**Time to get Mentoring!**

"*Mentoring is a brain to pick, an ear to listen, and a push in the right direction*." - John Crosby

It is with great pleasure that I announce the re-launch of the PMI Sydney Chapter Mentoring program, and I’m calling upon anyone who would like to participate as a Mentor, Mentee, or a volunteer in assisting me administering and executing the program to get in touch with me.

The program will be open to ALL PMI Sydney Chapter members, and we intend to execute a 4 month session between August and November this year, with the full program in effect from February of next year.

If you wish to participate as a Mentee, I strongly urge you to firstly think about why you want a Mentor and in particular what area/s you wish to focus on. This is particularly important when it comes to matching Mentor & Mentee together to ensure that we have a cohesive and effective mutual fit. One way to go about this as a prospective Mentee is to think of a skill set that you admire, a job you’d like to have, or a strength you’d like to develop. Also, come equipped with a specific list of your goals from the relationship you wish to achieve and be sure to prioritise them. Be concrete and specific about what you are looking for regarding time spent, frequency of contact, etc. Ask your Mentor if he/she is comfortable using other communication tools (e.g.. e-mail, LinkedIn, Twitter, etc) in addition to meeting in person.

As a prospective Mentor, you should consider your strengths and weaknesses and think about in what areas you can best help a Mentee. Remember that mentoring is also a two-way street, so in considering your weaknesses you may be able to find a Mentee with strengths in one or more of these areas.

You should consider that Mentoring is:

* A means of learning and development
* Guiding someone toward his or her goals
* Mutual sharing of experiences and opinions to create agreed-upon outcomes
* About inspiring and supporting another person

Mentoring is NOT:

* An opportunity to correct someone’s behaviors or actions
* Directing someone to do something to meet goals
* Being the expert with all the answers
* About trying to address personal issues

Remember, you are never too old, too smart, too seasoned, nor too “wise” to not need a mentor. Almost all CEOs and world leaders could tell you one person they actively use as a mentor to this day.

One another final note, I’d like to also take this opportunity to plug two excellent courses in my portfolio which I urge you in considering attending:

* 14th June 2014: "*Applying Integrated Risk Management Concepts to Commercial Projects: A Practical Approach*" presented by Roy Hilson
* 12th & 19th July 2014: “*Applying Earned Value Concepts to Commercial IT Projects*” with Kym Henderson

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