**“Dreams are what get you started. Discipline is what keeps you going”!** Jim Ryun

 “*Operations keeps the lights on, strategy provides a light at the end of the tunnel, but project management is the train engine that moves the organization forward”.* Joy Gumz

Nearly 6 months into 2014! What a great journey! The PMI Sydney Chapter has been unbelievably active truly living our purpose statement: “to serve our membership base while promoting the art, science and benefit of project management for professionals, corporates and communities’ growth”.

This month I had the privilege of attending the EMEA Leadership Institute Meeting in Dubai (see the 2014 EMEA LIM report for further details – link…). The meeting facilitates the exchange of ideas with other chapter leaders on how to better live our purpose in NSW and Australia. Mark Langley, PMI CEO and President, took us through the PMI strategy, current partnerships and dreams for the next 3-5 years. His presentation reinforced my commitment and motivation to be a member, a volunteer and a leader of the PMI community and I hope my summary below conveys that excitement and motivation for you to build your relationship with the PMI Sydney Chapter.

In his presentation, Mark encouraged every PMI stakeholder around the world to review the PMI strategy. He highlighted that Project Management is pervasive and touches every role in organisations and society; and that every executive delivers projects every day. This is why Portfolio, Program and Project (PPP) management is paramount for business success.

Given this importance, it is PMI’s obligation to provide products and services to support PPP in the wider community with content that is credible, and easy to find and use. Therefore, not only PMI members and credential holders (about 1 million touch points) but the 51 million practitioners around the world could benefit from PMI as a:

1. Product leader
2. Thought leader
3. PPP Advocate
4. Preferential partner

As a **Product leader,** PMI decided to take reliable content beyond the incredible 13-15 professional standards available and acquired some project management portals such a projectmanagement.com

As a **Thought leader,** PMI understands the need to have evidence of the value of PPP, so it acquired Human Systems Institute (HSI) in September 2013. HSI is a highly credible source of information on benchmarks, trends and best practices that support the advancement of the profession.

**Advocacy** without products and thought leadership is like vapourware. By establishing PMI as a product and thought leader, PMI then changed its organisation structure, enabling a focused outreach to corporate and government agencies working in collaboration with chapters

PMI is **partnering** with organisations such as the Boston Consulting Group to create products and reports to support project success through its strategic initiatives of:

1. Strategic Initiation Management (SIM)
2. Talent Management
3. PMO
4. Methodology
5. Requirement Management
6. Change Management
7. Project Complexity
8. Agility
9. Young professional knowledge enablement

The focus on SIM is especially important because there seems to be a disconnection between the conception of an organisation’s strategic initiatives and the actual implementation of these.

This is why PMI has launched the Change Management Handbook and is genuinely interested to assist project managers to overcome the number one cause for project failure: incorrect requirements.

 Please take a few minutes to read the PMI global strategy. In the next issue of the Critical Path, I will describe how the PMI Sydney Chapter is positioning our own strategy as project management’s product and thought leader, PPP advocate and preferred partner to support Sydney, NSW, and Australia. From this, we can put all the pieces of the puzzle together as we build a renewed sense of value and pride in belonging to the PMI Sydney Chapter.

Let’s look at just some of the products and services we offer at PMI Sydney:

* Did you know that we can help your organisation to host a Community of Practice session, a Mentoring group, a Certification study group or any other Project Management development activity internally?
* Did you know the PMI Sydney Chapter can host an event at your own organisation?

We have quite a few events that are yet to be sponsored. Would your organisation like to showcase their commitment to project management excellence by hosting an event at your premises? We can bring a renowned speaker while your organisation provides the venue. Let us know by contacting events@pmisydney.org.

* Did you know that the best way to learn is to teach?

Why don’t you join us and do something different? Become a mentor, or a Not-for-profit organisation project management capability assessor or a certification preparation presenter? Think differently and join a group of professionals who are determined to make a difference for the growth of the profession.

* Did you know that the PMI Sydney Chapter has also joined the  bandwagon ?

These are just a few pieces of the puzzle that I wanted to share with you. Read further in the Critical Path to find out more about what has been happening and what is about to happen in the chapter. As professionals involved with the PMI Sydney Chapter, we have the belief, passion and determination to achieve our goals and vision.

I look forward to seeing you at one of our very exciting activities!