TEP and PMI Tucson celebrate Project Management Day by hosting virtual event

And it’s a wrap. Tucson Electric Power (TEP) and PMI Tucson (PMIT) celebrated Project Management Day on November 5th with an educational event for the fifth year in a row. This year, however, there was a twist—for the first time, the event was virtual. The global Covid-19 pandemic necessitated the change if TEP and PMIT were to continue offering this popular seminar series. Previously, these events were hosted by TEP at their Tucson headquarters.

For more than two months a committee of TEP and PMIT volunteers, led by the TEP IS PMO, met remotely to work out logistical details, put together a program, and tested the technology that would allow the event to take place. The successful event, featuring networking, learning and sharing was attended by more than 80 individuals representing 25 different local organizations.

Peter de Jager, speaker, writer and consultant on managing change was the keynote speaker with the apropos topic, To Master the Chaos of the Future, Become More CHAOTIC. Two breakout sessions were offered following the keynote address. Speaker Lee Lambert, PMP, PMI Fellow, spoke about The Future of Project Management, and Jennifer Tharpe, PMP, PMI Global Director, addressed the New Project Economy. A networking session followed, led by TEP’s Ryan Karttunen, PMP, with discussion about what project management might look like by the year 2025.

The year’s event featured a new opportunity for attendees to enter a recent project of their choice in a contest for a chance to win a prize. The winner of this year’s inaugural contest was The UNSE Mohave Maximo Implementation project, submitted by David Rico for TEP. The scope of this IT project was to replace manual business processes with a formal Work Management System. The project team was awarded a prize in the amount of $200 based on creativity around Risk Management during the unprecedented challenges during the Covid-19 epidemic.

Kevin Archbold, PMP, PMI Tucson’s chapter president, remarked “it is significant that even though we were faced with a set of entirely new and unusual circumstances, TEP and PMIT pulled together and successfully implemented this valuable event. Thanks to the TEP team for again inviting us to be a part of their Project Management Day celebration. We value our partnership with them very much.”

Wendy Lakatos, PMP, TEP IS PMO manager and active PMIT member added “the success of this event would not have been possible without the dedication and hard work of the TEP and PMIT volunteers. This group was fully committed to making sure everyone had an opportunity to celebrate our profession plus learn, network, and share with others. We look forward to another successful collaboration next year.”