



## Malta EARMA Conference 2017: Programme Overview

For the first time our opening keynote session will comprise an expert panel that will focus on debating issues relevant to the conference theme. Chaired by Seán McCarthy, and designed to offer novel audience participation with the ability to take instantaneous voting, it is sure to be a lively start to the conference.

Our second keynote looks, *Business as usual? Framework 9 and the future of the West* from William Cullerne Bown, founder and executive chairman of *\*Research* (part of Research Professional), explores in some depth the political background to recent changes and how the recent turmoil might affect Framework 9. How political pressures affect our daily work and how we can respond is also covered in another session, whilst (Director, Governance, Funding & Public Policy Development at EUA), explores this from a different perspective, examining how future trends will impact upon universities

Funding pressures often lead to low success rates, which is examined by Peter Fisch, who follows up his stimulating presentation at the EARMA conference last year by looking at some radical solutions to the oversubscription issue. And with increasing pressures on budgets it is good to look at alternative models, something that will be explored in depth with a session on “Crowdfunding”

We also have in depth topics of practical interest to all research managers. One area which is of increasing importance is research ethics, which is highlighted by Isidoroas Karatzas, Head of the Ethics and Research Integrity Sector at DG Research and Innovation, whilst Jörg Niehoff, Head of Sector Joint Programming at DG R& I, throws more light on Joint Programming and explains how research managers can advise our researcher to engage more fully with them.

But this has only scratched the surface: We have expert speakers covering a wide range of topics, from grant writing skills, to how to manage international grants (e.g. with the US, Japan and Brazil), financial reporting, including an analysis of recent changes to the Annotated Model Grant Agreement, interdisciplinary research, research metrics, impact, ethical approval and a session on how manage clinical trials, to name only a few. An app available during the conference will allow you to build your own programme and we encourage you to use this.

The ACC wishes you all a rewarding and memorable experience and looks forward to welcoming you to Malta!

*ACC members:* Evelina Brannvall (Lulea University of Tehcnology), Anja Hegen, Emmanuel Babatunde (both University of Bergen); David Lauder (Chair, University of York); Emma Lythgoe (Secretary), Jagdees Pabla (Coventry University), Katrin Reschwamm (EUrelations AG)

*Please note: the conference edition of LINK will include in-depth interviews with some of the speakers mentioned above*