Rochester Project Manager Mary Becker named MVP of her IPM class

Mary Becker

Project Manager of Harris

From the desk of Jon Ewing Vice President + General Manager of Harris

We received a great note from Amy Harding, MCAA IPM/AIPM/ALI Director, about one of our project managers, Mary Becker, being named MVP of her Institute for Project Management class by the majority of her classmates. Her comments about Mary demonstrate Mary's strengths as a project manager. Below are Amy's comments:

"I may have mentioned that at the end of every Week II, the class votes to select their 'MVP' – the individual who has contributed most and made the greatest impact on the experience of their fellow classmates. My update this week centers around that prize.

No class in my records has ever been so united in their selection of their MVP as was Class 75. More than two thirds of the class voted for the winning individual.

Mary Becker of Harris doesn't look like your 'typical' IPM student. Only a few years younger than John Koontz, she was the oldest student in class. Although she spent 20 years in various project support roles, she has been a PM for just over a year. I love her IPM story, because she is the absolute epitome of 'don't judge a book by it's cover.'

I had more than one person discretely ask me, upon arrival, what her background was and whether she belonged in the IPM. But each time she opened her mouth in class, she answered that question better than I ever could have. By way of example, after our notorious Change Order Negotiation session, Mr. Mack commented "if I were still in the business, I would hire her so fast."

When Mary accepted her little football, she addressed the class. She told them she was overwhelmed; that she would never have imagined they would select her; that she still thinks of herself as 'just a girl in the office.' Koontz said it well when he smiled and told her 'I think it's time you change the way you think about yourself.' "

Congratulations to Mary for receiving this recognition!