

PM PEOPLE NEWS

Dr. Ricardo Viana Vargas named PMI Fellow

Project Management Institute honors former board chair with PMI Fellow Award, Institute's highest honor

2 December 2022 – Philadelphia, PA and Las Vegas, NV, USA – The Project Management Institute (PMI) the world's leading association for project professionals, [has announced](#) that Dr. Ricardo Viana Vargas has received the institute's highest honor, the PMI Fellow Award. The award was presented during the PMI Awards Ceremony on 1 December 2022, at the end of day one of the PMI Global Congress North American 2022 at Caesar's Palace in Las Vegas, Nevada, USA. His was the only PMI Fellow award this year.

Ricardo was the first Latin American to be elected Chairman of the Board of Directors of PMI. Between 2016 and 2020, Ricardo also directed the [Brightline Initiative](#), a Project Management Institute think tank bringing together leading organizations in a coalition dedicated to helping executives bridge the expensive, unproductive gap between strategic design and delivery.

Photo: Dr. Ricardo Vargas with PMI Fellow award on December 1 in Las Vegas.



Prior to his work with Brightline, Ricardo was Director of the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) Infrastructure and Project Management Group, leading more than 1,000 projects and \$1.2 billion in humanitarian and development projects. Ricardo holds a Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from Federal Fluminense University in Brazil and an undergraduate degree in Chemical Engineering, as well as a master's degree in Industrial Engineering from Federal University of Minas Gerais in Brazil.

According to Ricardo, "This is a great honor for me. So many years ago when I first joined PMI, I never thought this could be possible. Now after working in project management and being active with PMI for so long, first in Brazil and then internationally, I could still only dream of this award. I want to thank so many people who have helped me over the years. And I want to thank the other PMI Fellows, the leaders who helped make PMI the great organization that it has become."

More than two decades ago, Ricardo founded Macrosolutions, a global consulting firm with international operations in energy, infrastructure, IT, oil and finance. Dr. Vargas is Managing Partner at Macrosolutions, past Executive Director of the Project Management Institute's Brightline Initiative, past Director of the United Nations Office for Project Services ([UNOPS](#)) Infrastructure and Project Management Group.

Passionate about transforming ideas into action and a popular speaker at international PM events, Ricardo is recognized worldwide as a chief advocate for the project economy. Specializing in implementing innovative global initiatives, capital projects and product development, he has directed dozens of projects across industries and continents, managing more than \$20 billion in global initiatives over the past 25 years.

About the PMI Fellow Award

The PMI Fellow Award recognizes and honors members who have made sustained and significant contributions to the project management profession and the Institute for more than a decade. This is PMI's highest and most prestigious individual award. Criteria for Fellow consideration include: demonstrated significant and sustained contributions to PMI spanning a minimum of ten (10) consecutive years; significant contributions to the project management profession that expand and advance the knowledge, use, and application of project management; and the nominee's contributions to PMI and to the project management profession are global in value, benefiting the worldwide project management community. Originated in 1982, PMI Fellow Award recipients represent a virtual "Who's Who" in project management, accomplished people from a broad range of fields who have had the vision and passion to make significant and lasting contributions to the project management profession and to PMI. Learn more at <https://www.pmi.org/about/awards/winners/fellows>

Editor's note: Dr. Ricardo Vargas was named Honorary Global Advisor for the PM World Journal and Library in August 2022. We congratulate Dr. Vargas on receiving this new prestigious award from PMI.