Project Conference 2019
"Be a Champion of Change"
SESSION DETAILS

Navigating the Rapids of Diversity: Staying upright, working together, and leaning downstream

AM Keynote: 8:00AM-9:00AM (1.0 PDU)

Your organization may already have diversity and inclusion initiatives for groups around gender, ethnicity, age, and preferences. The best organizations are finding new ways to look past labels and appreciate the individuality and humanity of everyone on their team. In other disciplines, people are taught about diversity, my approach helps you apply it. You might assume that sled dogs are generally the same, given their breed and commonalities, but it's simply not true. As with any group within your organization, there are unique personalities and individuals within "categories," be that gender, ethnicity, preferences, or abilities. The Wild approach to diversity not only helps minimize assumptions, but also helps us recognize and call out the individual talent and originality that helps organizations thrive and grow.

Top Take-aways

1. Improve communication through understanding and appreciating differences
2. Learn to approach diversity with curiosity and humility, leading with your strengths and calling out the strengths of the individuals on your team
3. Gain greater awareness of your own impact on others and fresh inspiration about the importance of believing in one another
4. Unleash your wild side (free, authentic, creative, present, bold) at work, encourage it in your team, and see how everyone benefits, including the business

Presented by Chris Heeter, The Wild Institute

Building Your Core (Resilience): Purpose Matters

Breakout #1: 9:20AM-10:35AM (1.25 PDU)

What gets you up every morning? Knowing your purpose has significant health benefits, including increased longevity, positive attitude, & decreased risk of dementia. Once you are clear on why you are here, and what you value most, you can prioritize your time, energy and attention to align with what's important, and avoid burnout and wasted time. Being connected to something larger than ourselves, and having greater clarity on our values and beliefs helps insulate us from the stress of the increasing change and challenge we all face both at work and at home.

Knowing ourselves creates "core" resilience, and much like our core abdominal muscles stabilize your body during movement, these resilience "muscles" stabilize us during times of trouble. So don't wait until you need those muscles to work them; build your "core" before you need it, and you will sail through the inevitable storms.

Walk away with:

Understanding what matters to you today, how to create alignment, and tips to keep it that way for long term health and happiness.

Presented by Nancy Maxfield-Wilson, Max Performance, LLC

Innovation: Trends, Tools, Tech and Tips

Breakout #1: 9:20AM-10:35AM (1.25 PDU)

Innovation is an idea, executed with a combination of excellence and magic to create a new platform upon which to grow. How do you define innovation? Where do you need to innovate in your life? Come learn how to be an innovative leader and create a culture of innovation in your sphere of influence.

Presented by Pat and Pam Johns, Parallel Partners

From "Me" to "We": Engaging Customers Through Consensus

Breakout #1: 9:20AM-10:35AM (1.25 PDU)

The inclusive process of consensus-building helps customers move from self-focus to shared vision. In this crash course, you'll explore practical tools that you can apply immediately to create better outcomes, better relationships, and a stronger organization.

Presented by Kristy Walz, Confluence Consulting

When a Leader Sees Nothing but Tails

Breakout #2: 11:00AM-12:00PM (1 PDU)

Boring meetings? Disengaged teams? Lifeless leadership? Shake it up. The Wild at work approach reminds us that working together doesn't have to be so complicated. At the end of the day, leadership and teamwork boil down to engaging a wide range of laughable, but dedicated personalities, calling out their strengths, and working effectively together.

Top Take-aways

1. Highlight the strengths and skills of each individual in your group.
2. Strengthen teams and leaders through self-knowledge, compassionate presence, and courageous conversations.
3. Build high-performing teams that dare to engage, speak up, and care.
4. Integrate a Wild philosophy into your workplace, where individuals, teams, and the organization itself has the courage to bring the gift of all of who they are to all of what they do.

Presented by Chris Heeter, The Wild Institute

An Introduction to User Story Mapping

Breakout #2: 11:00AM-12:00PM (1 PDU)

User Story Mapping is a powerful tool to help visual a product backlog and identify the relationship and context between User Stories. It also allows the minimum set of functionality needed to release a product to be identified and the relationships between this functionality identified. In this interactive session, attendees are provided an overview of the technique and then have opportunity to develop a map illustrating the benefits of the technique

Presented by Mike Studemann, agilityIRL

Negotiation: Everyone can come out winning

Breakout #2: 11:00AM-12:00PM (1 PDU)

Brilliant communication and negotiation go hand in hand. Are you a brilliant communicator? Could you improve your negotiation skills? Do you know what a BATNA is? Let's talk!

Presented by Pat and Pam Johns, Parallel Partners

The Marshmallow Challenge

Activity: 12:45PM-1:15PM (0.50 PDU)

Do you truly understand how to work as a Team? Can you iteratively develop a solution? Most importantly, are you better than a Kindergartener? Learn the answers to these questions while participating in the Marshmallow Challenge. This challenge will test your ability to design and build a structure using spaghetti, string, tape that must support a marshmallow within a limited time box. Sounds easy, right? Come find out while having some post-lunch fun and leave with a new found appreciation for what it means to be part of team!

Presented by Mike Studemann, agilityIRL

The Intersection of Culture and Project Success: 5 Best Practices that will enhance your ability to get things done

Breakout #3: 1:30PM-2:45PM (1.25 PDU)

Culture encompasses the shared beliefs, norms, symbols, values, attitudes that permeate all parts of the organization, including projects. These enduring patterns of behavior help provide stability for the organization. However, a strong culture can also create roadblocks to getting the results needed to achieve planned project outcomes. Understanding and assessing an organization's culture can mean the difference between a project's success or failure. Project leaders who lack the approach to gain cultural awareness can become restricted and handicapped by the values and beliefs of the organization's culture. They can have difficulty understanding and adapting to different norms and behaviors across the organization. Understanding and then confronting the reality of an organization's culture may not always be pleasant, but it is necessary. In this session project leaders will explore the FIVE best practices for assessing culture, how to become more effective within a culture and how to achieve the planned project results.

Presented by Paul Feikema, Lionosity

Project Management & Parenthood-The Agile Parenting Manifesto

Breakout #3: 1:30PM-2:45PM (1.25 PDU)

As parents, we own the serious responsibility of developing the parents of tomorrow. To best prepare our children for their new world, a world of high uncertainty, we can learn a lot from the Agile Manifesto. In 2005 Geof Lory authored the Agile Parenting Manifesto, applying the Agile framework and the Manifesto format to parenting. Since then, he has written more than 100 articles on project management and parenthood, specifically applying Agile values and principles to both. In this session, Geof will share the Agile Parenting Manifesto and how he applied it to his family life and raising two daughters.

Presented by Geof Lory, GTD Consulting

Success Through Failure

Breakout #3: 1:30PM-2:45PM (1.25 PDU)

There are often hundreds of submissions for a single acting role in Hollywood, and this makes former actor Jack Stahlmann a self-proclaimed expert when it comes to failure. In this session, he comically reminisces about his professional flops and encourages audiences to embrace smart failures that can lead to major successes. After this session you will:

- Develop an inventor's outlook on success in that you often have to fail many times before you get the desired results.
- Gain a new perspective on the fear of failure by looking at the upside of it.

Laugh hard at Jack's Hollywood flops, while analyzing success stories of Tinsel Town

Presented by Jack Stahlmann, Don't Flinch Guy

The Intangible It of Change Management

PM Keynote: 3:15PM-4:15PM (1 PDU)

Every movie star has an intangible quality that you can't quite put your finger on… or can you? By sharing humorous (and humbling) tales of his Tinseltown adventures, Jack Stahlmann breaks down the "it" factor of evolution that allows certain actors stars to sustain stardom for decades in Hollywood and shares how you can go from a bit player to a superstar in your profession. In this session you will:

- Learn to channel your inner-Clooney through the simple steps of having the "it" factor of change.
- Find ways to leverage your "connect" to improve business relationships.
- Identify where to begin with change by embracing the "just one thing" philosophy.
- Develop an anti-fear mindset with change by thinking about the end result first.

Presented by Jack Stahlmann, Don't Flinch Guy