



Construction Management Programme

Introduction

The CMP is a three week management programme for engineers and other practitioners who have the potential for advancement into corporate management.

Distinguishing features of CMP

Future leaders: The CMP grooms the future leaders of our construction industry. Successful delegates of the CMP can, and have, become the senior managers of top client, consultant and/or construction organisations within the built environment.

Synthesised holistic solutions: CMP delegates are exposed to a variety of industry and project subject areas over an intensive four week programme. Delegates work together in a high-pressure environment to synthesise the subject matter by applying it to engineering and management assignments and case studies. This enables them to comprehend the complexities of the industry and to find holistic solutions to strategic and/or execution level problems.

Network of relationships: The CMP programme is unique through its challenging and uninterrupted, four week long programme where representatives from different spheres in the industry work together. This fosters a unique bond amongst the delegates and builds a lifelong network of professional relationships. Such a network is essential for successfully leading a business and/or construction project.

Work pressure: The fast pace of the programme tests delegates both physically and mentally. The CMP is therefore an excellent barometer of whether a future leader will be able to survive the unique challenges and pressure within the construction industry.

Overview

In the context of the CMP, the construction sector includes client and owner organizations, consultants, designers, project managers and contractors.

The CMP has a reputation for excellence, established over many years. It was first presented in 1976 and has been in constant demand despite periodic lower levels of investment in construction and reduction in capacity this past decade.

The CMP is presented annually over a period of three weeks using the total immersion learning methodology to expose delegates to the very latest theories, tools and techniques in all aspects of business management in the construction sector. CMP alumni are to be found in key positions in construction in Africa and around the world.

An extended list of high profile International and South African speakers participate in the presentation of the programme.

A central theme is chosen annually which relates to the current economic and industry environment. Lecturers use the theme as reference for the presentations, and delegates address aspects of the theme during course assignments. In this way, industry problems are solved in a creative and collaborative fashion by making use of the input from the specialist lecturers.

The attached figure provides an overview of topics covered during the programme. As can be seen from the figure, it consists of topics covering management of projects, as well as topics covering management of the organisation. All of these are structured around the central theme. Individual and group assessments are continuously carried out, and deserving delegates are issued with a CMP certificate at the completion of the programme.

The course is accredited with ECSA for 16 CPD points. Application is being made for accreditation with SACPCMP.

Schedule

CMP delegates work a six-day week from Monday to Saturday. The normal day extends from 08:15 – 17:15 (12:30 on Saturdays) with private and group study sessions during the evenings in preparation for the following day.

Programme dates for 2022: 26 June to 16 July 2022.

Objectives of the Programme

The programme aims to facilitate an ***improved understanding*** between all participants in the *construction sector* for improved collaboration to achieve a more integrated delivery system.

Objectives include;

- To gain an understanding of the needs of customers and clients in the *construction sector* with the purpose of improving both the delivery process and the products of the industry for improved ***customer satisfaction***;
- To develop a more inclusive industry which ***satisfies the needs of society-at-large***;
- To ***build capacity*** in the *construction sector* to address the acute shortage of construction professionals

Programme content

Topics addressed during the course of the programme include:

- Creativity and innovation;
- Financial management;
- Project financing;
- Systems thinking;
- Communication (written, oral...);
- Business management;
- Project management;
- Procurement;
- Dispute resolution;
- Construction contracts;
- Diagnostics of failures;
- Scenario planning;
- Leadership;
- Futures thinking.

Course fees

Course fees, including accommodation, all meals, course notes, lectures and books are R95 000.

Results of the Programme

The extensive variety of material that is presented ensures that each candidate is left with suitable skills and knowledge for developing their careers in project management, corporate management and entrepreneurship. The structure and organisation of the programme creates an awareness amongst delegates of issues that need to be engaged in if they are to become leaders of the future. *They will ultimately lead businesses which offer improved value for money and real customer satisfaction.*

Whilst reviewing the construction environment and developing a strategic mind-set, delegates are confronted with a number of the unique and potentially devastating problems that confront the industry as a whole. They also become aware of the fact that few entities are dealing with these major issues in any meaningful way. In the past, CMP delegates have used their collective voice to help address such issues.

Entrance requirements

Aspects of the presentations are of post-graduate standard and a tertiary academic qualification is strongly recommended. Delegates should be nominated by their employers or CMP alumni and should have demonstrated their ability in areas of specialisation. They should have had substantial management experience within the industry with a corresponding level of responsibility. In addition, they should have a high degree of motivation and self-discipline with capacity to learn, and clear potential for growth and advancement. Enrolments by international delegates are welcome. This will enable delegates to step outside of their normal environment, to test their ideas against peers from different countries and cultures, but with similar professional responsibilities.

The CMP programme consists of daily class attendance and extensive participation by delegates in group work. Considering the high level of candidates that attend, group sessions demand of participants to have a strong character and strong personalities, enabling them to debate at equal footing with other strong individuals from the industry. Delegates who do not meet these requirements can feel incapable very early on in the program. Delegates are divided into new groups each week, and are subjected to evaluation by peers at the end of each week.

CMP management evaluate applications against set criteria and reserve the right to interview either the applicant or sponsor (employer) prior to acceptance to the programme.

Programme Management

The annual CMP theme is chosen using input from the CMP Advisory board, which consists of CMP alumni and other captains of industry. The programme is then compiled by the programme director and co-director, in collaboration with CMP faculty from other local universities.

The CMP management staff members are as follows:

- CMP Director is : Prof Jan Wium, Chair in Construction Engineering and Management, Stellenbosch University (janw@sun.ac.za);
- Advisory director: Prof Fred Hugo, emeritus professor and research fellow, Stellenbosch University (Prof. Hugo has been involved in the programme since 1984).

Contacts:

- CMP Secretary: Ms Tsholofelo Seroalo (Email: tsholo@sun.ac.za)
- CMP Director: Prof Jan Wium (082-3357733; janw@sun.ac.za)