

## **Interview with Robert Joslin<sup>1</sup>**

Founder and President, AIPMO  
Association of International Project Management Officers  
Zurich, Switzerland



**Interviewed by Ipek Sahra Ozguler**  
International Correspondent, PM World Journal  
Istanbul, Turkey

### **Introduction to the interviewee**

**Dr. Robert Joslin** is a prominent figure in the PMO and PPM management field, serving as the Association of International Project Management Officers (AIPMO) President. He is also an Associate Professor, having earned his degree from ECM. With over 35 years of experience designing, initiating, and managing the delivery of large-scale business transformation and reengineering programs, Dr. Joslin has worked across various sectors, including telecom, banking, insurance, manufacturing, and direct marketing. He has been a consultant with McKinsey & Co., Logica, and his own consulting company. Dr. Joslin is an accomplished author, having written books, chapters, and research papers on project, program, and portfolio management. He is the architect of the PMO Body of Knowledge (PMO BOK), which comprises seven books. Additionally, he is a peer reviewer for four academic project management journals and was part of the core portfolio team that produced the Project Portfolio Standard V4. Dr. Joslin has significantly contributed to AIPMO's PMO Strategic Lifecycle Frameworks and methods.

---

<sup>1</sup> How to cite this interview: Ozguler, I.S. (2024). Interview with Robert Joslin, AIPMO President; *PM World Journal*, Vol. XIII, Issue VI, June

## Interview

**Ipek Sahra Ozguler (Ozguler):** *First of all, thank you for accepting the interview invitation. Could you please give brief information about the Ambassadors Program 2024?*

**Robert Joslin (Joslin):** The Ambassadors Program 2024 is an initiative designed to recognize and leverage the expertise of PMO professionals worldwide. The program aims to create a network of dedicated individuals who will champion PMO-leading practices, contribute to the development of PMO standards, and support the growth of the PMO community. This year, we focus on enhancing global collaboration and sharing knowledge across different regions and industries.

**Ozguler:** *What are the Ambassadors Program objectives?*

**Joslin:** The main objectives of the Ambassadors Program are to advance PMO standards, foster a sense of community among PMO professionals, and promote the exchange of knowledge and best practices. By achieving these goals, we aim to elevate the role of PMOs within organizations and enhance their impact on business performance. Additionally, the program seeks to identify and develop future leaders in the PMO and PPM management field.

**Ozguler:** *Why are advancing PMO standards and empowering PMO Community Growth so important?*

**Joslin:** Advancing PMO standards is crucial because it ensures that PMOs are aligned with the latest industry practices and equipped to handle the complexities of modern project and program portfolio environments. Empowering PMO community growth is equally important as it fosters a collaborative environment where professionals can share insights, challenges, and solutions. This collective intelligence drives innovation and improvement in PMO practices, leading to more successful outcomes and enhanced organizational value.

**Ozguler:** *Please tell our readers more about the program structure.*

**Joslin:** The Ambassadors Program is structured to facilitate active engagement and meaningful contributions from its members. It includes various components such as webinars, workshops, and networking events. Ambassadors are encouraged to participate in these activities, share their experiences, and collaborate on projects. The program also includes mentorship opportunities where senior PMO professionals can guide and support junior members, fostering a culture of continuous learning and development.

**Ozguler:** *Four roles are defined in the program: Ambassadors, Junior PMO Ambassadors, Steering Committee, Program Director. What are the responsibilities of each role?*

**Joslin:**

- Ambassadors are experienced PMO and PPM professionals who advocate for PMO-leading research-enhanced practices and standards. They contribute to program activities, share knowledge, and mentor junior members.
- Junior PMO Ambassadors are emerging PMO professionals who are participating in the program to learn and grow. They support Ambassadors in various tasks and bring fresh perspectives to the community.
- The Steering Committee guides the program's strategic direction, ensures alignment with AIPMO's goals, and oversees major initiatives.
- The Program Director oversees the program's overall management, coordinating activities, managing resources, and ensuring that objectives are met.

**Ozguler:** *You said that the ideal Ambassador will be proactive in their contribution to the program. How?*

**Joslin:** The ideal Ambassador will proactively seek opportunities to contribute by participating in events, leading discussions, and initiating projects that benefit the PMO community. They will also engage with members, share their expertise through articles and presentations, and represent the program at industry conferences and events. Ambassadors take an active role in helping drive the program's success and making a tangible impact on the PMO field.

**Ozguler:** *Please give more information about Ambassador Selection and Onboarding Processes.*

**Joslin:** The selection process for Ambassadors involves thoroughly reviewing candidates' experience, contributions to the PMO community, and potential to positively impact the program. Selected candidates undergo an onboarding process that includes an introduction to the program's objectives, expectations, and resources. This ensures that they are well-prepared to fulfill their roles effectively. Additionally, new Ambassadors are paired with mentors who guide them through the initial stages of their journey in the program.

---

**Ozguler:** *Thank you for sharing your time and perspectives with PMWJ readers.*

**Joslin:** Thank you, Ipek. It's been a pleasure discussing the Ambassadors Program 2024, and I look forward to our PMO community's continued growth and success.

---

## About the Interviewer



### **Ipek Sahra Ozguler**

Istanbul, Turkey



**Ipek Sahra Ozguler** graduated from the Istanbul University, Turkey with a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Engineering and from Middle East Technical University, Turkey with an MSc degree in Software Management. As a project manager, she has more than 13 years of experience in various areas such as portfolio management, program management, project management, software management, business analysis. She became a certified PMP in 2012 and a certified SCRUM Master in 2014.

She has gained broader insights in a variety of projects across manufacturing, defence, FMCG (Cola Cola), insurance (Euler Hermes), audit (Deloitte), telecommunication, aviation and finance sectors. In addition, she has been working as an international correspondent for the PM World Journal since 2014.

Ipek is the creator and editor of the highly acclaimed book, [The Perspective of Women Project Management Professionals](#), interviews with leading female PM experts and professionals around the world. The book was published in March 2020 and is available [here](#).

Ipek is based in Istanbul, Turkey and can be contacted at [ipeksahra@gmail.com](mailto:ipeksahra@gmail.com). Her portfolio is published at the <http://ipeksahra.strikingly.com/> and <https://pmworldlibrary.net/authors/ipek-sahra-ozguler/>.