PMI to Fund 2013 Research Projects; Call for 2014 Proposals Open

s organizations around the world are advancing their use of project management, they are increasingly seeking skilled project management employees. This search is creating a critical demand for academic research and education programs in project management and allied disciplines. As part of its core purpose to advance the practice, science and profession of project management, PMI will fund new academic research projects at four universities in 2013 through the PMI Sponsored Research Program.

Grantees were selected based on their insight and ability to provide new knowledge that will help project managers and organizations improve performance, drive innovation and increase competitive advantage for long-term success.

This year's call for proposals for 2014 funding opened 1 February and will close 25 April 2013. To view the call for proposals and for more details about eligibility criteria and submission guidelines, visit www.PMI.org/Knowledge-Center/Research-Submit-Sponsored-Research-Proposal.aspx. Questions can be sent to research.program@pmi.org.

The 2013 academic grant recipients, who were selected from a pool of over 120 proposals, are:

Ann Ledwith, PhD, University of Limerick

A Typology Framework for Virtual Project Teams

This study seeks to develop a typology framework for virtual project teams that will assist future researchers in classifying the phenomenon into distinct types. As virtual teams become more prominent and important in the global marketplace, the need for insights into their workings has increased. The study will explore whether there is empirical evidence of patterns in virtual teams and whether there are existing correlations and trends between virtual team demographics, such as company type and size, industry size, location and various team typologies. It will also look into the impact that identified team typologies may have on virtual team performance.

Antonie Jetter, PhD, Portland State University

Project Management for Ambidexterity: Process Choices in the Fuzzy Front End of New Product Development

This study will explore organizational ambidexterity of new product development on the project level. Its findings will enable companies to manage product development projects with tailored project management approaches that respond to the project's particular needs for exploitation (e.g., reuse of past results) versus exploration (e.g., mastering of novel skills), while at the same time providing the cohesion, accountability and control offered by a standard project management approach. The project will develop a general model for selecting alternative project process models in the early stages of new product development and provide recommendations for how to best implement these explorative project processes along with traditional linear project management practices within the same organizations.

Liselore Havermans, MSc, University of Amsterdam

Development Paths of Project Managers

This research aims to provide insights into the types of learning experiences that drive the development of project managers. The study is expected to extend and improve current theory on the professional development of project managers and highlight opportunities to improve the development of project management practitioners.

Ralf Müller, MBA, DBA, PMP, BI Norwegian Business School

Organizational Enablers for Project Governance

This research project will develop a framework for project governance in organizations of varying sizes and industries, and in different geographical regions. This framework will identify specific enablers of successful project governance in small, medium and large organizations. The results of the study will allow practitioners to adopt successful enablers and governance practices to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of their organizations, taking into account their organization's size, sector, geography and level of projectification. Moreover, the results will enable the expansion of the existing PMI standards by adding organizational enablers for best practices in project governance.

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