



CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Methods, designs and practices for research into project management

Editors:

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Project management is maturing as an academic discipline and its theoretical underpinnings are building—but still the subject of ongoing debate. Quantitative, qualitative and mixed research methods are being used in increasingly creative ways with compelling results. In 15 years, the community has benefitted from the consistent publishing of 4 major academic journals, dozens of international research conferences and workshops, and more than 650 degree-granting programs.

The point has been reached where a book dedicated to the examination of our collective research experiences should be published so that existing and emergent researchers can benefit from past deliberations and decisions.

You are invited to submit proposals for book chapters in the first-ever book published specifically on the topic of research methods, designs and practices into project management. It will have international appeal – because of the subject matter and the variety of expected contributors—and be a worthwhile addition to libraries and classrooms of both instructors and researchers of project management. (Gower Publishing has commissioned the book with an expected publication date of early 2013.)

Target Audience

This book is aimed primarily at student researchers of project management and their supervisors. It will identify and discuss key topics that a student (or new) researcher could consider as they design and implement their project management research inquiry. Supervisors will benefit from key issues raised in each chapter that will be of instructional value as they guide their research student.

Scope and Content

The following sections will comprise the basic structure of the book. Specific chapters are requested for their particular relevance or value in researching project management. (Some of these topics are identified below but others may be considered).

- A. Building theory of projects and project management
 - Foundational issues and questions related to the development of project management as an academic discipline .

B. Research methods and designs

- Preparing for research (with chapters on approaches to research, dealing with literature, research designs, proposing research)
- Data collection (collecting qualitative and quantitative data)
- Analysis (analyzing qualitative and quantitative data)
- Reporting research (writing scientifically, reporting on research, referencing and plagiarism)

C. Illustrative examples of research designs

- No limits are placed on submission examples, but selections will be made based on the rationale of the design (for research of project management), the innovativeness of their design strategy, and the teaching value of the proposed chapter.

Proposal formats

Proposals should follow one of the following formats, depending on the intended section. (Final chapters will extend these words limits to between 4000-6000, depending on the section.)

Sections A and B (1000 words)

- Topic identification, Chapter goals, Proposed chapter content, Key teaching/learning points (3-4)

Section C (1000 words)

- Brief background to and summary of research
- Description and explanation of research design
- The preparation for the research project
- Data collection and analysis descriptions
- Reporting activities
- Questions and or exercises for students; Key tips for instructors

Schedule for submissions:

- Proposals: April 15, 2012
- Author notification: May 1, 2012
- Full chapter submissions: July 01, 2012
- Review results returned: August 15, 2012
- Submission of final chapter: October 15, 2012
- Submission of full manuscript to Gower: November 15, 2012

Submission details

Email proposals to either Editor as a Word file using Calibri font 11, 1½ line spacing, and bottom-page pagination. Images, tables, and graphs should be inserted inside the text as close as possible to the relevant text. APA referencing style is requested. Include contact information for all authors.

Contributors will receive chapter guidelines, contributor agreements and requests to review upon proposal acceptance. Copyrights must be respected and permissions secured with submission of final chapter.