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Seven campers aged 13-15 from Delaware Technical & Community College's project management camp visited the Project Management Institute's Global Operations Center in Newtown Square, Pennsylvania, USA, this summer. The camp was led by Charles Poplos, EdD, PMP, a PMI Delaware Valley Chapter board member.

The college has run career camps for six years, but this was the first year the project management camp was featured. It serves to introduce project management to young adults through the creation, implementation and evaluation of a project plan. Campers also participate in field trips to visit project managers at work and get a first-hand view of potential careers in the project management profession. Plans are already in the works to continue the camp next year, increasing it to two sessions—one for middle school and one for high school students.

The trip was sponsored by the PMI Educational Foundation, which promotes project management skills and knowledge worldwide by striving to enable non-practitioners—including elementary and secondary students, nonprofit and community organizations, and society-at-large—to improve their life skills and achieve their goals through project management.

James Snyder, PMI Fellow, who is the PMI Delaware Valley Chapter secretary-treasurer, a PMI founder and chair of the PMI Educational Foundation, welcomed the campers to the Global Operations Center. PMI staff members spoke about the role and global reach of PMI, which was illustrated by a world map dressed with col-

ored pins indicating all the PMI chapters throughout the world.

PMI Cooperative Relations Manager Rebecca Moore charged the campers with two fun projects, one of which involved constructing their very own personal geodesic dome, a rounded structure composed of circles and triangles, such as the Biosphere in Montreal, Canada.

Using straws and gumdrops, the campers worked to manage their individual projects following minimal instruction. When few were able to complete the project, they were provided with a model of a dome for planning purposes, and most were able to quickly execute the project, resulting in many creative domes.

According to Susan Zawislak, EdD, director of corporate and community programs at Delaware Technical & Community College, the project management camp was an unqualified success.

"Our campers really enjoyed the camp and its activities," Dr. Zawislak said. "The camp gave us an opportunity to strengthen the strong relationship between the college, PMI and the PMI



PMI Manager, Component & Community Relations Linn Wheeling, James Snyder, PMI Fellow and Charles Poplos, EdD, PMP are shown with campers and counselors.

Delaware Valley Chapter. The college is a PMI Registered Education Provider (R.E.P.), and we work very closely with the Delaware Valley Chapter.

"All in all, this has been a wonderful experience that we hope to repeat next year," she concluded. ■

