



**PROJECT MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE
Washington DC Chapter**

A Consistent Leader Serving the Project Management Profession in MD, VA and DC Area

**Chapter-To-Chapter
Program History**

October 16, 2006

Purpose:

The PMIWDC Chapter-To-Chapter program is focused on establishing and maintaining a series of relationships between our Chapter and other chapters outside of the United States. These relationships are built to be mutually beneficial and typically include exchanging speakers, exchanging members, and exchanging information. We seek value from this program by fostering the development of relationships that advance the project management profession and by engaging/energizing our Chapter membership.

Background:

PMIWDC launched the Chapter-to-Chapter program in 2005 to align with some of the strategic efforts that we see PMI GOC undertaking and to provide benefit to our Chapter members. The PMI GOC strategic efforts that influenced us are associated with the fact that the percentage of new members in North America is decreasing as the global membership increases, and the corresponding PMI GOC action to develop better knowledge sharing and more consistent services available to members across components globally through the Community Transformation Project. The benefits to PMIWDC Chapter members that influenced us relate to connecting to the large and culturally diverse population that comprises the Washington DC region and our Chapter. Each of our Chapter-To-Chapter relationships is governed by a Charter that is approved by the PMIWDC Board-of-Directors as well as the corresponding chapter.

Results:

We have won the Community Involvement Award from PMI for 2006 for our outreach through this Chapter-To-Chapter program and the November 2006 issue of PMI Today featured an article about this program. We have seen surges of interest from within our Chapter, we are responding to an ever-increasing amount of interest from other chapters about this program, and we are observing that other chapters with whom we have relationships with are beginning to accelerate their advancement and growth.

Relationships:

Uruguay: This was our first Chapter-To-Chapter exchange. One of our Directors-at-Large went to the 2005 regional conference in Uruguay to speak. When he talks about the value of that trip, both for him personally and for the Uruguay chapter members, he gets tears in his eyes. In this case the PMIWDC chapter, as a larger chapter, provided much needed advice and support for a smaller chapter; as a larger chapter we

see this as one of our ongoing responsibilities. The exchange focused on how Project Management is applied in our respective countries; it was a tremendous knowledge exchange for both sides. The Uruguay chapter members were very grateful for the interaction and we brought back what was learned and have integrated it into moving the program forward. This exchange initiated a relationship where both chapters continue to share ideas and resources.

Brazil: This Chapter-To-Chapter exchange relationship began with PMIWDC hosting the President of the PMI Distrito Federal Chapter and a Brazilian software industry global market expert as speakers for one of our 2006 monthly dinner meetings. Our Chapter members received much appreciated insight into best practices from another culture. The PMIWDC Chapter has reciprocated by sending a speaker and trainer to their annual conference and by sending one of our members for a multi-week exchange. One aspect of this exchange that energized PMIWDC members was the contest we held associated with our selection of members to travel to Brazil; this stimulated additional PMIWDC members to volunteer for membership in our Chapter-To-Chapter committee. We expect to follow-up these trips with ongoing information sharing.

India: A charter with a group of chapters in India has been approved by the PMIWDC Board-Of-Directors and is pending approval by the chapters in India. This relationship is anticipated to build on a mutual current interest in space and lunar exploration.

Toronto: Discussions are underway about a possible relationship. This relationship could build on that fact that both PMIWDC and the Southern Ontario Chapters have substantial memberships.

Moscow: Discussions are underway about a possible relationship. This relationship could build on the fact that a number of corporate markets are in common.

Additional Information:

The PMIWDC Chapter-To-Chapter program is Chaired by Michael O'Brochta who can be reached at mobrochta@zozerinc.com and at (703)779-8682.