



**Mary McKinlay**

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Mary has been involved in project management for over 28 years as practitioner, researcher and trainer.

Following a degree in Systems Engineering, she started her career working on the Tornado aircraft project and subsequently has worked on many large programmes, from civil aircraft to submarines. A further dimension was added by work on research programmes involving collaboration between industry and academics. Mary is a regular contributor to conferences in UK and overseas and presents on a wide range of PM topics.

Mary served on the Council of the Association for Project Management (APM, UK) from 2001 until 2006. She was an APM delegate to the International Project Management Association until her election as Vice President last year. Having trained in the use of the Project Excellence Model, she has acted as an assessor for the IPMA Awards in 2004 and Lead Assessor in 2005 and 2006. Mary also delivers Assessor Training for the Awards.

For the past five years she has been a Judge for the APM, UK Project Awards. Mary is an active member of IoD Kent and a Governor of the University of Greenwich. On a more personal note, she was born in North Yorkshire, is married with one daughter and two stepdaughters and lives in Kent with her husband and two cats.

**Abstract of Mary McKinlay**

The face of Project Management is changing. The application of Project Management techniques is being used in a wider context than ever before. It is recognised that the tools and techniques form just a part of the skills required to manage projects successfully, Indeed Project Management and it's related disciplines,

Programme and Portfolio Management, are out of the starting gate and are running throughout the World, not just in the traditional fields of Engineering and Construction.

Project Management has been declared to be a “Life Skill” by a British Prime Minister. Research on the Project Oriented Nation is looking at PM Education as one of the characteristics. Project Management now has serious Higher Education Courses in it's own right instead of being simply regarded as an optional module to add on to another discipline. There is a lively debate about whether or not Project Management is a profession on the one hand and in the UK the Association for Project Management (APM) is seeking to become a Royal Chartered Institution.

Where is it all going and how can we go with it and play a full part in the development of our world.