**PMiP 2015: Speaker Introductions**

**Friday, May 15, 2015**

**Agenda**

**8:30–9:00 a.m. Birds-of-a-Feather breakfast session**

**9:00-9:15 a.m. Welcome & The Conference Theme:**

**What Makes a Competent Project Manager?**

**by Dr. Roger Warburton**

**9:15-9:30 a.m. Curriculum development, program accreditation, and**

**academic outreach – The PMI Perspective Mike DePrisco**

**9:30–09:40 a.m. Vijay Kanabar**

**Developing Project Manager Competency by Alice Santiago, 9:30–10:15 a.m. Vijay Kanabar & Alice Santiago,**

**Mediated by Roger**

**10:15-10:30 a.m. — Coffee Break**

**10:30–11:15 a.m. Project Manager Competency—Soft Skills is the Hard Part**

**by Dr. Steve Leybourne and Vijay & Alice Santiago**

**11:15–12:00 p.m. Taking the Leap: Large enterprise PM goes to the small**

**Company**

**by Jon Lacks**

**12:00–12:50 p.m. — Lunch**

**12:50-1:00 p.m. Welcome from Dean Tanya Zlateva**

**Track A**

**1:00–4:30 p.m. Project Management Curriculum Workshop,**

**Led by Carla Messikomer**

**Track B**

**1:00–4:00 p.m Agile Competency Workshop, Led by Jim Hannon**

**Michael DePrisco**

**9:15 – 9:30**

**Vice President, Academic and Educational Programs**

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**We are truly honored to have Michael DePrisco with us today.**

**Michael is the Project Management Institute’s Vice President for Academic and Educational Programs. Michael’s job is to provide executive oversight to the Academic Programs and the Academic Resources.**

**Michael is also the Chief Operating Officer for the PMI Educational Foundation.**

**When we study the PMBOK, we tend to forget the outstanding work by PMI’s Educational Foundation. For example, they recently awarded a $428,900 grant to DiscoverE.**

**Yes …. $428,900**

**The grant will integrate project management into the Future City competition for U.S. middle school students.**

###### Prior to joining PMI, Michael served as President The Art Institute of Philadelphia (a place I know well) and President of The Art Institute of Raleigh.

###### We all need more artists in our lives.

**Please welcome, Michael DePrisco.**

**Vijay Kanabar**

**9:30 – 9:40**

### Every year, I get to thank my friend and colleague Vijay Kanabar for all his hard work on the conference.

**This year, I can honestly say there would be no conference without Vijay. The idea of PM Competency is entirely Vijay’s. this year, I am along for the ride.**

### Vijay’s official title is … Associate Professor of Computer Science and Administrative Sciences.

### He is the only professor who serves in two departments. That means he does twice the work of everyone else.

### And, of course, he is the Director of Project Management Programs.

**Vijay is going to briefly introduce the idea of Project Manager competency. After that, we open up for discussion with the audience.**

**Vijay & Alice Santiago**

**9:40 – 10:15**

**Alice Santiago**

**I’d like to introduce Alice Santiago.**

**Alice is the Director of the Program Management Office for the City of Boston.**

**The PMO sponsors webinars and announcements on local project management activities**

**They provide training to City departments and information on local project management opportunities**

**They share information on City projects**

**They provide Project Management resources and articles to keep the City up to date on practices, standards and the latest news.**

**In other words, Alice runs a real PMO!**

**Steve Leybourne**

**10:30–11:15**

**Project Manager Competency—Soft Skills is the Hard Part**

**Dr. Steve Leybourne is a full-time member of the faculty here at Boston University.**

**Steve teaches and researches innovation, change, and improvisation. Steve learned his improvisation skills following rock bands around England in the early 1970s.**

**Steve has a background in organizational theory and behavioral theory, which explains his interest in ‘soft skills’ and why we have him here today.**

**In fact, Steve is considered to be something of an international authority on improvisation, especially on projects.**

**Steve also pioneered team teaching in his online PM course. A lot of people say they do teaming online, but Steve actually has a solid research-based foundation for his online course.**

**What you probably don’t know is that, after leaving school, Steve was a banker for many years. One day he woke up and decided he’d had enough of banking and went back to school. He earned a PhD at Cardiff University in the UK. Steve was teaching at Plymouth University when we stole him away and signed him as a free agent.**

**Steve has won several “best academic paper” awards. He is an editor of the Organizational Project Management journal and on several editorial boards, including The Project Management Journal.**

**Today, we have asked Steve to give us a quick overview of the theory and vocabulary behind “soft skills.” Before we start debating soft skills, we thought it might be a good idea to actually know what we are talking about.**

**After Steve’s introduction, Steve will ask Vijay and Alice onto the stage again and will open the floor to the audience for discussion.**

**Dr. Steve Leybourne, Vijay and Alice Santiago.**

**John Lacks**

**11:00 – Noon**

**It is now my pleasure to introduce our next speaker, John Lacks.**

**John is a partner and Project Director at** [**DockYard**](http://dockyard.com)**.**

**Dockyard is a design and development consultancy located in Boston, MA.**

**Over the last decade, Jon has managed multiple large scale development projects in a variety of industries, including financial services, education, health & fitness, and marketing.**

**John bio says he specializes in “Pragmatic” project management. I wondered what he meant by that, so I read John’s blog.**

**John doesn’t mince words, he tells it like it is. Consider this:**

**The secret sauce is always the people NOT the process.**

**Vijay (Mr. PM is 90% Communications) should love that one.**

**Here’s another of John’s quotes.**

**Whether you love them or hate them, cost estimates are here to stay.**

**Beware of anyone who slaps an estimate on the table without providing you an explanation of how that estimate was derived.**

**Therefore, instead of grumbling about them, use them as a means to have a conversation.**

**Perfect! We could have used that an example of the conference theme:**

* **You need to understand the technical details of a cost estimate.**
* **Then you need to use it as a means to have a conversation.**

**What a great example: Technical skills and soft skills, perfectly complimenting each other.**

**Please welcome John Lacks.**

**Tanya Zlateva**

**12:50-1:00 p.m.**

**Welcome from the Dean**

#### We are always delighted to have Tanya at this conference. Tanya has always supported the conference financially. We are particularly grateful for that!

#### More importantly, Tanya has always shown up and contributed during what is, for her, one of her busiest days of the year. It’s Graduation weekend.

**Last year, we made Tanya give the keynote address on Women in PM. It was one of the best talks ever. People are still talking about it.**

#### Dr. Carla Messikomer

**1:00–4:30 p.m.**

#### Track A

**Project Management Curriculum Workshop, Led by Carla Messikomer**

**I’d like to thank Dr. Carla Messikomer for**

1. **Coming today**
2. **For her support of the Project Management Curriculum Workshop.**
3. **For leading it**

**Carla is the Manager of Academic Resources for PMI and is the co-author, with Vijay, of the FRAMEWORK FOR TEACHING UNDERGRADUATE PROJECT MANAGEMENT.**

**The fact is that without Carla’s dedication and hard work, there would be no curriculum guidelines.**

**In every workshop, at some point or other, Carla is the person who would remind everyone in the room that this is “by academics for academics.”**

**Also, when the academics got carried away by their favorite teaching anecdote, Carla would remind everyone that “this has to be research based.”**

**Faculty are a pretty independent bunch. Carla did an amazing job with these two simple guidelines. We should understand that “by academics for academics” was difficult for PMI. PMI is a commercial organization.**

**One of Carla’s major contributions was to convince PMI that academics would want free access to materials. PMI needed to make everything public. Carla deserves a lot of credit for convincing PMI that the undergraduate curriculum was a vital and necessary commercial venture for PMI.**

**Finally, Carla had to spend many hours with Vijay, which we know can be tiring and daunting.**

**Carla, the floor is yours.**