BESTPRAC
COST Targeted Network
TN1302

WHY?
WHAT?
HOW?
**AIM:** improved administrative, financial and legal procedures of research projects carried out with European funding

**Benefit:**

- **Research Administrator:**
  - Recognition
  - Career development
  - Lower error-rate
  - ....

- **Research Institution:**
  - Lower error-rate
  - Recruitment
  - Training of staff
  - Career development
  - ....

- **Funder:**
  - Reach goals
  - Retain credibility
  - Lower error-rate
  - Lower admin costs
  - ....

- **Researcher:**
  - Concentrate on research
  - Lower error-rate
  - Retain qualified staff
  - ....
Current situation

- **research administrators** are a **not well-defined group** with fluctuant positions and unclear career development opportunities.

- **European networks dealing with research management** already exist and have drawn attention to the need for developing training programs:
  - to improve quality of service
  - to address the need for standardized research management practices
  - to support researchers across all disciplines and fields
    - In a structured and recognized way!

**Necessity to examine influences shaping the development of the profession of research management and administration**
Current situation

- EU projects in this field have so far only been related to capacity building in research fields and not to actually manage projects in an adequate way.
  - projects failed
  - disappointment on both sides

- urgent need for
  - establishing and harmonising skills
  - simplification of procedures
  - lowering administrative burdens
  - building existing know-how
  - sharing knowledge
The voice of research administrators – building a network of administrative excellence
Aim / objectives

- to allow networking and exchanging financial, legal and administrative experience
- to share and develop best practices encouraging knowledge sharing, knowledge transfer and increased efficiency in project management
- establish a network for the administrative, finance and legal services in universities, research organizations and related entities
The voice of research administrators – building a network of administrative excellence

Research Managers

- Legal Officers
- Administrators
  - Finance Officers
  - Human Ressource Officers
- Research Administrators
- Researchers
- Project Managers

HOW?
Scientific programme

**AIM:** improved administrative, financial and legal procedures of research projects carried out with European funding

- **WG1 – Administration:** overall management of externally funded projects
- **WG2 – Finance:** financial aspects of preparing and running cross-European projects
- **WG3 – Legal:** legal framework of the projects
The voice of research administrators – building a network of administrative excellence

- BESTPRAC
- European Networks
- National Networks
- Research
- Other
- BESTPRAC

COST BESTPRAC Meeting Trento Italy

November 18, 2014
The voice of research administrators – building a network of administrative excellence

We are humans
- Diplomats
- Open
- Humour

We support...

- Organisation
  - Political management
  - Bottom-up – top-down
- Research management
  - Working with people who more clever than yourself
  - Basic conditions for research
  - Research policy agendas
  - Benchmarking and indicators
- Science
  - Methods
  - Ethics
  - Good Scientific Practice
- Culture and collaboration
  - The cultural meeting
  - Conflict management

We support...

- Rules & Conventions
  - National and international regulations
- Project life-cycle
  - Lobby process
  - Application
  - Contract and contract negotiation
  - Project organisation and management
- Financing
  - Reporting
  - Audit
  - Budget
  - Costs models
  - Documentation
  - Depreciation
  - Wages and costs

Results
- Innovation
- Technology Transfer
- IPR
- Patenting

We communicate
- Formal language competences
- Presentation skills
The voice of research administrators – building a network of administrative excellence
The voice of research administrators – building a network of administrative excellence

Core Group:
Chair: Jan ANDERSEN (University of Copenhagen, DK)
Vice-Chair & Grantholder: Martina PÖLL (TU Vienna, AT)

WG-Leaders
- WG1 - Admin: Ellen SCHENK (Erasmus MC, Rotterdam NL)
- WG2 - Finance: Vanessa RAVAGNI (University of Trento, IT)
- WG3 - Legal: Diana PUSTULA (Warsaw University, PL)

STSM-Manager
- Mariann RYAN (NUI Maynooth, IE)

Transversal Task Force-Managers
- National: Elke DALL (ZSI, AT)
- Training: Anne Katrin WERENSKIOLD (MPI of Biochemistry, GE)
- Communication: Rebekka STEINMANN (TH Nurnberg, GE)
The voice of research administrators – building a network of administrative excellence