



Scheduling Excellence Exploratory Review

SEER

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SEER is a monthly newsletter produced by the College of Scheduling's *Scheduling Excellence Initiative (SEI)*. All rights are reserved, but we still want you to copy this issue and give it to everyone you know. We strongly encourage you to join both the College and SEI, and make a difference in your profession. Its future is in your hands. We look forward to hearing from you!

Do you have an article that you would like to see published in SEER? Send a copy to the editor for consideration.

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Views expressed in SEER are not necessarily those of PMI, PMICOS, or its members.

Due to the upcoming conference this edition of SEER will cover 2 months and will be devoted to the PMI College of Scheduling conference in Orlando.

We will resume standard content with the May issue.

12 days and counting...

That's right; the Project Management Institute College of Scheduling 3rd Annual International Conference, *Scheduling: The Next Generation*, is April 23 – 26, 2006 in the Buena Vista Palace, at Disney World in Orlando, Florida. The conference blasts off in less than two weeks, so hurry up and don't delay by registering *today* to attend. It's easy, go to pmicos.org and download the registration form and fax it in. You will not want to miss all of the great events planned for "you", our attendees. Our lineup this year will enhance your learning experience while earning 14 Professional Development Units (PDU's) and ensure that you have the opportunity to share experiences with other project management and scheduling professionals around the globe.



On Sunday, the AACE International Planning & Scheduling Professional (PSP) Exam will be in session for attendees who registered in March. Then, come prepared with your resumes and work experiences to join us for our first Job Fair where you can speak to participating exhibitor recruitment staff. We top the evening off with a Sponsor/Exhibitor Reception where you will have the chance to meet exhibitors and enjoy hors d'oeuvres and refreshments.

Then Monday, we kick start the Conference with a Keynote Speaker, our very own Murray Woolf, VP of Scheduling Excellence Initiative (SEI). We are looking forward...*continued on following page*

12 days and counting...continued

...to his speech titled: "Scheduling: A Profession in Turmoil" which promises to challenge us to take an in-depth look at scheduling profession.

Onward to our great sessions where the College is offering over fifty tracks on Claims, Risk, Training, Case studies, Panel discussions, Research, IT, Enterprise and Global Services which are designed to enlighten your learning experience and surpass your desired expectations. Scheduling Excellence Initiative (SEI) debuts our own innovative Town Hall Meeting tracks where we will inspire you to participate and evoke a series of discussions among the audience on key scheduling issues.

Monday night, Primavera Inc. is sponsoring our Gala Dinner event where we will showcase live entertainment by the Executives and present the second "Jim O'Brien Life Achievement Award". A show stopper to say the least!

On Tuesday after breakfast stop by and visit the Book Signings where you have a chance to meet and greet our esteemed authors. During lunch, Phil Apprill, Managing Director of SEI, presents a "Sneak Peek" to give us an exciting glimpse of SEI's long-term goal, the Scheduling Enhancement Series, the eight-volume set of best practices, guidelines, and recommendations for all schedule stakeholders. Later that day, SEI is hosting: "Strictly Social" where all attending SEI members and their mates can gather to socialize, network, and finally have a chance to meet each other face to face.

Wednesday, our last day, features great tracks till the Closing before noon. Afterward we have fun time planned, our first Golf Tournament, which is an 18-hole scramble format and includes cart and range balls with prizes. All player levels are welcome, so sign up and enjoy!

12 days and counting.....join us for a great event and the most valuable learning experience of the year as we embark on a ship for a three day unforgettable journey to [*Scheduling: The Next Generation*](#).

Janice Staley
COS VP of Programs

JOB FAIR

Bechtel will be highlighted at the job fair being held Sunday, April 23rd from 3:00 to 6:00 PM.

Be sure to stop by and see what they have to offer!

STUDENT ATTENDEE PRICING

Revised pricing has been added for students planning on attending. For \$50 per day a student can attend the conference. Sorry, but meals are not included in this reduced rate.

SEI TOWN HALL MEETING PREVIEW

By Phil Apprill

The College of Scheduling Conference in Orlando again brings the unique opportunity for scheduling professionals to get involved directly with a group that is focused on improving the scheduling industry. There will be many interesting presentations made at the Conference which alone will make attendance worthwhile. But there is also going to be a new opportunity for schedulers to express their views on a wide range of scheduling issues at a series of SEI Town Hall Meetings.

The nine SEI Town Hall Meetings are going to be open forums where the audience will be encouraged to express their views and those views will be recorded. These sessions are unlike any of the other tracks/sessions offered during the Conference, in that there are no "speakers," per se. Instead, there is only a Moderator for the session, and a PowerPoint with a variety of probing questions. ALL content will come from the audience. After the Conference, the results of the Town Hall Meetings will be published and distributed to all COS members.

The Nine Town Hall Meetings will cover –

Session 1 – Defining Ourselves

This opening session explores the Big Picture roles that we play in all facets of pre-project, project, and post-project management. While not immersing into matters of role titles and descriptions (this is covered in Session 4), here we will discuss the various objectives and contributions that collectively describe why we do what we do.

Session 2 - Growth Pains

The advancements in software platforms are viewed by many -as being, in equal parts, both blessing and curse. Those attending this session will be asked to share their views as to which aspects of current software products add great value and which aspects are of lesser value, or worse (problematic).

Session 3 – Customer Satisfaction

There are many things that schedulers can produce for their "clients" but not all of the output is truly useful in communicating with a project team. The audience for this session will help refine the list of desirable attributes that schedulers should focus on when generating product.

Session 4 – Professional Roles

This is a companion session to Session 1, but in this session some new "labels" for planners and schedulers will be tested on the audience. Those interested in broadening and improving the scheduling profession should jump into the fray on this one. The outcome of this session may well change our image for decades to come.

Continued on following page...

Preview continued...

Session 5 – Scheduling Terminology

During this session, the definition of numerous key terms will be subjected to a critique by the audience. The SEI Glossary Team is very keen on getting input from a broad range of schedulers to help guide their efforts.

Session 6 -Reliable Delay Analysis

Finding consensus on core delay analysis issues is a key goal of SEI and this session will give claims practitioners a great opportunity to chime in on some of those issues.

There are few “shrinking violets” in the claims community so this should be a rousing session.

Session 7 – Schedule Development

There are many potential pitfalls in developing a schedule. We believe the composite experience and wisdom of our membership can be harnessed to show how to jump over the pits – so come and substantiate this belief, by hashing out some key Do’s and Don’ts during this session.

Session 8 – Schedule Maintenance

This is the companion to Session 7, but in this go-around the focus will be on tending to the “living” schedule over the life of a project. The goal is the same as in Session 7 – harnessing the knowledge and wisdom of our members.

Session 9 – Schedule Maintenance and Impact Analysis

Can the potential conflict regarding the schedule between the needs of the project team and the desire to preserve legal positions be balanced as a project evolves? The audience will be asked to share their views on this key matter.

THE GREAT DELAY ANALYSIS DEBATE

As-planned impacted

As-planned vs. As-built

As-built but for

Time-impacted

The Great Delay Analysis Debate, scheduled for Tuesday from 8:30 to 9:45, will give attendees a light-hearted exposure to different methods of analysis to the facts of a simple project.

Attendees will have a rare opportunity to hear what four experts have to say about the different ways... *continued on following page*

Debate continued...

...in which construction delays can be analyzed. Each expert will have an opportunity to advocate a particular methodology, and to say why the other approaches are not appropriate.

This session is sure to stir emotions in all who attend!

EXHIBITORS

Primavera
PMA Consultants
The Nielsen-Wurster Group, Inc.
Wickwire Gavin P.C.
The Boeing Corporation
Bechtel
Pertmaster
JCMS
Deltek
CASCAD-e
C/S Solutions, Inc.
Constructionclaims.com
Artemis

Visit www.pmicos.org for a brochure and additional information on the conference. This will be an event that you should be sure not to miss!

CONVENTION CENTER MAP

