

Project Management in the 21st Century: Agile, Scrum, Waterfall

Panel discussion: Insights into managing leading-edge projects

Thursday, May 20, 2010

Maria's Italian Kitchen in Downtown Los Angeles

**Networking @ 6:00 pm to 6:45 pm • Dinner 6:45 to 7:45 pm
Panel @ 7:45 to 9:00 pm**

Kevin Graves - Programming Manager, Rapattoni, a leading MLS software vendor (facilitator)

John Petrone - Chief Technology Officer, Digital Performance Inc., online comparison shopping site

Sandra Langhammer - Manager, Business Systems Support, The LA Times/Tribune

Matt Thompson - Director, Interactive Services, Software Engineering, DirecTV

AITP is launching a new event at Marias, a great new venue in Downtown LA.

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Agile methodology is spreading fast, far beyond the High-tech realm to the mainstream, as more and more companies reap its benefits. So what is real and what is just hype?

Hear how these techniques are being implemented with dramatic results -- get unbiased opinions (and learn the pitfalls) based on direct experience implementing Agile/Scrum.

You'll learn:

- The benefits of leading-edge approaches such as Agile and Scrum.
- Criteria which determine when Agile/Scrum will add greatest value.
- How methodologies like Scrum and Waterfall can co-exist, and be complementary, within the same organization.
- Which certifications (e.g., PMP, Scrum Master) command a premium in the marketplace.

So, whether you are looking for best practices or for missteps to avoid, plan to attend this educational and exciting event.

Join our group of industry leaders for great networking, dinner, and a panel discussion on this topic.

Bring your business cards and plan to network with your peers at Maria's Italian Kitchen in Downtown Los Angeles

RESERVATIONS: use the link to preregister: <https://www.aceva.com/go/aitpla> Reservations are required! Reserve by Monday, May 17th to guarantee a spot at this popular event!

PRICE: Dinner & Program: In advance \$28. At the door \$35. For more information, call the chapter telephone at (562) 928-5353, contact Roger Lux at (562) 964-1888, or visit www.aitp-la.org.

LOCATION: Maria's Italian Kitchen, 615 Flower Street, Los Angeles CA, 90017 (Downtown Los Angeles). Self Parking: 616 Figueroa Street (4:00 p.m. to 3:00 a.m., \$5). Valet Parking: Available on Flower Street (\$7).

Map:

<http://www.mapquest.com/maps?city=Los+Angeles&state=CA&address=615+S+Flower+St&zipcode=90017-2801&country=US&latitude=34.049717&longitude=-118.257813&geocode=ADDRESS>

DIRECTIONS:

From the 110 South: take the 6th ST/4th ST exit toward I-110 S/WILSHIRE BLVD/DOWNTOWN, take the ramp toward WILSHIRE BLVD, take the 6th ST ramp, turn SLIGHT LEFT onto W 6th ST, turn RIGHT onto S FLOWER ST. 615 S FLOWER ST is on the RIGHT.

From the 110 North: take the 4th ST/3rd ST exit, EXIT 22B, take the 6th ST exit, EXIT 23A, turn SLIGHT LEFT onto W 6th ST, turn RIGHT onto S FLOWER ST. 615 S FLOWER ST is on the RIGHT.

From the 5: take the 110 South (see the rest above).

From the 10: take the 110 North (see the rest above).

From the 101: take the 110 South (see the rest above).

ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS

Kevin Graves – Programming Manager, Rapattoni Corporation (facilitator)

With over 15 years of IT management experience, Kevin currently manages a team of 35 software developers at a leading Multiple Listing Service Provider. Kevin led the introduction of Scrum at Rapattoni (<http://www.rapattoni.com/>) in late 2008 on one cross-functional team and then rolled it out to all remaining product teams in early 2009. Today, Kevin's focus is the day-to-day management of this large team and the ongoing mentoring and innovation across 7 Scrum teams.

Prior to joining Rapattoni in 2007, he was the CIO and SVP of Technical Services of Xytech Corporation, a software company providing ERP solutions to the media and entertainment industry. Kevin managed all aspects of Software Development, Project Management, Network Administration, and Customer Support. Kevin also spent 7 years at Paramount Pictures where he managed several different technical teams including the Help Desk, Desktop Support, and finally the Studio Applications Group.

Kevin holds a B.A. Economics & Business from Westmont and an M.B.A. from California Lutheran University. He also has the following certifications: PMP, Scrum Master, and Product Owner.

Sandra Langhammer - Business Systems Support Manager at Los Angeles Times/Tribune Corporation.

Prior to this Sandra was manager of the Advertising Production Systems with a team of fifteen reporting to her. Her 13 years of experience at Tribune Corp started with Help Desk at the Los Angeles Times (<http://www.latimes.com/>). From there she moved on to roles such as reporting, application support, project lead and project management. As Project Lead, she learned about Agile Development where developers and product owners were brought together to agree on each subsets of usable deliverables. As a Project Manager she started to implement Sprints and Scrums to manage assigned tasks and

possible roadblocks, meeting daily for continuity. Sandra thoroughly enjoys the challenges and constant changes of her work..

Sandra is a recent transplant to the beach area where she and her husband have spent many hours training for the four marathons and multitude of 10ks they have run.

John Petrone -- CTO Digital Performance Inc

Currently the CTO of Digital Performance Inc, an online comparison shopping site for auto parts and accessories (www.streetperformance.com), John has over 20 years experience in leading innovative application development, 7x24 operations, project management and systems integration. He's been the CTO of several public and private internet/ e-commerce companies including Autobytel (NASDAQ: ABTL) and Preview Travel (NASDAQ:PVTL, merged with Travelocity in 2000).

In 2006, IDG's Computerworld Magazine named John one of the nation's Premier 100 IT Leaders. Earlier in his career John held management positions in consulting at Oracle, Pricewaterhouse and Andersen Consulting. He holds a degree in engineering from the University of Maryland and is a graduate of the UCLA Anderson School Executive Education Program.

Matt Thompson, Director--Interactive Services, Software Engineering, DirecTV

Matt Thompson is Director of Software Development in DIRECTV's (<http://www.directv.com/>) set-top box engineering group. He manages a team of developers and testers responsible for the full software development life cycle of interactive television applications. Matt's team uses Agile software development processes such as Scrum and test-driven development to add new interactive features to live programming and to provide on-demand broadband widgets.

DIRECTV's interactive programming has won three Emmys and has been nominated twelve times. Matt previously worked developing interactive television applications at Liberate Technologies in the Bay Area and WGN-TV in Chicago.

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