**From the Events Director**

Since the 2008 Global Financial Crisis there have been a high number of prominent job losses announced by Qantas, Toyota, Holden, Alcoa, Telstra, IBM, Phillip Morris, Shell and others. In the meantime, government departments at all levels are shedding or outsourcing jobs in increasing numbers. All of this reinforces the view that the idea of a ‘job for life’ or even job ‘permanency’ disappeared long ago. The challenge for each of us now is to be ‘employable’ for life.

The term ‘employability’ has been used in relation to upcoming or recent university graduates for many years. More recently, it is now being used in reference to the capacity of a person to function in a job and be able to move between jobs, thus remaining employable throughout their life. In effect, it is no longer about finding your first job after study or a career-break, but a life-long journey to ensure that it is not the job that you do that keeps you employed, but the value that you bring that others want to pay you for.

The pillars that employability is built on are knowledge, skills, experience, communication and connection. In other words: what you know, what you can do, the results that you have achieved, and how you work with other people. When was the last time that you did an audit of your employability – and not just a review of your CV? Set aside some time each year for your audit; develop a plan for continued learning (both formal and informal), with reflection and evaluation to fit this into your existing knowledge and skill base.

PMI Sydney chapter can be part of your plan through its short courses; discussion forums; newsletters; and webinars just to name a few. Our breakfast and evening events and meet-ups provide insights into a range of topics, while also providing networking opportunities and gaining PDUs to maintain your certification.

For more information on Meet-Ups go to [www.meetup.com](http://www.meetup.com) for general information or [www.meetup.com/Sydney-Project-Managers](http://www.meetup.com/Sydney-Project-Managers) for the Sydney group. As ever, for Chapter and Breakfast events please check out the Chapter website at [www.pmisydney.org](http://www.pmisydney.org) and log-in to register. Have a look at what we have happening over the next couple of months, register and be part of the growth of project management in Sydney and New South Wales. If you haven’t been to an event before, come along, see what it’s all about, and invest in your own development.

Remember, you are entitled to claim 1 PDU for every PMI Sydney Chapter breakfast or evening event that you attend. Details of how to claim your PDUs as per the new categories are on our website.