

April 27-29, 2009
Bergen Congress Centre
Project Management Sessions



Project managers will find something of value throughout the ROOTS 2008 program, from the opening to closing keynote. The following sessions are aimed specifically at those who wish to update their proficiency in new trends in project management – or just learn more about how to manage a project. **Participation earns PDU towards PMP accreditation.**

**Alistair
Cockburn**

Subject: **Opening Keynote: What are the foundations for improving delivery of software?**

Description: **Dr. Cockburn is one of the founders of the Agile Software Development movement. Alistair Cockburn lays out three foundations for effective software development in the next century: Craft, Cooperative games, and Lean processes. These three not only explain the success of effective teams, they provide good advice to busy project teams, and they create a sound basis for educating our next generations of developers. [1 PDU awarded]**

Linda Rising

Subject: **Closing Keynote: Are agilists the bonobos of software development?**

Description: **Chimpanzees and bonobos are the animals whose genetic make-up is closest to that of human beings, but their "cultures" (yes, these animals definitely do have well-defined cultures) are very different. The chimpanzees are aggressive, and operate in a strict alpha male-dominated hierarchy, while the bonobos are gentle and promiscuous!! What relevance could this have for those of us who favor agile over plan-driven development? [1 PDU awarded]**

Gertrud Bjørnvig

Subject: **Why Mom is Agile and Dad is not. – Monday, 27. apr – 1300-1630**

Description: **The Agile Manifesto seen through the glasses of an Anthropologist – A closer look at the Manifesto for Agile Software Development unveils that Agile values require a polychronic approach to time in a high-context environment. In North-Europe and North-America our culture is dominated by a monochronic time perception and low-context patterns. Is Agile doomed to fail? Or do we just fool ourselves by interpreting the Agile Manifesto in a way that supports the cultural patterns of our part of the world? (And does it matter?) [3 PDU awarded]**

James Coplien

Subject: **Lean and Agile: How to live with the contradictions– Tuesday, 28. apr – 0900-1230**

Description: **Agile is a value system inspired by anecdotal evidence from the past few decades of software development. Lean is a set of disciplines proven over more than 50 years with strong balance sheet and market results from companies in the Toyota group. Modern "agile" practice, particularly in Scrum, draws on both of these traditions. Most practitioners see these formalisms through the eyes of the Scrum or XP frameworks and miss out on the deep principles found in each of them. In fact, Lean and Agile contradict each other on key points -- yet, it is wise for software projects to heed both lineages. In this seminar we explore this apparent paradox and recommend concrete practices that can help software projects balance the tension between Lean and Agile. [3 PDU awarded]**

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**Alistair
Cockburn**

Subject: **The role of the product manager/owner on modern agile projects – Tuesday, 28. apr – 1330-1700**

Description: **Modern product managers ("product owners", POs, in Scrum terms) tend to be under trained and overloaded. What do they need to know to carry out their jobs?**

This will be an exploratory workshop, starting with a round-table discussion of the problems faced by product managers and a listing of what they should be able and need to do. After the round-table discussion, we will use at a couple of simple techniques to assist the PO: the product mission statement, Jeff Patton's "story mapping" technique, and the "blitz planning" technique. [3 PDU awarded]

Experience reports moderated by James Coplien – Wednesday

Lars Arne Skår – What is wrong, what is right with SOA?

Tom Bank – Application Management – is there happiness after system birth?

Birds of a Feather sessions – Monday and Tuesday, to be announced