Past Lee Lambert
8:45 - 9:45 AM	Streamline Productivity: AI & the Future of Task Management David Grimsley
9:45 AM	Break
10:00 - 10:55 AM	Ethical AI in Project Management: Balancing Innovation with Responsibility Tim Furry
11:00 - 12:15 PM	Gen AI Masterclass - Part 1: Unlocking Productivity Secrets of Project Management Mashhood Ahmed
12:15 - 1:00 PM	Lunch
1:00 - 1:55 PM	Revolutionizing Project Workflows with AI-Powered Tools Mei Lin
2:00 - 3:45 PM	Gen AI Masterclass - Part 2: Prompt Engineering for Project Managers Mashhood Ahmed

3:45 AM	Break
4:00 - 5:00 PM	Closing Keynote: Solving Project Overruns with AI Steve Pieczko
5:00 - 5:30 PM	Closing Remarks: 2025 Sneak Peek Video Mary Hladio
5:30 - 6:30 PM	Happy Hour & Networking

Note: the agenda topic details are subject to change

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About Us

EduHubSpot is a leading provider of comprehensive Project Management and Agile training programs. Founded in 2016, our mission is to empower professionals with the essential skills and knowledge to excel in Project Management roles across diverse industries. Our training offerings cover the full spectrum of Project Management disciplines, from foundational concepts to advanced techniques. We provide both in-person and online courses, catering to the diverse learning preferences and scheduling needs of our clients.

Why Us?

- **99.27% success rate**
- **Trusted by 50K Students globally**
- **5** ★ Trustpilot ★★★★★
- **Mentors: 10+ years teaching, 15 years industry experience.**

This Course Includes

- 751+ Question Explanation Videos
- Personalized step by step study plan
- 100 PMP® Maths/Numericals
- PMP® Application Support
- 210 Actual Cloned Questions by PMI® with explanation videos
- Exam Content Outline Tracker
- Personalized Mentorship
- 1200+ chapter slides
- 1000+ Scenario Based Practice Questions
- 67+ chapter videos
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CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Open WMPMI Board Positions

We are currently looking to fill open positions for the Executive Board of WMPMI.

- Vice President, Administration
- Vice President Sponsorship
- Director, Administration
- Director, Programs
- Director, Administrative Technology
- Director, Volunteers
- Director, Public Relations
- Director, PMO Community of Practice

Project Management Institute. Western Michigan

The world needs university students and young professionals to fill the talent gap. According to PMI's 2021 **Talent Gap: Ten-Year Employment Trends, Costs, and Global Implications** report, the global economy needs 25 million new project professionals by 2030. To close the talent gap, 2.3 million people will need to enter project-management-oriented employment every year just to keep up with demand.

The local West Michigan Project Management Institute (WMPMI) Chapter fills the talent pipeline through a collegiate competition known as **THEProject 2025**! Get connected to WMPMI and industry leaders from a variety of professions in the workforce to move your career forward.

Who: University Students and Faculty
What: THEProject 2025 Collegiate Competition
Where: The Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce
250 Monroe Ave NW #150, Grand Rapids, MI 49503
When: April 7, 2025

THEProject 2025 OPEN POSITIONS

THEProject is an annual collegiate project management competition offered by WMPMI. The competition engages college students in the practice of project management, develops their leadership skills, and provides a showcase to demonstrate abilities with business and community leaders from West Michigan.

- PM of PMO Panelists
- PMO Panelists
- Mentors
- Assistant to the PM of Printed Program
- Assistant to the PM of Event Day
- PM of Student Experience

For more information and role descriptions, please contact ***vpmemberexp@wmpmi.org***

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MEET YOUR 2024 BOARD MEMBERS

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2025 BOARD ELECTION

The slate of candidates will be presented to all the WMPMI members on October 3, 2024. Positions will be awarded and announced on October 28, 2024.

Be on the look out for an email from PMI. **Please vote!**

MEET TODAY'S SPEAKERS

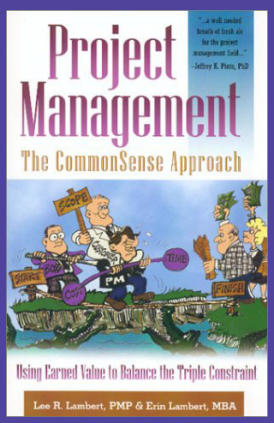
Lee R. Lambert

A Founder of the PMP and PMI Fellow

Lee R. Lambert is globally recognized as a pioneer in the project management profession and one of the founders of the PMP certification. With over 50 years of experience, he is one of only 85 PMI Fellows honored by the Project Management Institute. Lee's "real world" message and unique, humorous style make learning both enjoyable and productive.

Lee has implemented four enterprise-wide project management information systems and developed High Performance Teams, earning accolades for his work. He has trained thousands of employees at major corporations such as AT&T, IBM, General Electric, Microsoft, and Roche. His consulting and training have been crucial in establishing successful PMOs and driving rapid implementation.

Passionate about sharing his expertise, Lee has delivered training programs to over 50,000 professionals in 23 countries, continually inspiring others with his wealth of experience and knowledge.



Project Management: The CommonSense Approach

This simple and insightful treatment of the potentially complex topic will put the power of the PM process at the reader's fingertips. It is filled with CommonSense tips to help project managers and project contributors take full advantage of PM's many tools and techniques--including the popular Earned Value.

David Grimsley

Visionary IT Project Manager and AI Innovator

David Grimsley is an innovative IT leader with over a decade of experience driving enterprise digital transformation. As the Vice President of Communications for the Chattanooga PMI Chapter, he has pioneered the use of AI to deliver cutting-edge virtual education, significantly expanding the chapter's reach and engagement.

David's expertise spans project management, service management, and AI integration, with a proven track record of launching digital platforms that increase customer access by 50% while reducing risks by 30%. His leadership in the healthcare sector has led to substantial cost-saving initiatives and workflow optimizations for major institutions. A sought-after speaker and coach, David motivates teams to embrace digital transformation through a customer-centric lens, helping organizations adapt to the rapid pace of technological change.

Passionate about leveraging emerging technologies, David continues to explore AI's potential to revolutionize business operations, empowering teams to navigate digital disruption and enhance operational efficiency.

Dr. Tim J. Furry

AI Ethics, Governance, and Data Privacy Consultant

Tim Furry is an AI Ethics and Governance and Data Privacy consultant from Bloomfield Hills, MI. He's an entrepreneur and also an instructor of Philosophy and Religion at Cranbrook Upper School, where he co-teaches an AI Ethics course with the chair of the Computer Science Department.

Tim holds a PhD from the University of Dayton and certifications in AI Ethics and Data Privacy from For Humanity, as well as being certified as an AI Governance Professional by the International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP). Whether in a classroom, at a conference, or in church, Tim loves teaching and speaking, particularly making complex topics easier to understand and actionable. When he's not working or reading, he enjoys strength training, practicing jiu-jitsu, and gaming with his sons.

Mei Lin

Visionary Digital Strategist and AI Enthusiast

Mei Lin is a visionary digital strategist and AI expert with a proven track record of enhancing digital identities on a global scale. With extensive experience in leadership roles at Microsoft and Texas Capital Bank, Mei uses her deep knowledge of AI technologies, including Gen AI and Microsoft CoPilot, to revolutionize project management, transforming it into a dynamic, data-driven practice.

Certified in AZ AI 900 in 2022, Mei combines her technical expertise with a strategic focus on digital branding. As a board member for the PMI Dallas Chapter since 2017, she has led over 4,700 PMPs, demonstrating her influence in the project management community. Ranked in the top 1% of LinkedIn profiles within her network, Mei is recognized for her ability to harness AI to amplify personal branding and professional success.

Mashhood Ahmed

AI and Project Management Expert

Mashhood Ahmed is an AI and project management expert with over 20 years of experience leading global multi-million-dollar projects. Since starting his research in 2017, he has become a sought-after speaker, presenting at global conferences across New Zealand and North America. In 2023, Mashhood spoke at over 15 events, including the PMI Global Summit in Atlanta and an AI Masterclass at PMI New York, reaching more than 15,000 project managers.

Based in Edmonton, Canada, Mashhood's expertise spans healthcare, education, and consulting. He holds a Master's from the University of Waterloo and certifications including PMP, PMI-RMP, and CISA. He was recognized as an AI Influencer by PMI/ProjectManagement.com in 2024, Mashhood is also the founding director of PMassistant.ai, where he develops AI-driven project management solutions. He runs a boutique consulting firm and holds faculty positions at Grant MacEwan University.

PM Assistant

This simple and insightful treatment of the potentially complex topic will put the power of the PM process at the reader's fingertips. It is filled with CommonSense tips to help project managers and project contributors take full advantage of PM's many tools and techniques--including the popular Earned Value.

Steve Pieczko

Consultant, Software Developer, & Thought Leader

Steve Pieczko is a veteran management consultant, software developer, and accomplished author with over 30 years of experience across industries such as Supply Chain, Healthcare, Finance, Banking, Telecommunications, and Transportation. He is a frequent speaker on project and program management throughout the Midwest, known for his expertise in guiding teams through complex challenges.

As the founder of RelMap™ Software and RelMap™ Consulting, Steve specializes in transforming struggling projects by harnessing Data Analytics and Artificial Intelligence. RelMap™ Consulting focuses on delivering excellence in project and program management, while RelMap™ Software creates cutting-edge solutions for complex business problems.

Steve's passion lies in building resilient project teams capable of thriving in ever-changing environments. His diverse industry experience and dedication to delivering practical, results-driven solutions have made him a sought-after expert in the fields of project management and business transformation.

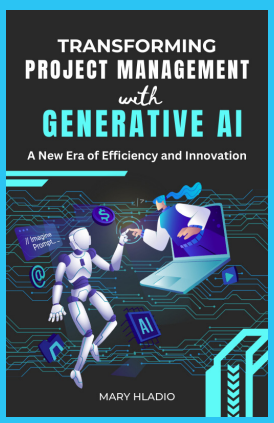
Mary Hladio

Digital Strategist and AI Enthusiast

Mary is a seasoned project management leader, speaker, and author with a distinguished career in the aerospace industry. As the Vice President of Professional Development at the Western Michigan Project Management Institute (WMPMI), she leads initiatives like the annual Professional Development Day (PDD), focusing on emerging trends such as artificial intelligence and project management innovation.

With over 25 years of experience in organizational development and leadership, Mary recently published “Transforming Project Management with Generative AI: A New Era of Efficiency and Innovation.” Known for streamlining workflows and driving team success, she regularly speaks on leadership, project management, and AI-driven solutions.

In addition to her professional achievements, Mary is a mentor, published author, and active community leader dedicated to advancing the project management field and supporting others.



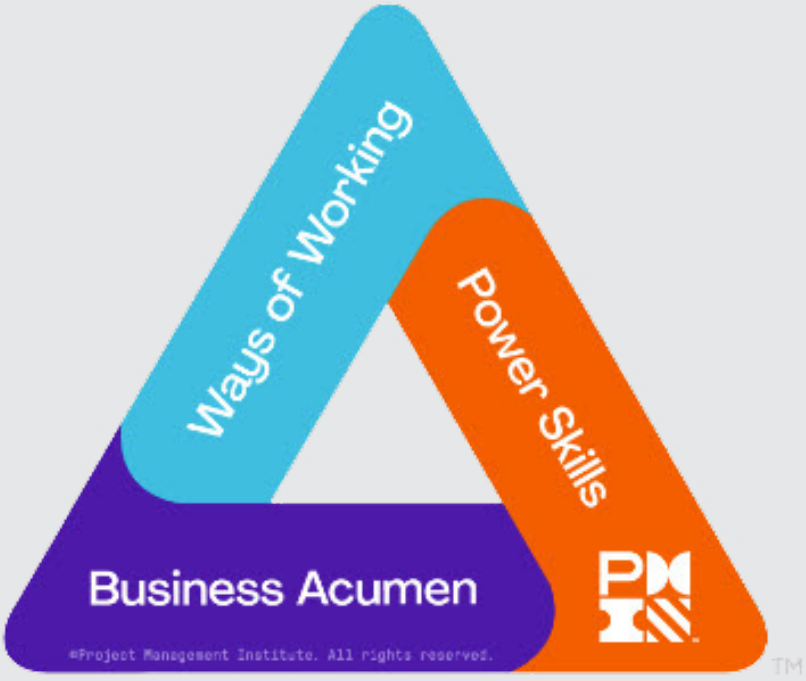
Transforming Project Management with Generative AI

Featuring real-world case studies, Mary shows how AI improves efficiency, decision-making, and risk management. This guide offers insights on building AI-ready teams, selecting tools, and navigating ethical concerns, unlocking new levels of productivity and innovation.

The PMI Talent Triangle®

Navigate our Profession's Evolving Landscape with Confidence.

In our changing world, project professionals must be more nimble and resourceful than ever to keep pace and create impact. As new industries, practices, and technologies emerge, project professionals and their teams are challenged to pivot quickly and work even more efficiently—all so they can deliver value. To prepare for a future that is coming faster than ever, project professionals now need a skill set inclusive of different disciplines and practices, as well as other in-demand skills. We see the power of melding the core insights of project management with three skill categories: a diverse understanding of Ways of Working, Business Acumen, and Power Skills.



SESSIONS

The Future of Project Management through the Eyes of the Past | Lee Lambert

Kick off the day with an insightful look into the fascinating journey of Project Management, a career that once began as a side task taken on by technical professionals in their spare time. Over the years, this role has evolved and expanded into a thriving, essential profession that now sits at the core of successful projects across industries. But how did we get from those humble beginnings to where we are today? And more importantly, what lies ahead for project managers in the ever-changing landscape of modern work?

In this engaging first session, Lee Lambert, a veteran with over 46 years of experience in PMI, will share his unique perspective on the transformation of the profession. From PMI's early days, when it consisted of a single chapter, to its global expansion, and the creation of the PMP certification now held by over 1.5 million professionals worldwide, Lee will explore the key moments and milestones that have shaped Project Management. Join us as we take a journey through time, reflecting on the past, embracing the present, and preparing for what the future holds for project managers.

Streamline Productivity - AI & the Future of Task Management | David Grimsley

In today's fast-paced project management environment, staying ahead of challenges is more important than ever. Traditional task management methods often fall short as projects become more complex and timelines shrink. Enter AI-powered task management—a groundbreaking approach that's reshaping how project managers operate, think, and succeed.

This session dives into how artificial intelligence is transforming project management, equipping project managers with cutting-edge tools to boost productivity and tackle common challenges. Through machine learning, predictive analytics, and natural language processing, AI-driven systems can prioritize tasks, optimize resource allocation, track progress in real-time, and manage risks proactively.

Discover practical applications of AI in project management, including intelligent scheduling, automated reports, and predictive insights to identify bottlenecks before they occur. By embracing AI-powered task management, you can elevate your role, focusing on strategic leadership while AI handles the tactical details.

Ethical AI in Project Management: Balancing Innovation with Responsibility | Tim Furry

As AI becomes more integrated into project management, understanding and addressing its ethical implications is essential. This session explores the critical importance of AI ethics and its relevance to project managers, offering a comprehensive look at how ethical and moral issues differ from legal concerns and why this distinction is key.

In this engaging presentation, Dr. Tim Furry will guide attendees through the major ethical challenges posed by AI, such as privacy, intellectual property, bias, and safety. He will equip project managers with practical tools and questions to navigate these concerns effectively, ensuring responsible and innovative use of AI in their projects.

Attendees will learn how to integrate ethical considerations into project management practices, gaining valuable insights into the significance of AI ethics in designing and managing AI-powered systems. By the end of the session, participants will be empowered to identify ethical issues and ask the right questions to address AI challenges in project management.

Gen AI Masterclass Part 1 - Unlocking Productivity Secrets for Project Managers | Mashhood Ahmed

In part one of this master class, we will delve into the essential skillsets and mindsets needed to thrive in the era of generative AI. As industries undergo significant transformation, adaptability and AI literacy are crucial for navigating this disruption. Attendees will gain a foundational understanding of AI fundamentals, including machine learning and generative models, and how these technologies are reshaping business and project management functions.

We will explore how AI can handle rudimentary tasks, freeing up human resources for more strategic efforts. Attendees will gain insights into the current generative AI marketplace, with an overview of leading platforms and tools revolutionizing the field. Prepare to expand your understanding of AI's impact on business and learn the importance of prompting skills in leveraging these cutting-edge technologies to maximize project success.

Revolutionizing Project Workflows with AI-Powered Tools | Mei Lin

In this session, we will explore the transformative power of Microsoft Copilot 365 and Copilot Studio, two AI-driven tools that are revolutionizing project management. Designed to streamline workflows, boost efficiency, and drive successful outcomes, these tools automate tasks, provide intelligent insights, and enhance collaboration across teams.

Through practical demonstrations and real-world use cases, attendees will learn how to integrate Microsoft Copilot 365 and Copilot Studio into their daily project management practices. The session will cover the key features of these tools, from automating routine tasks to creating custom AI assistants tailored to specific project needs.

Participants will leave with a solid understanding of how to apply these AI tools to improve productivity, collaboration, and overall project performance, as well as strategies for integrating them into existing processes for enhanced results.

Gen AI Masterclass Part 2 - Prompt Engineering for Project Managers | Mashhood Ahmed

In this second session of the generative AI master class, participants will dive deep into the art of prompting—learning how to craft effective inputs to guide AI-generated responses. This session will explore various prompt categories and demonstrate how prompts can be tailored for specific project management tasks to enhance outcomes.

Attendees will gain insights into the elements of a well-crafted prompt, focusing on structure, clarity, precision, and response tone. Advanced prompting techniques will be covered, addressing common challenges when interacting with AI tools. The session includes hands-on exercises, allowing participants to practice real-time prompting using their laptops or tablets. Additionally, the concept of Custom GPTs will be introduced, empowering project managers to build AI models specifically tailored to their unique workflows and needs.

Solving Project Overruns with AI | Steve Pieczko

In this thought-provoking session, we explore the remarkable advancements in AI, from the early vision of autonomous driving to today's groundbreaking technologies like Tesla's Full Self-Driving v12 and upcoming Autonomous Taxi Cabs. These developments are reshaping our expectations of AI, particularly in project management, where AI is transforming decision-making and automating traditional roles.

Drawing from AI's application in fields like Criminal Linguistic Analysis and the rise of Natural Language Processing tools like ChatGPT, we will discuss how future innovations such as General AI and Hybrid Reasoning Models may surpass human cognition. The session will also highlight Explainer AI, which provides clarity and insight into AI-driven decisions. With decades of experience in personal computing and AI, the speaker will reflect on how early innovations, like text-to-speech, have evolved into today's AI integration in the workforce. As we advance, we must heed the balance between excitement and caution, responsibly harnessing AI's potential while heeding warnings, like those of Elon Musk, about its risks.

PDD Closing Remarks | Mary Hladio

As we conclude this year's Professional Development Day, join us for a special closing session filled with inspiration and surprises. We'll reflect on the day's insights, share an exciting vision for the future of professional development, and recognize a remarkable contribution within our community. Expect a few surprises that will leave you energized and motivated for what lies ahead!

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November 2024

Veteran's Month

Active Service Members and Veterans attend all November WMPMI events for free!

We are excited to welcome Tom Bauer as our new Military Outreach Director. Tom is leading the strategy to support military members transitioning into project management careers, and we invite you to join this important initiative. Tom will be at our November Chapter Events in support of Military & Veterans Month. If you're passonate about giving back, Tom needs volunteers to help make a difference.

Contact Tom today to get involved
militaryoutreach@wmpmi.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	DESCRIPTION	SPEAKER
Oct 18	Virtual Lunch	Navigating Project Complexity with Systems Thinking	Aleem Khan
Oct 19-20 Oct 26-27	Virtual Event	PMI-RMP Certification (4 days)	Dharam Singh
Nov 11 Veteran's Day	Hybrid Event	**Speaker 1 -** Enabling Veterans through Creative Arts: A Project Manager's Guide to Purpose and Impact. **Speaker 2 -** Empowering Veterans: Harnessing Virtual Reality, AI, and Collaboration for Career Success.	Bill Richards Mike Callahan
Nov 22	Virtual Breakfast	Combat Boots & Constructions Sites: One Veteran's journey	Max George
Dec 13	Virtual Lunch	50 Years of Shifting Gears: PMI Past, Present and Beyond	Tanya Boyd
Jan 14	Hybrid Event	Western Michigan Annual Meeting	WMPMI Board

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Professional Development Day 2024

Artificial Intelligence & Project Management

PMI Western Michigan Chapter
4246 Kalamazoo Ave SE
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All events subject to change, per discretion of WMPMI.