

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Fellow members as I close the second and final year of my term, I would like to thank the Board of Directors of PMI Southern Caribbean Chapter for the hard work that was done during the last year.

2019 was a year of many milestones, At the institutional level PMI celebrated 50 years of driving the project management discipline and also experienced a change in leadership with the installation of Mr. Sunil Prashara as the new PMI CEO. He is not only the first non-American to lead the organization, he also directs the operations from the UK where he lives illustrating that distance is not a barrier in the area of work delivery in the digital age. *"His primary responsibility is to implement PMI's global strategic plan with a priority on strategic focus, customer centricity and organizational agility. This includes expanding the PMI footprint globally, as well as digitizing PMI's offerings and platforms to benefit its members and a variety of other stakeholders. The plan will also continue to enhance and advocate for the profession of project management."* As PMI embarks on these plans we here also celebrated a milestone as 2019 was the local chapter's 25th year which we recognized by acknowledging the contribution of the past presidents and others who have contributed to our path of excellence during those 25 years, another big milestone was our 10th International conference.

Administrative Changes

In 2019 we bade farewell to our interim Secretariat Administrator Ms. Nela Ganga- Harricharan and welcomed Ms. Tricia Protain. Tricia brought many years of supervisory and managerial experience as well as competencies in Information Technology and event planning. Her arrival on the cusp of the conference planning exercise was timely, as she took control of the many administrative and logistical details that contributed to the conference success. Please note that many of the recent changes to the website has been under her mantle including incorporating the chapter's new logo on the website and other marketing material.

Technical Sessions

We welcomed Ms. Janelle Kowlessar as VP Technical Sessions in 2019 and she hit the ground running co-ordinating very informative sessions during the year.

Topic	Presenter
Public Procurement & Disposal of Property Act, 2015: Understanding the Requirements	Moonilal Lalchan - Chairman and Procurement Regulator of the Procurement Board of Trinidad and Tobago
Strategic Planning 101 for Project Managers: What It Means To Be A Strategic Thinker	Dexter Emrit, VP - Human Resources / MBA Lecturer / Corporate Trainer / Motivational Author & Speaker

Achieving Organisational Transformation Through Incremental Change - A Success Story	Jabbor Kayumov, CEO, Digicel Trinidad & Tobago
Strategic Portfolio Management for Economic Development	IDB
PMI SCC in Schools: Creating a Project Management Career Path.	PMI SCC Volunteers: Ava Cunningham-Riley, Stephen Robin, Derwin Antoine, Ayesha Davis and Rupert Ramharack

2020 will see all technical sessions being held online.

Strategic Alliances

Ms. Margaret Ann De Peza joined the team in 2019 as VP Strategic Alliance. In the past year we were able to deepen our relationships with ISACA, The University of the West Indies via the Engineering Project Management Department and the IDB who supported the chapter tremendously any many areas of the 2019 International Conference. The relationship with TTCSI (Trinidad and Tobago coalition of Services Industries) continues to be strong as they work with the chapter ensuring as a partner we maximize the benefits offered to us. Our alliance responsibility also extends outside of Trinidad and Tobago and in 2019 we commenced exploratory discussions with representatives from Montserrat with the aim of starting a branch of PMISCC in that territory.

Membership

Our membership remains at the 600 mark and the profile of our membership is extremely diverse. Whilst most of our members are PMPs (414) we are seeing the growth in other Project Management specialties: PgMP® - 2, PMI-SP® - 4, PMI-RMP® - 2, PMI-ACP® - 5 and PMI-PBA® -1. Please note that PMI has added multiple Disciplined Agile Certifications within the past year and it is an exciting area of Project Management that is growing.

Volunteerism

This has been an exciting area that has been led by VP of Special Events and Volunteerism, Ms. Cassandra Ramkerrysingh. Cassandra had her hands full this year with project managing our highly successful 10th Biennial International Conference in 2019 as well as leading chapter volunteers on two pilot community projects: PMISCC in Schools and assisting the Trinidad and Tobago Olympic Association in building a project management framework for their future Olympic preparation. The board is very proud of the execution of this project and is thankful to VP Special Events and Volunteerism for her commitment on seeing this through and it is a template that we will be using in the future. The members who formed part of these teams were extremely committed and ensured that these two pilot exercises were successful.

The PMISCC International Conference

The conference held in 2019 coincided with a number of milestones: 10th International conference, PMISCC's 25th anniversary and PMI's 50th anniversary. 2019 was particularly challenging year for all conferences in Trinidad and Tobago and ours was no different as we also had an experience in the preparation. The country was beginning to feel the fallout of company cutbacks as the economy had slowed but that did not keep us back. The team focused on delivering content that was relevant and would have the delegates wanting more and that was accomplished. In hindsight "Rebooting For the Digital Age" the discussions that took place seemed to set the stage for our forced transition to the digital experience within the context to our response to the present situation. We remember well the discourse by the C-Panel on remote working and Saran Singh's concept of the delivery of education in a digital world which gave us much food for thought. It is clear we were on the right track with the content.

It was a tough year for sponsorships for the conference however we were able reach out to businesses who gave us support through being part of the exhibitor group.

Marketing

The marketing team took a leap of faith and ably supported by the secretariat successfully marketed this conference on mainly digital platforms. Challenges met were creatively sidestepped and feedback suggests that this is our best method of outreach to the membership. So future successful endeavours will hinge on our ability to maximize the use of these platforms.

Onward to 2020/2021

I would like to thank all the members of the board who have given much of their time to serve the membership. It has not always been easy as work demands seem to have grown in the last years and there is constantly this juggling of time and resources. I would like to especially thank CEP Ltd for providing us a business space whenever we need it.

There is still quite a bit of work to be done to ensure you, our members, are prepared to operate in a truly digital world (present circumstances notwithstanding) and with the work started via the conference last November we are well poised to deliver on this. It is recognized that the members are at different careers with different priorities and needs. There will be more digital collaboration and communications in all areas as it is no longer an option but a requirement.

There are more partnerships in the queue and we plan to increase our presence and outreach to other territories but this will require more hands and we will be reaching out to our members to assist we bring these new projects on board. On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to thank all those volunteers, supporters whom supported the chapter and we look forward to even more good work in 2020.