

Project Management Institute,
SOUTH DAKOTA CHAPTER



2025 Summit

AT THE DISTRICT



PMI SUMMIT
AUGUST 5, 2025

WELCOME.



Dear Fellow Project Leaders,

Welcome to the 2025 South Dakota PMI Summit!

This event is one of the highlights of our chapter's year, and we're genuinely grateful you've chosen to spend your time with us today. The entire planning team has worked with care, creativity, and a shared sense of purpose to design a summit that delivers real value, thoughtfully crafted sessions, powerful keynote insights, and meaningful opportunities to connect.

This year's theme leans into what we believe project management does best: driving change, fostering growth, and making an impact, not just within our teams, but across our organizations and communities. We've invited a lineup of speakers

who reflect that spirit, leaders who will challenge your thinking, sharpen your skills, and hopefully spark new ideas you'll carry forward in your work.

Throughout the day, I encourage you to introduce yourself to someone new, reconnect with familiar faces, and take a moment to appreciate the remarkable talent in this room. Project Management is more than a discipline, it's a community. And there's something powerful about being in a space with others who understand both the complexity and the reward of what we do.

Thank you again for being here. You are the reason this community continues to grow and thrive. Now, let's learn, laugh, connect, and make the most of today.

With gratitude,

Richard Lefevre

THE PRESIDENT OF THE PROJECT MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE, SOUTH DAKOTA

SCHEDULE

7:30 AM	Headshots Available <i>(pre registered)</i>
7:45 AM	Check In Opens • The District
8:15 AM	Welcome with Richard Lefevre & Calli Jenkerson
8:25 AM	Networking Session
8:45 AM	Break • Vendor Networking & Headshots
9:00 AM	"Coach It! Communicate to Connect" Rana DeBoer • The District
10:00 AM	"AI for Project Managers: From Exploration to Integration" Scott Meyer • The District
11:00 AM	Break • Vendor Networking & Headshots
11:15 AM	"Radical Collaboration in Micro-Cultures: Driving Change in Project Management" Teresa Wrich • The District
12:15 PM	Lunch & Networking • The District
1:00 PM	"Elevating Leadership: Unlocking Excellence by Leading with Purpose" Brian Alementi • The District
2:00 PM	"From Chaos to Control: Mastering the Art of Project Recovery and Resilience" Sharon Kreitingner • The District
3:00 PM	Break • Vendor Networking & Refreshments
3:20 PM	"How Ted Lasso's Leadership Style Can Help Build Psychological Safety" Jeff Harry • The District
4:15 PM	Closing Remarks • The District

SURVEY & PDU CREDIT

In order to receive PDU credits for the Summit, you will be required to scan QR codes at the end of each session.

These QR codes will lead you to a survey to be completed.
You will also be asked to input your member ID at the end of each survey.
You can find this member ID on the front of your name badge. After completion of each survey, your PDU credit will be submitted.

NETWORKING SESSION

After check in, please look at the back of your name tag. You will see one assigned number. This number is your table assignment. The tables are numbered in the main room at The District. Please go to the number shown on your name tag for the welcome. After 15 minutes, you will be asked to transfer to another table of your choice.

Introduction - Name, Company, and Position

1. "What's one project management tool or platform you can't live without—and why?"
2. "How do you keep your team motivated during long or complex projects?"
3. "What's the biggest lesson you've learned from a project that didn't go as planned?"
4. "How do you measure project success beyond deadlines and budgets?"
5. "What's one emerging trend or skill you think all PMs should pay attention to right now?"
6. "If you could instantly master any new skill—professional or personal—what would it be and why?"
7. "What's your go-to way to unwind after a hectic project wraps up?"
8. How are you using AI in your workplace?

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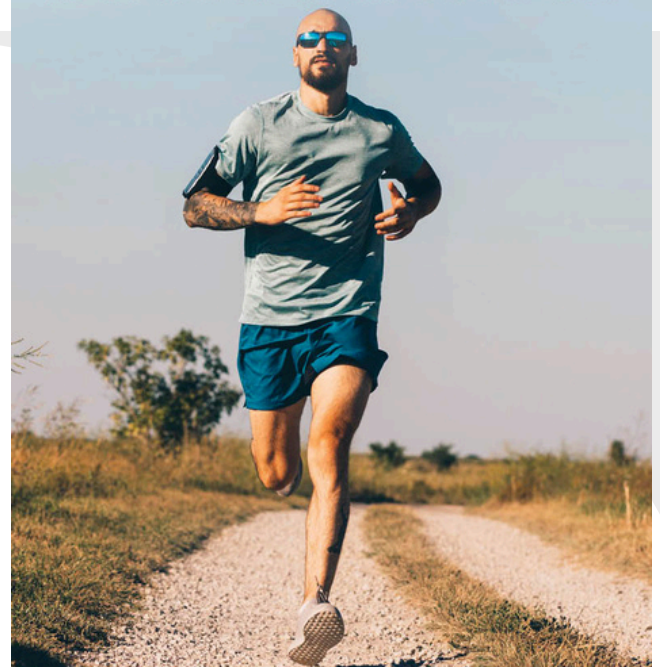
RICHARD LEFEVRE

Richard Lefevre built his career at the intersection of science, leadership, and innovation. He first made his mark in medical research and development, partnering with surgical teams from across six countries to advance groundbreaking neurosurgical techniques. Driven by a passion for solving complex challenges, he mastered project management methodologies including Waterfall, Agile, and hybrid approaches. A former PAC-10 collegiate honors athlete and two-year rugby team captain, Richard carries an athlete's discipline into every project, building resilient teams and delivering high-impact results. His leadership has fueled major scientific publications, secured pivotal research grants, and advanced new approaches to neurosurgery. After spending his childhood in Misawa, Japan, and later establishing roots in Phoenix, Arizona, Richard relocated to the Midwest in 2017, where he expanded his portfolio to include mergers and acquisitions, enterprise software development, public sector programs, and critical COVID initiatives. Today, as a strategic consultant, he helps organizations transform vision into execution, drive sustainable growth, and lead through complexity with confidence.



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CALLI JENKERSON

As a former board member, I am honored by the opportunity to support the 2025 PMISD Summit. This event represents the magic of project management and community support. My tenure leading the contract science division at USGS EROS has made it clear that extraordinary project management goes beyond controlling scope, schedule, and budget. The sparkle comes from connecting

and cultivating exceptional people in suitable roles with innovative tools. This Summit brings that to the forefront as an occasion to communicate shared and unique experiences, rejuvenate our enthusiasm, and sharpen our skills to refine our professional effectiveness. Thank you for joining us and enriching the PMI South Dakota culture.

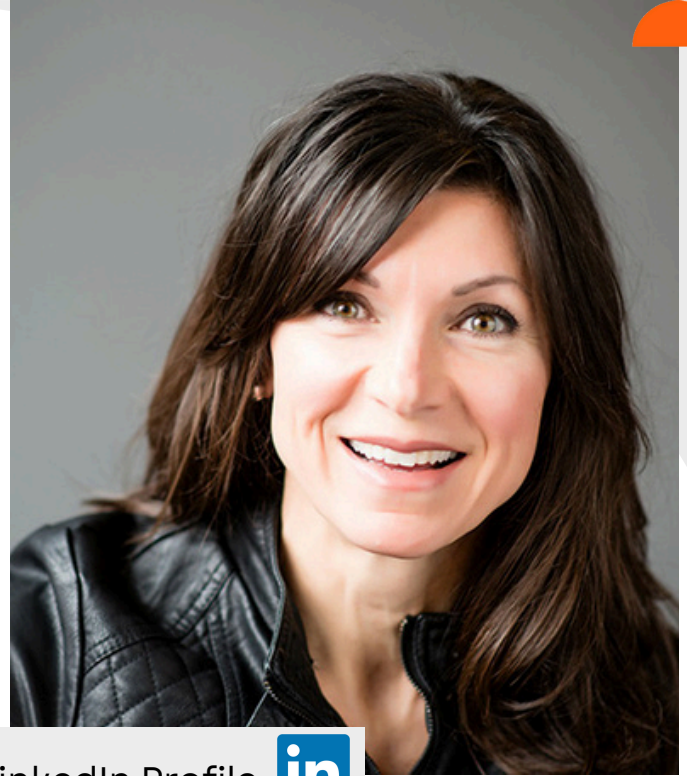


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SPEAKER BIO

RANA DEBOER

As the Owner + Chief Impact Officer of VOLT Talent Strategy, I work with growth-minded organizations to strengthen the human side of business—where strategy meets energy, and people power performance. With a pioneering approach rooted in well-being, I've coached and advised thousands of leaders to drive clarity, connection, and a culture with measurable impact.



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SPEAKER SESSION | 9:00 AM

Coach It! Communicate to Connect

WITH RANA DEBOER

Great project leaders don't just manage—they coach. This keynote uncovers how adopting a coach-like mindset fosters clarity, connection, collaboration, courage, and creativity. Discover practical techniques to empower teams, ask better questions, and create a culture of continuous growth for sustained project success.

SPEAKER BIO

SCOTT MEYER

Scott Meyer is an entrepreneur, educator, writer, dad, husband, and runner based in Fargo, ND.

...Yep, like the movie.

He co-founded Chipp with goal of making AI accessible for all. Chipp makes it easy for businesses to integrate AI guaranteeing privacy, branding, and integrations. His energetic, accessible, and action-oriented tutorials on YouTube move AI from a cool toy to an essential tool.

Previously, Meyer co-founded and exited the digital marketing firm 9 Clouds, launched the entrepreneurship center at North Dakota State University, and was the VP of Learning at Metacrafters, teaching developers web3 and AI. He served as a city councilor, received a Master's Degree in Peace Studies above the Arctic Circle, observed elections in Latvia for OSCE, wrote a travel guide to Norway, and taught 3 year olds English in Northern Spain. When not working online, he is helping his wife Taylor build a stunning jewelry store in downtown Fargo.



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SPEAKER SESSION | 10:00 AM

AI for Project Managers: From Exploration to Integration

WITH SCOTT MEYER

Building on last year's introduction to AI in project management, this session takes a deeper dive into how organizations are responsibly integrating artificial intelligence into daily project workflows. Attendees will learn about responsible use and adoption of AI, considering the ethics, bias, and risk behind it as well as receive a practical look at business integration, helping project managers move from curiosity to confident use. Whether you're still exploring AI or already testing solutions, this session offers strategic insight and actionable steps to embed AI in a way that enhances—not replaces—project leadership.



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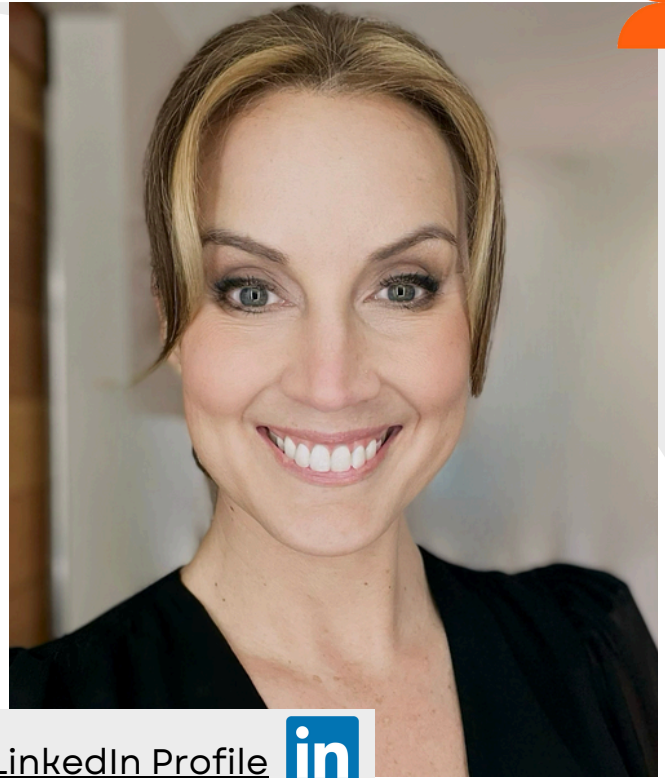
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SPEAKER BIO

TERESA WRICH

With over 20 years in the financial industry, Teresa is known for transforming high-pressure environments into purpose-driven, high-performing teams. She's the creator of the BRAVE Leadership Framework, a holistic approach that's been applied across corporate cultures, leadership journeys, and strategic transformations. Teresa is also building an innovative fintech SaaS platform that connects banks, nonprofits, and

underserved communities, blending compliance, strategy, and impact to expand access to financial resources. As a leadership coach, creative strategist, and speaker, she's passionate about helping people lead with clarity and courage while turning insight into action. She also integrates art and creativity into her work, using hands-on experiences to unlock innovation, flow, and authentic leadership. Teresa consults with fintechs, banks, and mission-driven organizations to align innovation with social impact. Her work is grounded in the belief that meaningful change starts within and when we own our purpose, we unlock the power to transform our teams, companies, and communities.



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SPEAKER SESSION | 11:15 AM

Radical Collaboration in Micro-Cultures: Driving Change in Project Management

WITH TERESA WRICH

Project managers operate at the intersection of multiple organizational cultures, where leadership styles, collaboration norms, and communication dynamics vary across departments. To drive success, they must create a micro-culture within their projects, one that balances high expectations with trust, psychological safety, and continuous improvement. Radical collaboration, rooted in transparency and inclusivity, allows teams to break down silos, align diverse perspectives, and foster innovation despite differing leadership approaches throughout the company.

Key Themes & Takeaways:

- Project Managers as Cultural Architects
- Radical Collaboration is Built on Trust
- Navigating Organizational Silos



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SPEAKER BIO

BRIAN ALEMENTI

Brian Alementi is an acclaimed Inspirational Keynote Speaker, award-winning leader, and certified Master Trainer renowned for engaging presentations that combine inspiration with practical, actionable insights. With a rich background in elevating teams, Brian brings his experience as a previous leader within a Fortune 500 Insurance company's Hall of Fame learning and development division, where his dedication to growth and excellence shaped high-performing teams across the organization. His impact reaches far and wide, with numerous features on major television networks and invitations to speak on prominent stages, including TEDx. Brian's influence continues to expand as he empowers audiences to unlock their full potential and achieve remarkable results. With decades of public speaking experience, he has empowered audiences by delivering transformative sessions that enhance productivity and connection. Brian resonates across industries, making his sessions unforgettable and actionable.



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SPEAKER SESSION | 1:00 PM

Elevating Leadership: Unlocking Excellence by Leading with Purpose

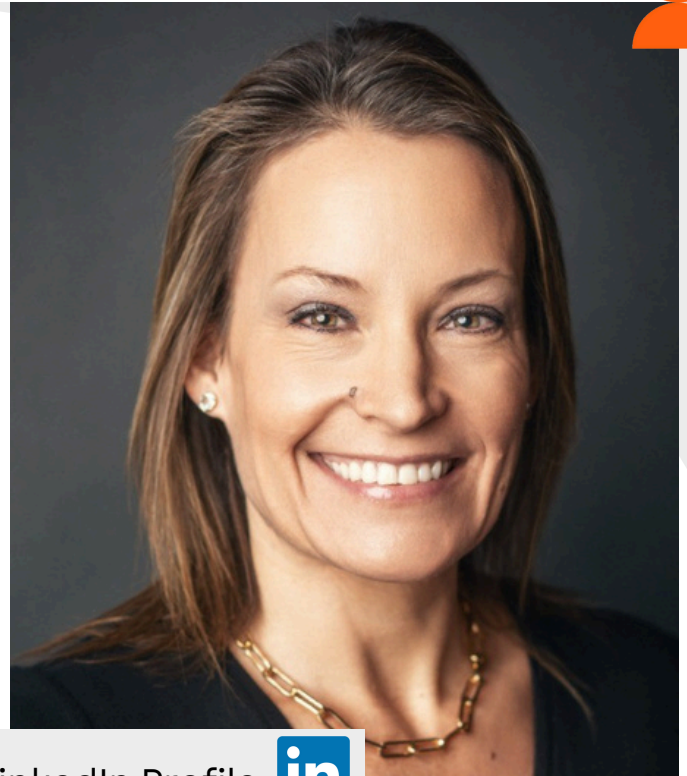
WITH BRIAN ALEMENTI

Brian will be presenting his "Elevating Leadership" keynote which focuses on his PG3 model including the following themes: Positivity, Passion, Perspective, Generosity, Gratitude, and Grace.

SPEAKER BIO

SHARON KREITINGER

Sharon Kreitinger is a project recovery and PMO strategy expert who thrives on transforming failing initiatives into strategic successes. As the Founder & Principal Consultant of AxysPoint Consulting Group, she helps organizations navigate complex project challenges, align strategy with execution, and drive measurable results across industries such as healthcare, finance, construction, pharma, and consumer goods.



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With 20+ years of experience, Sharon specializes in project recovery, risk mitigation, and stakeholder alignment. She ensures organizations rescue struggling projects and build long-term resilience in their portfolios. She has led high-stakes transformations, including reviving a \$10M digital project, stabilizing multimillion-dollar M&A integrations, and guiding executive teams through large-scale change. Sharon's approach is direct, practical, and results-driven, making her a sought-after consultant for organizations that can't afford to let projects fail. She is deeply engaged in the PMO and project management community, regularly sharing insights on data-driven decision-making, leadership, and strategic execution. In 2025, she joined the South Dakota Chapter of PMI as the Director of the Community of Practice (CoP), helping drive thought leadership and professional development for project managers across the state.

Sharon is fueled by connection and the power of good humans. She finds joy in training for her second marathon, biking, hiking, and traveling with her husband, Troy, and their two incredible adult children, Taylor & Brady.

SPEAKER SESSION | 2:00 PM

From Chaos to Control: Mastering the Art of Project Recovery and Resilience

WITH SHARON KREITINGER

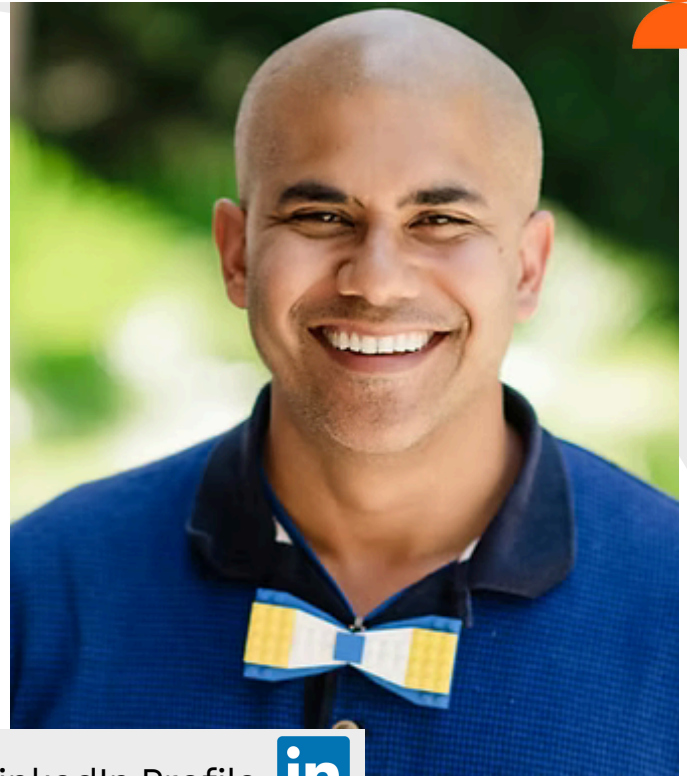
Projects go off track for many reasons—scope creep, misalignment, poor communication, or resource constraints. But a struggling project doesn't have to mean failure. In this session, we'll dive into the proven strategies that turn troubled projects around, restoring confidence, momentum, and success. You'll learn how to assess the true health of a project, identify key risks, and implement targeted recovery actions that make an immediate impact. We'll explore real-world examples of project turnarounds, uncover the common warning signs of failure, and discuss how to reset expectations with leadership and teams. Whether you're currently managing a project in distress or want to build a proactive toolkit for the future, this session will give you the insights and techniques to lead project recoveries with clarity, precision, and authority.

SPEAKER BIO

JEFF HARRY

Jeff Harry combines positive psychology and play to heal workplaces, help teams build psychological safety and assist individuals in addressing their biggest challenges by embracing a play-oriented approach to work. Jeff was selected by BambooHR & Engagedly as one of the Top 100 HR Influencers and has been featured in the NY Times, Mashable, Huffpost, Wired, NPR, NatGeo, & Forbes. Jeff has worked with Google, Southwest Airlines, Adobe, the NFL,

Amazon, and Facebook, helping their staff to infuse more play into the day-to-day. Over the past 15 years of facilitation and speaking, Jeff's main goal has been to help work suck less by assisting leaders in building a playground workplace atmosphere that motivates their staff to do their most vibrant work.



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SPEAKER SESSION | 3:20 PM

How Ted Lasso's Leadership Style Can Help Build Psychological Safety

WITH JEFF HARRY

85% of employees are disengaged at work. Staff leave because they don't feel seen, heard, or appreciated. Who knew the answer to this lies in a show called Ted Lasso? Ted's leadership style is vital for companies because it demonstrates the effectiveness of a more holistic and inclusive approach to being a leader. It combines empathy, intuition, and collaboration, which creates a compassionate work culture. He balances it with cultivating assertiveness, decisiveness, and accountability, which leads to a more productive and results-oriented work culture. Ted Lasso also embraces play as crucial to building camaraderie and a solid foundation for AFC Richmond. In this workshop, we will explore how play and positive psychology are essential to building psychological safety in this surreal new reality of work. We will analyze through the lens of Ted Lasso what currently needs to be added to your workplace that would create the culture your staff is looking for to feel comfortable playing. Finally, we will determine the initial steps you need to take to create a "stay curious" environment where staff can do their most vibrant work.

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