



Women in Project Management SIG Annual General Meeting 2017

@apmwipmsig

Maura Launchbury

WIPM SIG - Overview

WiPM addresses the development and promotion of women working in project management environments and works to maximise the availability of expertise in the project management profession.

We actively promote investment in gender diversity to ensure that all project managers have the potential to develop a highly rewarding career, supporting both men and women in their efforts to maintain a balance between the many demands imposed on them whilst striving to retain their own identity.

Our mission is to:

- Develop a powerful profile for women in the profession;
- Promote a no-barrier culture;
- Encourage diversity, gender balance and career development;
- Engage with and respond to project professionals;
- Provide a diverse range of role models;
- Build a collaborative community.

2016/17 Committee

- Many, many thanks to the 2016/17 Committee:
 - Chair Maura Launchbury
 - Secretary Valentina Lorenzon
 - Jeanette Pope, Adetoun Abiola, Alison Whitehead, Adeline Daly, Yvonne McBain, Hollie Woodward, Emma Wright, Teri Okoro, Natalie Deane

- And all the volunteers!

Activities

- [Published an article](#) in Thales L&D magazine discussing why promoting women in project management is so important as well as what they are doing to help drive the success of women in the field, and what the wider industry needs to do to help
- The [APM National Conference for Women in Project Management 2016](#), which had over 350 project professionals attending, provided delegates with useful insights and inspiration to become and develop world-class women. The speakers also discussed the issues of equality, leadership and changing behaviours within the profession. Keynotes speeches were given by Jo Fairley, co-founder of Green & Black's, Peter Cheese, Chief Executive of CIPD and Rt Hon Harriet Harman.
The event was shortlisted for Best Development of an Existing Association Event- over 300 attendees at the Association Excellence Awards
- Leadership Speaker, Sarah Coleman presented for us at Harwell PM Conference—October 2016
- Joint event with Leeds Branch debating Diversity in Project Management.
- Teri Okoro represented us at APM's first ever LGBT event, looking at the professional, ethical and commercial value of engaging with all levels of diversity that naturally exist within every organisation.
- Adeline Daly organised a celebration of International Women's Day at Marshall ADG. Take a look at the video from the event [here](#).
- Joint event with Thames Valley branch as a result of feedback from our WiPM National conference showed demand for a longer session on negotiation/difficult conversations.

Activities continued

- Committee prepared content for APM Knowledgeshare – Cancelled!;
- Initiated regular WIPM Newsletter;
- Initiated Women in Project Management Historical role models theme;
- Hollie Woodward kicked off RPP Survey to identify challenges facing women planning to attain RPP;
- Widened volunteer base with new volunteers stepping forward to support annual conference, form local networks – i.e. Bristol, Scotland and seeds set for a network hub in Southampton area;
- Natalie Deane continued to grow our Twitter following – catching up with the PMO SIG!;
- Monitoring APM gender membership gender statistics to understand how women are represented within our professional body;
- Maintaining links with like minded networks and organisations.

WiPM SIG Events and Activities for coming year

Our objectives support the APM's emerging strategy. We put forward the proposal that WiPM can support the strategy as follows:

- Ensure all members and especially women are able to achieve their full potential in their chosen career in Project Management.
 - a. Address the imbalance of female representation in decision-making bodies of the APM and widen the inclusivity for all minority groups.
 - b. Address the imbalance in the numbers of females with RPP and FAPM (and more senior levels in the organisation) in response to APM data and WiPM conference feedback.
 - c. Provide advice to APM on actions it can take to help decrease the gender pay gap in project management professions.
 - d. Provide positive role models and strategies from current thought leaders on developing leadership potential, particularly but not exclusively from the female perspective.
 - e. Facilitate learning to enhance capabilities through the APM national conference and support relevant events/masterclasses.

- Widen the membership base of APM by individual and by sector. Support Branch events through our visible presence or by providing speakers or ideas for topics that would be inclusive to all members.

- Provide subject matter expertise for all matters relating to diversity and inclusion.
 - a. Share regular newsletters, case studies, articles and blogs.
 - b. Be a critical friend to APM, contribute to the Investing in Volunteers renewal and lead on potential equality and diversity initiatives when the APM considers it is ready to undertake such an evaluation. (wisecampaign.org.uk – 10 steps)

How you can help

- If you have an idea or suggestion or a passionate desire to share your work and experiences with us – [get in touch now](#) – we welcome your ideas and articles for publication. We want to know what our membership are doing, your successes and your stories and we will do our best to promote your work through the APM network. By contributing to APM WiPM SIG you are supporting the profession and adding to your portfolio for RPP and FAPM recognition.

- Authors wanted! We intend to deliver our objectives for next year through:
 - **Journal/magazine articles**
Regular items to showcase female success stories and those of other minority groups and young project managers. Also highlighting inclusive interventions that have improved project delivery.

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- Conference papers – Write your own paper and let us know
 - This will challenge volunteers to present their work on the national and international stage.

- Speakers wanted! Speaker presentations/participation at branch or third party events
 - Be ready to provide thought leading speakers on leadership and diversity. Also need to raise the profile of RPP women members and create a forum where they can discuss their concerns and encourage them to push ahead. Send us your bio, area of expertise and speaking experience so that we can match with suitable speaker requests.

Major activities 2017/18

- Inaugural meeting of new committee to review and confirm strategy for 2017/18 and beyond and identify priorities.
- [APM National Conference](#), 28 Sep 2017.
- International Women's Day project inviting all those who consider themselves young to step forward and help volunteer to plan and organise our International Women's Day (IWD) event for 2018 .
- Kick start planning for National Conference 2018!

How to get in touch with us

Web:

<http://www.apm.org.uk/groups/apm-women-project-management-wipm-sig>

Email: wipmsig@apm.org.uk

Twitter: @apmwipmsig

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/APM-Women-in-Project-Management-2078790/about>