

*Save the date*

## **1. IPMA Research Conference**

### **“Theory meets practice in projects”**

**Berlin, Palisa.de, 26.-28. November 2013**

Send an e-Mail to [r.wagner@gpm-ipma.de](mailto:r.wagner@gpm-ipma.de) to receive an invitation

#### **Background:**

GPM German Project Management Association and spm swiss project management association are performing an annual research conference since 2008. This conference brings together an interdisciplinary group of about 50 researchers, practitioners and other PM-experts for a mutually beneficial dialogue. Topics covered in previous years for example are “PM Standards 2020”, “Projects as Strategy - Strategy as Projects”, and “Organisational competence in project management”. Since 2011 the research conference has been dedicated to the topic “Theories of Project Work” elaborating on the challenging question on how to better use theories in organizing by projects and in daily project management practice.

#### **Objectives:**

This year’s research conference will be the first IPMA research conference jointly organised with GPM and spm in Berlin. It will gather a broad spectrum of international researchers, practitioners and PM experts to start a dialogue on “Theory meets practice in projects”. The distinctive feature of the conference is a real dialogue between theory and practice which can neither be found at scientific conferences nor at professional conferences. Practitioners are encouraged to share their experiences in project practice and requirements to Researchers, who will share their knowledge of the theoretical foundations for managing projects in various contexts.

#### **Benefits:**

Researchers can identify the needs and requirements of practitioners, derive new research initiatives from these insights and network with international colleagues. Practitioners and PM experts can gain up-to-date insights in PM-related research, adopting it to their projects.

#### **Programme:**

Day 1+2: Key notes and highly interactive workshops on topics including but not limited to the relevance and benefits of using theories in projects, a framework of relevant theories for project work, alternative approaches of managing the unexpected in projects etc. Conference dinner in a historical site plus site seeing tour in Berlin.

Day 3: Initiation of an international network of researchers being active in the field of project management. Identifying needs, discussing emerging topics and forming a vivid research network across active research communities.

## Call for papers

In connection with this year's research conference IPMA and GPM will publish a book on "Theory meets practice in projects". This Call for Paper (CfP) asks for papers in that regard:

### **Concept**

The discipline of project management has developed a comprehensive set of tools, standards, and techniques for supporting project practice. The application of these tools led to a professionalization of project management and to significant improvements in project work. However, most of the tools and standards have their origin in the (implicit) knowledge of experienced project managers and do not build on a sound theoretical basis. As projects are increasingly used in almost any industry and projects and their environment become more complex, the selection of the appropriate approach or tool for solving the problems at hand becomes more difficult. What is needed is a theoretical foundation which explains the specificities of project work as opposed to work in permanent organizations and the interplay between projects and a complex and dynamic environment.

This CfP is reflected by recent publications which underlined the need for more knowledge of the antecedents and the potential use of such a body of theory. The volume at hand takes up this discussion and provides a comprehensive review on the different aspects of theories being used in project work.

Examples of topics that could be addressed include but are not limited to:

- Foundations of theories of project work
- Relevance of theories of project work
- Empirical studies based on theoretical models
- Applications of theories in managing projects
- ...

### **Target groups**

The volume aims at practitioners, researchers and students who are looking for academically oriented and at the same time practical relevant book on theories for managing projects.

### **Editor**

Reinhard Wagner: IPMA Vice President R&D and Chairman of the Executive Board of GPM  
Stephen Rietiker: Head of Special Interest Group (SIG) "New Perspectives in Project Work"

### **Guideline for authors**

Language	English
Abstract	Up to 1000 characters incl. blank characters
Text size	30.000 characters incl. blank characters and incl. literature
Illustrations	Up to 5 Figures, Black-white, as editable Powerpoint graphics
Character format	Arial, Font size 12, 1.5 line spacing
Quotations	[3] Schein EH: Organizational Culture and Leadership, Jossey-Bass, San Francisco 2004
Miscellaneous	No hyperlinks, no footnotes, portrait format only

### **Time Schedule**

Deadline Abstract	01. September, 2013
Deadline Full Text	31. December, 2013
Publication	May, 2014

**Please send an e-Mail to announce your interest to: [r.wagner@gpm-ipma.de](mailto:r.wagner@gpm-ipma.de)**

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