

# Professional Research Administration – what is it really?

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### Jan Andersen

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Master Danish Language and Computer Science 1995

1994 Faculty of Science, University of Copenhagen

1999 Rectors Office, University of Copenhagen

2005 Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University (Merged with KU 2007)

2006 Merger Secretariate, University of Copenhagen

2007 Faculty of Life Sciences, University of Copenhagen

2012 Faculty of Science, University of Copenhagen

### Research Manager Profile:

- ★ External funding of Research EU-Liason Officer
- ★ Research policy, strategy and planning
- \* Research output, performance indicators CURIS
- ★ International dimension EARMA Chair 2010-13 DARMA, NUAS, COST, SRA, NCURA...

### Real Competence:

- \* Ability to read the map
- ★ Courage to make new paths
- ★ Will to go for the vision

Innovative initiatives: Øresund University, EU-Erfa, DARMA, CURIS, CRF, Merger-process, BESTPRAC, Admin 2.0

\*EARMA

## Marie Garnett









# How did we get started?





## **Professional Recognition**



ARMA has long harboured ambitions to provide professional recognition for members:

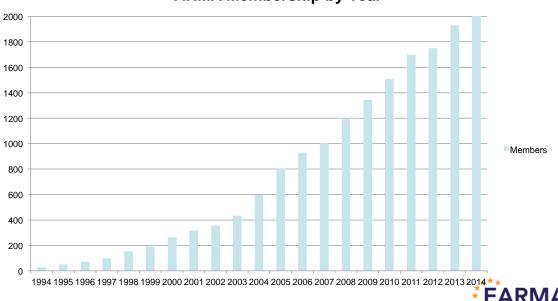
- To help raise the status of the profession both nationally and within institutions
- To ensure that members are properly recognised for their knowledge and skills
- To support individuals in their continuous learning and professional development



# ARMA: Membership Growth



### **ARMA Membership by Year**



### **ARMA**



# The professional association for research managers and administrators in the UK

- 2,000+ members
- 20+ organisations
- Training, Skills and Professional Development
- Networking and Peer Support
- Influencing the National Research Agenda
- Developing the profession of Research Management and Administration (RMA)

www.arma.ac.uk



# The 5-year Journey in the UK



- 2009: Professionalising Research Management (Green and Langley 2009)<sup>1</sup>
- 2010: Appointment of PDM (Marie)
- 2011: Professional Development Framework
- 2012: Trialling PDF and ensuring stakeholder 'buy-in'
- 2013: Board decided on professional accreditation
- 2014: First professional qualification Certificate in Research Administration launched

<sup>1</sup> http://www.researchdatatools.com/downloads/2009-professionalising-research-management-2.pdf



## Summary



ARMA Professional Recognition work and how it came about:

- Prior studies
- · Views of membership
- Maturity of profession
- Ability to invest
- Desire to develop training and professional development opportunities
- · Decision on accreditation



### **EARMA**



The European Association for Research Managers and Administrators

European Association of Research Managers & Administrators – Established 1995

- 100 institutional 20 individual members
- Universities and research organisations
- Industry
- Service companies
- Funding bodies

Members from 30
European countries
including Balkan
states, Turkey and
Israel

- Research Management, policy and strategy issues
  Pre- and Post Award
- Financial management for research projects
- Annual Conference 2015 Leiden 31 June 2 July
  Services Training and tools
- The research support office, professional development, recognition of the profession
- International collaboration (Global Network of Research managers Associations e.g., INORMS, NCURA, ARMA, SRA, SARIMA, DARMA, EuroCRIS ....)

# Two souls one thought



- Parallel process
- SRA Body of knowledge
- Prior experience
  - EARMA Professionalisation Scheme year 2000
    - · Project management
    - · Project leadership
  - Outsourced to Karlsruhe Institute for Technology
- Development of an EARMA PD Scheme 2010
  - Surveys
  - Definitions what is the European Dimension?
  - Collaboration with ARMA in 2013





# What is the Profession?



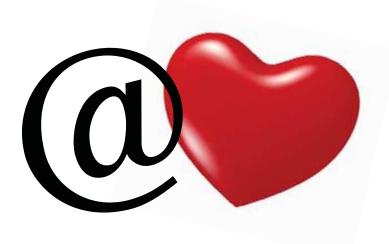








### A Profession:





### The professional research administrator









# What is the profession to you?



### You have 20 minutes!

- What tasks do research managers and administrators do?
- What skills and knowledge do they need to do them?
- What types of attitudes and behaviours do they need to display?
- Are these the same the task, skills, knowledge, attitudes and behaviours as research managers and administrators in Denmark?; the UK?; Europe?; the World?!
- What is different and distinct about research management and administration in NORWAY?





# The ARMA Professional Development Framework

ARMA ran a 12-month project (September 2010 – August 2011) to produce a well-researched and evidence-based Professional Development Framework (PDF):





### Structure of the PDF

- The PDF has 21 areas organised under 7 headings:
- Developing Proposals
- > Project Lifetime
- > Translation
- > Postgraduate Researchers
- Policy and Governance
- Management Information and Related Functions
- Service Organisation and Delivery



### The PDF



- 21 areas in 7 groups
- Operational, management, and leadership perspectives
- Aims, activities, knowledge, skills, and behaviours





# Example: Costing, Pricing and Submitting Funding Proposals



### **Operational Perspective**

Aim

- Produce a realistic price for the proposal, which is within the funder's guidelines, is fully cognisant of the true cost of the proposed research and which takes account of institutional risk
- Submit an accurate, well-written proposal which meets the funder's requirements and deadline



### **Activities**



- Reading the draft proposal to identify potential financial implications
- Meeting with lead researcher to discuss initial resourcing requirements
- Obtaining best 'cost recovery' scenario
- Making colleagues aware of risk assessment (e.g. terms, type of funder, cost recovery)
- Negotiating with heads regarding 'sign off' / internal budget splits
- Submitting proposal to internal peer review
- Ensuring the researcher has considered R&D approval, ethical review, health & safety and insurance issues where appropriate
- · Advising staff on using electronic submission systems
- Logging application on central database and file until outcome is known

### Indicative Skills



- Analytical funders' guidelines
- Interpersonal identifying relevant information, providing constructive feedback
- Communication requesting information from colleagues, partners etc.
- IT using costing tool, electronic submission
- Creativity budget construction
- Negotiation where research aims/budget constraints don't align

- Accuracy checking figures and guidelines
- Numeracy applying costing model
- Assertiveness negotiating budget splits, giving feedback on peer review
- Self management to meet deadlines
- Networking to identify and share good practice



# Underpinning Knowledge



- Internal finance systems
- Costing principles
- Funders' guidelines
- Institutional policies salaries, subsistence, travel
- Full economic costing rules
- Key institutional contacts for 'referring on'
- Risk assessment

- Ethics
- Hospital R&D
- Confidentiality / data protection
- Structure of university research admin (key contacts)
- Funder submission techniques
- Funder application forms/ formats
- Institutional approval process



### **Behaviours**



- Taking personal responsibility for getting things done
- Keeping track of a number of projects running simultaneously
- Meeting deadlines
- Influencing outcomes when bidding or negotiating for resources
- Considering cost benefit analysis implications of decisions
- Giving constructive feedback







- Planning professional development
- Mapping career pathways
- Writing job descriptions and person specifications
- Planning training and professional development for research managers and administrators



# EARMA professional development scheme



Nr	Modules /Topics	Expected Learning Outcomes – skills, competence, tasks Is able to:				
		Administrating	Management	Leadership		
1	Beginner introduction					
1.1	Role, development and history of the profession	Provide an effective research support service that is cost-effective, 'joined up' and 'fit for purpose	Develop systems and processes to implement the research support service strategy, and monitor Key Performance Indicators	Develop the research strategy and promote research support to the institution		
1.2 (6.6)	Regional research landscape	Monitor and provide information to researchers and management/leadership level of regional (incl. national) research act, strategies and regulations	Make recommendations in institutional acts, strategies and regulations making process to ensure compliance with national and regional ones	Develop research strategy in relation to regional strategies to maximise research funding and quality		
1.3 (6.6)	International research landscape	Monitor and provide information to researchers and management/leadership level of international (EU) research act, strategies and regulations	Make recommendations in institutional acts, strategies and regulations making process to ensure compliance with international ones	Develop research strategy in relation to international strategies to maximise research funding and quality		
1.4	Information dissemination	Collect and disseminate information (funding opportunities, changes in research regulations etc) to relevant target groups inside and outside the institution	Develop systems and processes to collect and disseminate information; disseminate information	Develop guidelines to collect and disseminate information; disseminate information		



## The DARMA approach



- Introduction Course (18 month)
  - Introduction to research
  - Ethics
  - Finance
  - · Research strategy and planning
  - Presentation skills

Case based

- Tool-box Courses
- Site-visits (Brussels, Boston, London, US Westcoast)
- · Leadership Course





# How can the profession be professionalised?





# How should RMA become more professionalised in Norway?



### Time for another 20 minute Brainstorm!

- How do we promote research management and administration as a recognised and respected profession?
  - More networks?
  - More training and workshops?
  - Professional accreditation?
  - Who are your allies?
- Where do we want to be in 1 year?; 5 years?; 10 years time?
- What are the next steps?



### **Board Recommendations**



- The ARMA qualification will be based on the Professional Development Framework https://www.arma.ac.uk/professional-development-framework
- There will be three levels of qualification, to reflect the three levels of the PDF – a Certificate in Research Administration, a Certificate in Research Management and a Certificate in the Leadership of Research Management.
- The Certificate in Research Administration will enrol its first cohort in April 2014 with the Certificates in Research Management and Leadership of Research Management coming online in October 2014 and May 2015 respectively.



### Certificate in Research Administration



For research administrators working in an administrative role:

- The first UK cohort began study in April 2014 70 students now enrolled
- The normal completion period to be to 2 years from registration
- Students will study 6 mandatory units and 2 optional units
- Total expected study time to complete the Certificate is 230 hours (23 credits)
- Attendance at a minimum of 3 ARMA or institutionally approved workshops is required



# Certificate in Research Administration: Mandatory Units



### All required:

- The Higher Education Research Funding Environment
- Identifying funding sources
- Costing and pricing a funding proposal
- · Financial project management
- Research ethics, integrity and governance
- Enhancing research impact



# Certificate in Research Administration: Optional Units



### Two required:

- Supporting the development of a funding proposal
- Understanding contracts
- Human resources and research project management
- Supporting postgraduate research students
- Supporting reporting and audit
- Research outputs management



### Certificate in Research Management



For research managers with at least 4 years experience in the majority of areas covered by the mandatory units:

- The first UK and EU (EARMA) cohorts began study in October 2014 – 85 students enrolled!
- The normal completion period to be to 18 months from registration
- Students will study 5 mandatory units and 1 optional unit
- Total expected study time to complete the Certificate is 180 hours (23 credits)
- Attendance at a minimum of 3 ARMA or institutionally approved workshops or 1 workshop plus 2-day ARMA conference is required



## Certificate in Research Management: **Mandatory Units**



### All required:

- Developing and Implementing Policy and Strategy
- Managing Legal and Regulatory Requirements
- Optimising Unit and Organisational Performance
- Supporting the Development and Implementation of Organisational Systems and Processes
- Working with Management Information

Attendance at a minimum of 3 ARMA or institutionally approved workshops or 1 workshop plus 2-day ARMA conference is required

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### Certificate/Diploma in the Leadership of Research Management

For senior managers, Heads of Office and Directors:

- The first UK cohort (5) begins study in May 2015
- The normal completion period to be 18 months for the CLRM plus an additional 12-18 months for the DipLRM
- Students will study a 5 mandatory 1 optional unit for the CLRM plus an extra unit for the DipLRM
- Total expected study time to complete the CLRM is 180 hours (18 credits) with an additional 250 hours for the DipLRM (additional 25 credits)
- Attendance at a two-day residential workshop plus 3 ARMA workshops is required



Attendance at a minimum of 3 ARMA or institutionally approved workshops or 1 workshops and 1 workshops of 1 workshops or 1 workshops or 1 workshops of 1 workshops or 1 wor 2-day ARMA conference is required

# Certificate in the Leadership of Research Management: Mandatory Units

# arma

### Five required:

- Developing Excellent Research Management and Administration
- Research Leadership in Context
- Measuring and Driving Organisational Research Effectiveness
- Working with Political Institutions and Public Officias (UK and EU)
- Preparing for the Future Demands of Research Management and Administration



# Certificate in the Leadership of Research Management: Optional Units



### One required:

- Contributing to the Development of Research Talent for Research Excellence
- Promoting and Supporting Research-Based Innovation
- Promoting and Supporting Business and Community Engagement
- Strategic Management of Research Performance

### **Diploma Unit**

Research for Senior Managers



## **EARMA Certification Scheme**





### EARMA Professional Development Programme Certificate in Research Management course

MANDATORY MODULES	Indicated Learning Hours	Unit Aim	Learning Outcomes	Learning Methods	
Developing and Implementing 30 Policy and Strategy		To help the learner gain the skills and knowledge to develop and support the implementation of policy and strategy	Understand the difference between 'policy' and 'strategy'     Be able to contribute to the development of policy and strategy     Be able to support the implementation of policy and strategy		
Understanding the European and International Research Environment	30	To help students gain an understanding of different national and organizational systems in order to facilitate effective management of European and international research projects.	Understand how different national and organisational systems impact on the management of European and international research projects     Be able to identify key issues for the organisation when setting up European and international projects	undertake self- guided learning (research, reading, work-shadow)  ask questions via Student Forum	
Managing and Supporting Development of a Project Portfolio	blio knowledge and skills necessary to manage a focused project portfolio 2. Analyse the impact of full economic costing on the sustainability of research 3. Be able to monitor and identify financial risks arise from the project portfolio		Analyse the impact of full economic costing on the sustainability of research     Be able to monitor and identify financial risks arising from the project portfolio     Be able to respond to financial risks arising from the	Assessment through submission of short written assignments based on personal experience and research.	
Gender and Diversity in Research Management	30	To help the learner gain the knowledge and skills to support the organization in developing a diverse research culture	Understand the benefits and implications of considering gender and diversity in research and research management     Be able to assess progress towards the development of a diverse research culture     Be able to support organisational progress towards development of a diverse research culture	The qualifications directly relates to the positions participants find themselves in, the assignments are based on real life examples.	
Working with Management Information	30	To help the learner gain the skills and knowledge to contribute to the production and use of management information	Be able to contribute to the production of good quality management information     Be able to develop and use key performance indicators that are relevant to the organisation     Be able to use management information		

## Other Qualification Pathways



- ARMA is working with EARMA to develop and deliver the CRA (Europe), the CRM (Europe) and, in the future the CLRM/ DipLRM (Europe)
- ARMA is working with charities and Research Councils in the UK to develop and deliver the CRM (UK Funding Organisations) and the CLRM/DipLRM (UK Funding Organisations)
- ARMA has been asked to discuss the possibility of working on professional qualifications with colleagues in South Africa, Japan and the UK Government Cabinet Office





http://conference2015.earma.org

## **ARMA Annual Conference:**









# Thank you for listening – any questions?



## **Contact Details**



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