



Central Savannah River Section

Mark your Calendars:

UPCOMING AACEI-CSRA SECTION MEETINGS

- 8/26/2010 - Vince Kramer, EZ-Go Corp.
- 9/30/2010 – Rodney Blackman, Project Integration and Planning Manager, SRR
- 10/28/2010 - October Dinner Meeting
- 11/11/2010 - Member's Appreciation Dinner
- 1/27/2011 - January Dinner Meeting
- 2/24/2011 – February Dinner Meeting
- 3/24/2011 – March Dinner Meeting
- 4/28/2011 – April Dinner Meeting
- 5/26/2011 – May Dinner Meeting

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Certification Exam

- 11/6/2010 – Augusta State University
- 8/23/10 – Early Deadline for exam
- 9/06/10 – Final Deadline for exam



College Night
9/14/2010
 - James Brown Arena

Members and Friends Spotlight



EVP Workshop

We are tentatively planning to offer a workshop for Earned Value Professional (EVP) on October 1&2.

The material for this workshop has been updated and expanded to cover more of the concepts in the latest study guides and to better prepare the attendees to take the certification exam.

The deadlines will have passed to sign up for the November 2010 exam but exams are offered 2 or 3 times per year.

Attending the workshop this fall means plenty of time to study and prepare for the exam in the spring or early summer.

AACE International's 55th Annual Meeting:

TCM: Imagine the Possibilities!
 will be in Anaheim, California, June 19.

The Call for Papers deadline is fast approaching. The submittal deadline for the abstract is **August 31, 2010.**

For questions, please call:
 800-858.COST or
 1-304-296-8444 or
 fax# 1-304-291-5728 or
 E-mail at trans@aacei.org

Congratulations to Anu Pillai, the winner of the 2010 scholarship. She is currently a junior at the Georgia Institute of Technology majoring in building construction with a future planned in sustainable building management.



Central Savannah River Section

A Stats of the Union address – Welcome to the summer edition of our newsletter.

It's being projected that the U.S. government will have a budget deficit of **approximately 1.6 trillion dollars** in 2010.

So how much is a trillion dollars anyway?

If you spend one dollar every single second, it would take you **more than 31,000 years** to spend one trillion dollars.

If you spent one million dollars every single day since the birth of Christ, **you still would not have spent one trillion dollars** by now.

Why worry about debt? Well, you'll feel stuck with your debt if you can't budge it.

If you only make the minimum payment each and every time, a \$6,000 credit card bill **can end up costing you over \$30,000** (depending on the interest rate).

When Yogi Berra was asked what he would do if he found a million dollars, (it's been said that he said,) **I'd find the fellow who lost it, and, if he was poor, I'd return it.**

The CSRA section of AACEI received the "Outstanding Section Award" at the annual AACEI conference in Atlanta.



Jim Hammond, Kathy Roberson, and Ashok Pillai were on hand to accept AACEI-CSRA's Section Award for Outstanding Performance



Manon Vakil, Kathy Roberson, Orvil Bradt, and Jim Hammond at the 54th Annual AACEI Conference in Atlanta, GA



Ashok Pillai is sworn in for his second year as Director of Region 3

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Asoka K. Pillai, CCE, EVP

AACEI Headquarters INFO!

For the latest news from AACEI Headquarters, please visit the website.

<http://www.aacei.org/>

AACEI-CSRA Section INFO!

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<http://www.aacei-csra.org/>



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CERTIFICATION EXAM CALENDAR

Upcoming Certification Exam Dates for the CSRA

11/6/10 Certification Exams – Augusta State Univ.
8/23/10 – Early Deadline for Certification Exam
9/06/10 – Final Deadline for Certification Exam

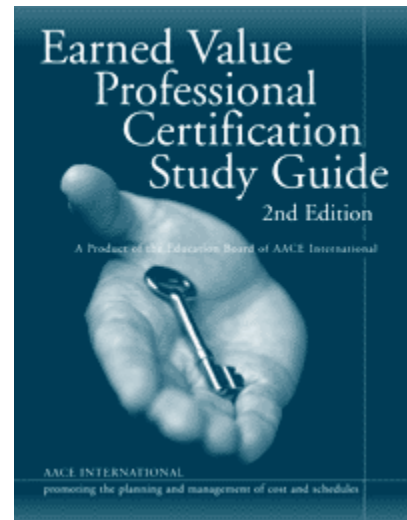
EVP Certification Study Guide, 2nd Edition

by Ken Cressman CCC EVP and Gary C.
Humphreys, Editors
AACE International, 2009

This study guide is intended to assist you in your study and review of the overall topics as one step toward successful Earned Value Professional certification. The outline provides a listing of the terms you should know & topics for which you should have a good understanding of how to apply the concepts to solve problems. Each chapter also contains sample exercises, which test your knowledge of that chapter's concepts.

Price:

Member Price \$65.00
Non-Member Price \$95.00



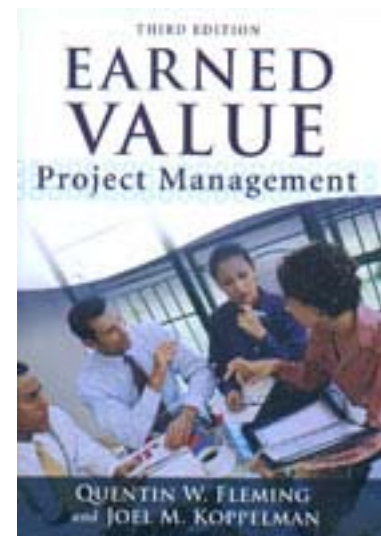
Earned Value Project Management, 3rd Edition

by Quentin W. Flemings and Joel M. Koppelman
PMI, 2005, 232 pages

This third edition just may be the best written, most easily understood project management book on the market today. Writing in an easy-to-read, friendly and humorous style, the authors have identified the minimum requirements they feel are necessary to use "earned value" as an effective project management tool in the management of all projects, including those pertaining to software. Throughout the book, the authors consistently demonstrate the importance of earned value project management, by applying it in its most fundamental form, to projects of every size and complexity - from peeling potatoes to building a house. They have also mastered a unique "early-warning" signal for impending cost problems. Project management practitioners will welcome this fresh translation of industry jargon into clear, understandable tools for empowerment.

Price:

Member Price \$50.00
Non-Member Price \$60.00





Central Savannah River Section

Distance Learning



**Course Offerings / Schedule
Registration
Credential Programs**

The AACE International Distance Learning Program is dedicated to the memory of Franklin D. Postula, PE CCE. Frank was a committed member of the Education Board whose vision and leadership helped launch the distance learning program in 2002.

The AACE International Education Board strives to maintain Frank's high standard of professionalism in the new courses that are developed and added to our course listing.

AACE International offers state-of-the-art distance learning by several delivery methods: internet, CD, and traditional correspondence course.

No matter who you are, or where you are, anywhere in the world, if you want continuing education without travel, [check our list of course offerings](#).

- Internet courses can be used by anyone who has a computer and the appropriate internet setup. Generally, you should have a Pentium computer or equal, your own email account and access to the Internet at 28.8 k or better.
- CD courses require a computer with CD drive.
- Correspondence courses are delivered by mail.

The list of courses continues to grow. Keep watching our website for updates. If you are not a member of AACE International, but you would like to be notified each time a new course is added to our catalog, please send your e-mail address to Charla Miller, Staff Director-Education and Administration at cmiller@aacei.org to be added to our list.

AACE International acts as the agent to provide courses that are offered by third parties. In this case, availability of a course through our website does not imply endorsement of that course.

AACE International offers courses in construction estimating, project management, and courses that will help you hone your skills in planning and scheduling, contracting, production control, productivity, and many more topics. Select one of the links below for further information.



Central Savannah River Section

What Could Go Wrong?

This morning I read an interesting story in *Soundings* magazine. It recounted the final voyage of the *S.S. Morro Castle*, purportedly one of the safest ships afloat back in 1934 when it regularly transported revelers on junkets between New York and Havana. Then, on the night of September 8, a series of unfortunate events occurred that ended with the ship washing up on the New Jersey shore the next day, close to half of its 300 or so passengers dead.

First, the ship was hit by a storm. Then, while fighting the towering waves, the veteran captain clutched his chest and fell dead from a heart attack, moving a less experienced man into command.

Next, a ship's steward discovered a group of drunken passengers entertaining themselves by flicking lit cigarettes into a trash can in one of the salons. About an hour later in that same salon, a fire broke out.

With the ship still battling through the heavy waves, the crew now had to turn to putting out the fire – but were shocked to discover that there was no water pressure, rendering the fire hoses useless.

Making matters decidedly worse, shortly afterwards the fire ignited an explosion that blew out the salon window, sucking in the air necessary to turn the blaze into an inferno.

Quickly thereafter, the raging fire burned through critical ship's wiring, causing the electricity to short out. That, in turn, resulted in a failure in the steering, leaving the ship helplessly afloat in the turbulent seas.

With the blaze rapidly spreading, the replacement captain gave the command to abandon ship, but as there had been no lifeboat drills, the scene quickly descended into chaos and death that ended several hours later with the burned-out hulk washing ashore... turning the floating party palace into the ruined remains seen in the photo here, in the proverbial blink of an eye.



The story resonated with me on a number of levels, but first and foremost as a cautionary tale that even when everyone agrees that something is "safe," events can quickly prove otherwise.

In the pre-history days of emerging human consciousness, upright apes viewed the overt expressions of the complex system that is nature – volcanic explosions, lightning, seasons, drought, pestilence, etc. – and tried to make sense out of it all by organizing around belief systems that today would be considered laughable. At the time, however, dancing around open fires bedecked in certain animal skins, or allowing shamans to sacrifice virgins, were seen as effective methods for controlling the natural chaos of things.

Even though the nature of our belief systems has grown less barbaric, we modern humans still persist in nonsensical notions and associated rituals that are viewed in much the same light – rituals that do little more than pretend to control the chaos intrinsic to life on this small globe spinning through space.

The above article was in an investment newsletter called Casey's Daily Dispatch. I offer the above article as another reminder that we can't predict the future or even control events as much as we would like to think we can. We can however try to prepare for the future.

AACEI offers workshops and sponsors the exams that can help us prepare ourselves the best we can for our futures.

Highlights from the May Dinner Meeting with PMI

**The speaker was Rhoda Allen
Senior Certified IBM Project Manager
“Winning Escalations –**

How to Help Stakeholders & How to Build Partnerships”



They say – “*Reading while sunbathing makes you well red*”. Our evening with PMI and Rhoda Allen made us well informed. Rhoda Allen’s presentation on *Winning Escalations* provided us with a variety of tips and tricks on dealing with problems and communicating effectively in the course of managing large complex projects.

For example if you’re actively managing a Project Plan, Try using logs: A Risk Log, Action Log & Issues Log.

Also, when you knock on a door with a problem, have a couple of solutions to suggest.

Some of the ideas were a little more complicated and will take some thought and practice to implement, while for the basic stuff, we can always use constant reminders.



Central Savannah River Section News

Editor: Stephen M. Gross, EVP

Published for the members of the AACEI – Central Savannah River Section. AACEI is a non-profit professional organization dedicated to promoting the Planning and Management of Cost and Schedules. Since 1956, AACE International, has provided its members with the resources they need to enhance their performance and ensure continued growth and success.

Membership is open to cost and management professionals and visitors are welcome at Section meetings.

For further information, please contact us at aaceicsra.org@gmail.com.