EARMA
EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF RESEARCH MANAGERS AND ADMINISTRATORS

RoRMA Group Newsletter

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Authors: Evelina Brännvall, Susi Poli, Silke Blohm, Michela Bertero, Adele Del Bello, Simon Kerridge, Zygmunt Krasiński, Serena Mancini, Caryn Mcnamara, Michael Papadopoulos, Patrizia Rampioni, José Santos (RoRMA Group)

Leading editors: Adele Del Bello, Serena Mancini

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In the Spotlight

🌟 First Edition – Built by the Community

We are excited to share the first edition of the RoRMA Newsletter.

This is not just a newsletter — it is the beginning of a shared space for the community working on Research on Research Management and Administration (RoRMA).

Our goala re to:

- connect engaged RMA practitioners to the research community
- highlight existing and emerging evidence from studies, initiatives, and events of any kind
- create a space to foster dialogue at the intersection of research, practice, and policy

  👉 **Most importantly: this newsletter is for you and with you.**
  We invite the community to contribute to future issues.

🔹 Growing a newer field of knowledge together

The RoRMA group within the European Association of Research Managers and Administrators is establishing itself as a dedicated space to:

Consolidate and advance the knowledge base on RMA support to promote the ongoing professionalisation and capacity building of RMS practitioners. Bridge research, evidence and best practice in RMA, as well as policy development, to create a connected whole.

Events, Training and Opportunities

Don't miss out on what's happening across the RoRMA community. Here you'll find upcoming events, training opportunities, and highlights from recent meetings—so you can act, engage, and stay ahead.

👉Have something to share? Send us info and tips on relevant events, courses, or initiatives worldwide—we're always looking to feature opportunities that matter to our community.

In this edition, we highlight a self-paced MOOC on Research Management and Administration developed by King's College London, as well as a new pathway of microcredentials offered by the CARDEA Academy.

🎓 Events

🌍 European Policy & Research-Oriented Events

Conference on Research Careers (December 2025)
Key session for RoRMA:
"Building Excellence for the Research Community: ResearchComp and RMComp"
Focus on:

- competencies frameworks for researchers
- competencies frameworks for research managers

👉 https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/events/conference-research-careers-2025-day-2-part-ii

📌 **Why relevant for RoRMA**
This initiative contributes to defining the knowledge base and skills architecture of the RMA profession — a core topic for research in the field.

🧩 RM Framework Initiative

RM Framework – Online User Event (25 February 2026)

- Presentation of the RM Framework Training Handbook
- Focus on skills development and recognition
- Targeted to the RMA community.

👉 https://rm-framework.eu/2026/04/16/200-research-managers-joined-the-first-rm-framework-online-user-event/

📌 **Why relevant for RoRMA**
The RM Framework represents a structured attempt to formalise competencies and professional pathways, providing a key object of study for research on RMA.

☕ Community Exchange with Research Focus

Italian RMA Caffè – 2026 cycle

- Competences session (Feb 2026)
- Community & impact session (April 2026)

👉 https://www.italianresearchmanagers.eu/news/

📌 **Why relevant for RoRMA**

These sessions contribute to community-based reflection and knowledge exchange, feeding into emerging research questions on RMA practices and impact.

🎓 Training

📘 MOOC

Introduction to Research Management and Administration – King's College London (Self-paced course)

Course overview: Funded by the British Council's Transnational Education Exploratory Grant and co-created with Istanbul University, this self-paced course enables you to develop a comprehensive and practical understanding of the frameworks and processes that underpin the support, management, and delivery of research.

👉 https://www.kcl.ac.uk/professional-education/catalogue/introduction-to-research-management-and-administration

📌 **Why relevant for RoRMA**

This course contributes to capacity building and professionalisation in RMA, offering structured learning aligned with emerging frameworks and competencies in the field.

🏅 Microcredentials

CARDEA Academy

The CARDEA Academy offers a growing portfolio of microcredentials tailored to research managers and administrators, supporting continuous professional development across key domains of RMA.

👉https://www.cardeahub.eu/cardea-academy

📌 **Why relevant for RoRMA**:

Microcredentials represent an important innovation in flexible and modular training, responding to evolving skill needs and strengthening the professional learning ecosystem in RMA.

Resources and Useful Materials

This section is a shared knowledge space dedicated to research on RMA.

👉 **Have you read or produced anything relevant? Let us know — we'd love to feature it.**

📚 **Recent publications on RMA**

- Signorelli, J., Van Fossen, J. A., Schuster, A. M., Fischer, M., & Cotten, S. R. (2025). Strengthening the Research Enterprise Workforce in Higher Education: Identifying Adjacent Talent for Research Support Roles. *Higher Education Policy*, 1-30.(Workforce development)

- Torti, J. M., Oswald, K., Friesen, F., Hayward, M., & Lingard, L. (2025). Ghost writing Grants: Uncovering the Experiences of Professional Research Staff in Grant Capture. *Journal of Research Administration*, *56*(2), 114-126. (Grant writing practices)

Research Administration around the World
👉 https://kar.kent.ac.uk/105623/

💡 **Why this matters**
These contributions highlight:

- The consolidation of RMA as an evidence-based profession. the emergence of RMA as a recognised academic and research field
- the growing attention to professional skills, institutional roles, and organisational impact.

Questions and Ideas

💬 Let's build this together

As this is the first edition of the RoRMA Newsletter, your input is essential in setting the direction, quality, and relevance of this collective effort.

We warmly invite contributions related to Research on **Research Management and Administration (RoRMA)**, including but not limited to:

- **Research projects** exploring RMA practices, systems, or policies
- **Publications and working papers**, including ongoing or recently completed work
- **Data, frameworks, and methodologies** relevant to RMA research or practice
- **Case studies** supported by clear analytical insights and lessons learned

Contributions may be conceptual, empirical, or practice-oriented, and can originate from academic, institutional, or policy contexts. We particularly encourage submissions that foster **reflection, comparison, and knowledge sharing** across institutions and countries.

👉 **This newsletter will grow with your contributions — help us shape the field.**

📩 Get involved

Whether you are a researcher, practitioner, or policymaker:

👉 **Join the conversation and contribute to building the knowledge base of RMA**


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