

# Baseline Newsletter December 2024



## From the President's Desk

Dear Valued Members,

As the year comes to a close, I want to take a moment to reflect on the incredible journey we've shared and to extend my heartfelt gratitude to each of you for your continued support. This past year has been filled with inspiring events, meaningful connections, and opportunities to grow as a professional community. It has been my distinct honor to serve as the chapter president, and I am truly grateful for the trust you have placed in me.

As we look to the future, I am thrilled to welcome Synthia Adams as our incoming chapter president for 2025. Synthia brings a wealth of experience, a passion for our profession, and a vision to elevate our chapter to even greater heights. I am confident that under Synthia's leadership, our chapter will continue to thrive and provide immense value to our members. Please join me in extending a warm welcome to Synthia and in offering your full support as we begin the new year.

Finally, I want to wish you and your families a joyful holiday season filled with happiness, peace, and cherished moments. Let's carry the spirit of collaboration and learning into the New Year as we continue to grow together.

Thank you once again for making my term so memorable. I look forward to seeing all the amazing things our chapter will achieve in the year ahead.

Yours Sincerely,

*Anthony Amalraj*





## Important Announcement!

Some postings for the December 16th Annual Chapter Meeting show the time as 6-8 pm. It should read 6-7 pm. Please note the correct time; we hope to see our chapter members in attendance online on Monday the 16th. If you have registered, you should have an email with a Google meeting link, use this to join us on Monday.

## Changing of the Guard

December marks the time PMIGL shifts the Office of the President (OOP). The President-Elect, me, becomes your new President for 2025, the current President becomes the Past President, and we appoint a new President-Elect to the OOP.

As your incoming President, I want to THANK Anthony Amalraj for all his hard work as our 2024 President, and I am happy to announce LeighAnne Martin as our new President-Elect. I also want to THANK Michele Patera, current Past President, for her 3 years in the OOP, and I look forward to working with her in her new position as Director of Volunteer Management.

*Synthia Adams*







**STRONGER  
TOGETHER**

## **Announcement from the Better Together Initiative**

Dear Chapter Leaders, Faculty Members, and Student Club Members,

We are excited to kick off our **broader** monthly meeting, bringing together **all student club members** to discuss valuable topics that will support your professional growth.

Our next session, titled "*Lighting the Way: Mastering Personal Branding and Networking in North America*", will be held on **Tuesday, December 17th, from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM EST.**

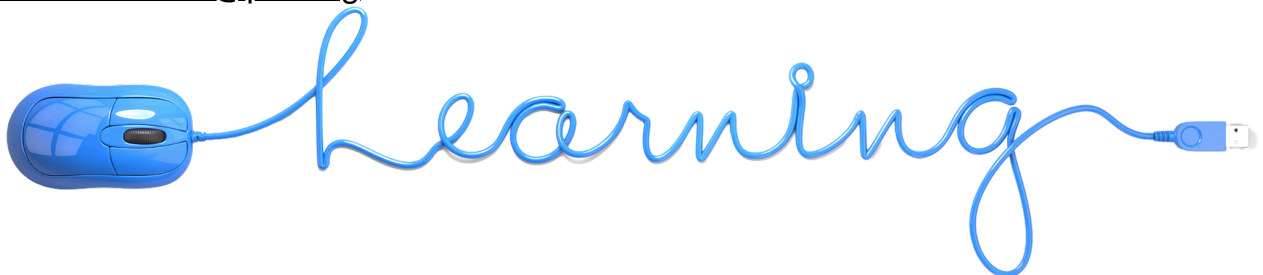
We are thrilled to welcome our guest speaker, **Mike Callahan**, who will guide us through the essentials of building a strong personal brand for the North American market. Mike will share practical strategies on authentic self-presentation, leveraging artificial intelligence, and creating meaningful professional connections.

To learn more about the session and **to register**, please [click here](#). We kindly ask you to **forward this invitation to all your student club members.**

We hope to see you there!

Thank you,

Sacha Abi Khalil  
Regional Academic Specialist  
[Sacha.AbiKhalil@pmi.org](mailto:Sacha.AbiKhalil@pmi.org)



The Symposium Video on Demand Speaker presentations for 2023 & 2024 will go on sale beginning Friday November 15th for only \$99!

Available for purchase through 12/31/24 and have access through 12/31/25

Earn over 30 PDUs!

[Don't miss out, click here to place your order!](#)



## Scam of the Month

### Stay Safe Traveling - Latest Airport Scam

An Australian man has been charged with running a fake Wi-Fi access point during a domestic flight with an aim to steal user credentials and data. The unnamed 42-year-old "allegedly established fake free Wi-Fi access points, which mimicked legitimate networks (**Evil Twin Attack**), to capture personal data from unsuspecting victims who mistakenly connected to them," the Australian Federal Police (AFP) said in a press release last week. The agency said the suspect was charged in May 2024 after it launched an investigation a month earlier following a report from an airline about a suspicious Wi-Fi network identified by its employees during a domestic flight.

A subsequent search of his baggage on April 19 led to the seizure of a portable wireless access device, a laptop, and a mobile phone. He was arrested on May 8 after a search warrant was executed at his home. Airline passengers who attempted to connect to the free, phony network were prompted to enter their email address or social media credentials through a captive portal web page. This would allow the man to then take the credentials and private information to conduct malicious activities like credential stuffing or different types of fraud.

What is **Credential Stuffing** and **Evil Twin Attacks**?

**Credential Stuffing** is a cyberattack where cybercriminals use stolen login credentials from one system to attempt to access an unrelated system. Credential stuffing attacks work on the premise that people often use the same user ID and password across multiple accounts.

An **Evil Twin Attack** takes place when an attacker sets up a fake Wi-Fi access point hoping that users will connect to it instead of a legitimate one. When users connect to this access point, all the data they share with the network passes through a server controlled by the attacker.

How **You** can stay **Safe** from these attacks:

In regards to **Credential Stuffing**, this attack is mitigated by simply never reusing passwords for every single login account you have. Now you're probably thinking there is no way you could remember over 100 different passwords without them being incredibly similar, or even the same. However, all you need to do is to implement a **Password Manager** into your routine. There is a link at the bottom that goes into greater detail on password managers and how they work.

As for **Evil Twin Attacks**, there are multiple actions you can take to protect yourself such as: Avoid connecting to unsecured Wi-Fi networks and hotspots, disable any auto-connect settings your device may have, use a personal hotspot when you can, and connect to a VPN if you must connect to an unknown or not trusted network. Having Multi-factor Authentication (MFA) enabled on your login accounts is another line of defense you should consider enabling.

For more information: [NIST Password Best Practices](#)

Originally published July 2, 2024





## PM Musings: Making STEAM Education Boil with Kids through PBL

There is a general consensus among educators and businesses that a significant gap exists between the necessary skills needed and the current state of education. “Project Based Learning” [PBL] is a pedagogy that closes this gap with traditional K-12 teaching methods. This article reviews the use of PBL to enhance student learning and develop knowledge workers with skills essential for success in the 21st century.

The critical skills that children must learn in order to survive, and ideally to thrive, in the new economy include:

- Communications (oral and written),
- Collaboration,
- Cooperation,
- Critical thinking and problem solving,
- Creativity,
- Computation and information technology competency, and,
- Career planning and lifelong learning.

These “7-Cs” are the skills in demand today and into the foreseeable future. PBL allows students to gain technical competence and personal confidence through the active application of the 7-Cs in solving complex problems. PBL involves the students as “active learners” preparing them for the world of work.

### What is Project-Based Learning?

Project-Based Learning is a *constructivist* learning pedagogy. The emphasis is on ‘learn by doing’ through student engagement in hands-on projects, both individual and within teams. PBL may be described from two different perspectives of the teacher’s control of the classroom. One perspective emphasizes the students performing a teacher-facilitated project, with the transformation from “teacher telling” to “students doing.” The second perspective uses a teacher-guided project involving the students in their own self-directed learning using a standard curriculum. In both cases, the teacher is an *enabler* of learning, utilizing a hands-on approach to engage the student in learning, a hallmark of the PBL criteria.

### The PBL Teacher as “The Guide on the Side”

An important aspect of the PBL classroom is the role of the teacher. They are transformed from being a “sage on the stage” to the “guide on the side.” The focus is on the *process* of teaching instead of concentrating on mastery of the subject content. This is in deference to habitual teaching (preaching), completing assigned work often consisting of prepared lessons, and test-taking.

The PBL approach allows the teacher oversight of the student-run projects augmented ‘how to’ discussions, demonstrations, or lab sessions. Students utilize technology in a meaningful way to help their student team solve the project design issues. Additionally, the PBL teacher/facilitator can use the *Socratic Method* of asking probing questions and facilitating interactive exchanges among students. This learning circle provides for in-depth understanding of the subject matter and course content and makes learning fun.

Improvements in student performance in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics blended with the liberal arts [STEAM] use PBL as a construct for student engagement. PBL-based student team competitions improve student learning and are fun and fulfilling for youth. Below is a list, in alphabetical order, of three:

- *FIRST Robotics* and *FIRST Lego League*. Dean Kamen is an inventor, entrepreneur, and tireless advocate for STEAM. His passion and determination to help young people discover the excitement and rewards of science and technology are the cornerstones of *FIRST* (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology). The *FIRST Robotics Competition* challenges teams and their mentors to solve a common problem in six-weeks using a standard “kit of parts” and a common set of rules. Teams build robots from the parts and enter them in competitions. [<http://www.usfirst.org>] The *FIRST Lego League (FLL)* is an exciting alliance between *FIRST* and the Lego Company. Guided by adult mentors and their own imaginations, FLL students solve real-world engineering challenges, develop important life skills, and learn to make positive contributions to society [<http://www.firstlegoleague.org>].
- “*International Schools CyberFair*” sponsored by *Global SchoolNet* is an award-winning authentic learning program used by schools and youth organizations around the world. Youth conduct research and publish their findings on the Web. Recognition is given to the best projects in each of eight categories. This program encourages youth to become community ambassadors by working collaboratively and using technology to share what they have learned. Students evaluate each other’s projects by using a unique online evaluation tool [<http://edweb.gsn.org/gsnconf/index.cfm>].
- *National Engineers Week “Future City” Competition* is a “case-based”, national competition of self-discovery. Middle-school student teams use “*SimCity*,” a simulation tool for city planning, to design their model city using innovative design solutions to solve some of the most pressing global challenges. This hands-on activity exposes students to teamwork, problem-solving, and self-taught concepts of STEAMs. Under the guidance of an engineer mentor, they build a scale model using recycled materials, write an abstract and an essay, and give a presentation to a panel of judges. Locally, the Engineering Society of Detroit [ESD] sponsors the state of Michigan competition [<https://www.esd.org/programs/futurecity/>]. Winners of statewide competitions compete at the national level in Washington, DC during the annual National Engineers Week in late February. [<http://www.futurecity.org> & <https://www.esd.org/programs/futurecity/>]

### **Educators Collaborate with Engineering & Business Professionals**

A natural consequence and benefit of PBL student team competitions is the collaboration between educators and professionals. Nurturing the next generation of architects, engineers, project managers, and scientists is an essential part and mission of many professional societies and organizations, such as ESD. The sense of inspiration and excitement these competitions foster is a reward for both the students and professionals. STEAM education and the 7-C skills are front and center when professionals and educators team up to facilitate the PBL process; key factors in developing the next generation of STEAM graduates.

By volunteering to assist as a mentor, competition judge, or guest in the classroom, the engineering community can broaden their understanding of the plight and pathos faced by teachers. Funding for improvements in education by Government and Educational Foundations is very sensitive to business support. Involved professionals make the difference.

A trained workforce prepared for the 21st century is a win-win-win situation. Project-Based Learning is an effective and efficient learning pedagogy that actively engages students in authentic, problem-solving activities, which paired with the 7-Cs, prepare students for success in their careers and personal lives. Join your ESD colleagues at one of the above-mentioned STEAM competitions because C’ing is believing!

As always, your questions, comments, and criticisms are welcome. Feel free to contact me in care of email: [William.moylan@emich.edu](mailto:William.moylan@emich.edu)

Best regards,

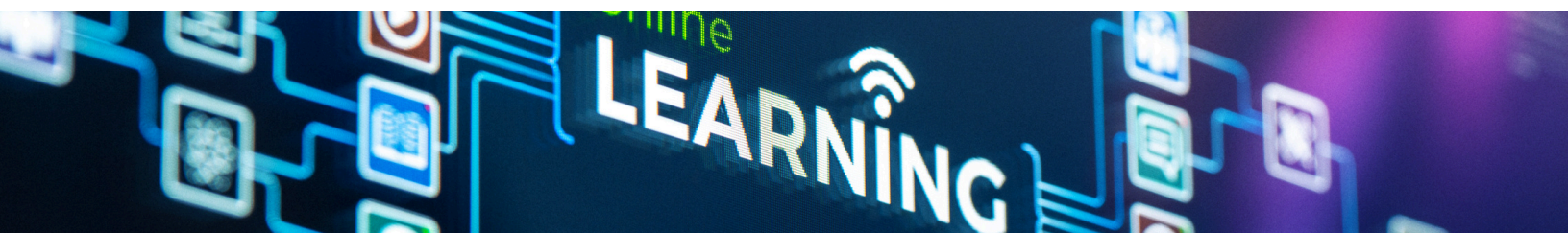
Dr. Bill

William A Moylan, PhD, PMP, FESD, DTM

Professor Emeritus, Eastern Michigan University / Principal, WA Moylan & Associates

# Job Opportunity

The PMI Job Board has enhanced features, making it easier to connect job seekers and employers in the project management industry. You can access PMIGL's Job Board of local postings at <https://pmiglc.org/job-postings>



## **What is Disciplined Agile Certification?**

As a leader in project management education, we are working with Peak Business Management to offer the official PMI Disciplined Agile workshop and DASM certification program for individuals looking to pass the exam and become a Disciplined Agile Scrum Master (DASM). Learn more at <https://pmiglc.org/peakbusinessmanagement>

## **Earn Free PDUs!**

Peak Business Management, is offering chapter members free PDUs! Please [visit their website](#) for more details. Be sure to use the password PeakPDU0922 to access this offer.

## **PMIGL is thrilled to shine a light on our partnership with IIL.**

Members have access to an incredible array of benefits and amazing opportunities such as discounts on courses, free webinars, and so much more. Please visit the IIL/PMIGL website

## **What is KICKOFF™?**

KICKOFF™ is a free, interactive project management course that only takes 45 minutes to complete. Use it to get up to speed on project management basics.

Once you're done, you can share a badge that shows you know the basics of managing projects from start to finish. Please visit <https://www.pmi.org/kickoff/> for more information.

## **Stay Up to Date with PMIGL**

Help promote PMIGL by following us on [Facebook](#), [X \(Twitter\)](#), and [LinkedIn](#), and share our upcoming events and volunteer opportunities as you see posted. You never know what door may open!





Welcome New Members & Congratulations on Milestone Anniversaries  
Congratulations to members on their milestone anniversaries this month. Thank you for your valued membership and continued support!  
Also, welcome to our new members who recently joined the chapter.



## Chapter Sustained Sponsors

### Annual Sustained Sponsorship - Thank You to Our 2024 Sponsors

PMIGL would like to thank our chapter sponsors for 2024: IIL, IntelliBee, The Judge Group, and our newest sponsor SNA Technologies. We greatly appreciate your contributions to making our chapter successful. Thank you for your support!

### Sponsorship Opportunities Available

Annual Sustained Sponsorship opportunities in Diamond, Platinum, Gold, Silver, and Copper levels are available on a first come - first serve basis. Limited seats are also open for Symposium, Golf Outing, Monthly Meetings, and PD Day chapter event sponsorship. Please visit our Sponsor page [HERE](#) for more details. You can contact [director.sponsorship@pmiglc.net](mailto:director.sponsorship@pmiglc.net) if you have any questions.

### GOLD LEVEL



### SILVER LEVEL

