

## BREAKING NEWS

### **Last week to register for April University of Maryland hybrid Project Management Symposium**

***Don't miss the world's highest value project management conference, in person or online, during 20-21 April 2023***

12 April 2023 – Maryland, USA – The annual University of Maryland Project Management Symposium will be held during 20-21 April 2023. The two-day conference, organized by UMD's Project Management Center for Excellence, will be held in person on the UMD campus. Virtual participation is also an option, so the event is truly a hybrid conference. [Visit the symposium website here.](#)

The virtual option allows attendees to view all 36+ presentations for one low price, providing 27 professional development units (PDUs) for a single event. If you are able to attend in person, then you can also join other PM professionals, network, share experiences and continue your project management journey at this live event. [More information on the conference website.](#)

#### **Featured Keynote Speakers**



**Laura Barnard**, Founder and CEO, PMO Strategies. Presentation: Let's Debate... Process vs Principles, Which Approach is Better? Laura has been instrumental in bringing PMOs and Project Management to the strategy table for 25 years. She has been recognized as a top global PMO influencer by the PMO Global Alliance two years in a row, and gives back to the PMO and project community by sharing her insights and stories on the popular [PMO Strategies Podcast](#) and as a part of the longest running PMO-specific virtual conference, the [PMO IMPACT Summit](#), where she is shaking up the way the industry thinks about the PMO role in driving strategy realization.

**John Deatruck**, Director at St. Mary's County Government, Department of Public Works, Retired. Presentation: What drove the success in delivering the transformative transportation and infrastructure improvements in Washington, DC, SE & SW, that have culminated for now in the replacement of the Frederick Douglass Memorial Bridge? Throughout his 47-year career John has worked in local government on a broad range of duties, including Director of Transportation for the City of Cincinnati and Deputy Director/Chief Engineer, for the Washington, DC,



Department of Transportation. During his career he has had responsibility for managing teams that delivered a wide range of public services and award-winning civic improvement projects.



**Christine Merdon**, Founder and President, Merdon Strategies, Ilc. Presentation: Leadership lessons from the Capitol Dome Renovation. Christine was most recently the Acting Architect and Deputy Architect for nine years, leading a billion-dollar construction program that included the Capitol Building and Dome Restoration. She was responsible the leadership of a diverse organization of over 2,500 employees, was a member of the U.S. Capitol Police Board, Executive and Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

**Crystal J. Richards**, Presentation: Let's Debate... Process vs Principles, Which Approach is Better? This debate is about whether starting with principles or processes is the best way to form standards and drive project management excellence. Crystal is the Principal and Owner of MindsparQ™, a talent development consulting firm dedicated to helping organizations better the skill sets of their teams in the areas of project management, communications, and leadership.



**Robert Warren**, Assistant Vice President – Facilities Operations at University of Miami Health System (UHealth). Presentation: Achieving the Mission – How Leadership and Influence Can Move Project Portfolios Through the Bureaucracy. For UHealth, Robert oversees facilities operations for 3 hospitals, 30 outpatient facilities, and more than 100 clinics. Robert joined UHealth in 2021 after a 20-year career in the U.S. Navy Civil Engineer Corps. Robert has served as on-site project manager for projects in the United States, Spain, Cameroon, Afghanistan, and Italy.

**Dr. Al Zeitoun**, Siemens | Global Leader in Strategy Execution, Operational Excellence, Digital Transformation, and Program Management. Presentation: Creating the Experience-Driven Future Organization – empowering the Strategic Project Management Muscle. Dr. Zeitoun is a Future of Work, business optimization, and operational performance excellence thought leader with global experiences in strategy execution. He PMI Fellow and former member of the PMI Board of Directors.



**Plus, Full Program of Presentations & Discussions:** 36 presentations by project management practitioners and leaders will be featured over the two days, along with the six featured speakers and other live sessions. [See full agenda here.](#)

**Registration ends soon.** If you are a project manager or project management professional living in the Washington, DC area, plan to attend this world class symposium. If you are located anywhere in the world, register for the virtual option that also allows you to view presentations long after the event. If you employ project and program management leaders, send them to this world-class event. For more information or [to register, click here.](#)

The **University of Maryland A. James Clark School of Engineering Project Management Center for Excellence** provides high quality, challenging education in project management preparing graduates to be proficient members of project teams and excellent project managers, maintains a strong research program recognized for excellence in project management, and provides project management training and development services to the University, profession, and community at large. Their academic program was the first in an engineering school to be accredited by the Project Management Institute's (PMI) Global Accreditation Center; the center is also a "Global Registered Educational Provider" by PMI. Visit [www.pm.umd.edu](http://www.pm.umd.edu).

*Editor's note: The PM World Journal is a proud media partner for this event.*

