

SIG 12: Research Methods and Research Practice

The Research Methods and Research Practice (RM&RP) strategic interest group (SIG) exists to promote debates - and stimulate innovation - around all aspects of academic research, from its conception through to its execution and dissemination. The RM&RP SIG seeks to draw understanding about research methods and research practice from all business and management disciplines including Accounting, Computer Science, Entrepreneurship, Finance, Human Resource Management, Learning and Development, Marketing, Operations Management, Organizational Behaviour, Strategy, and Systems Management. By sharing novel approaches and advancing knowledge about the usefulness of different methods and the facilitators of - and constraints on – the use of those methods in the research and broader environment, it seeks to enable researchers to improve the design and execution of their research and to find ways of disseminating the findings of that research to all parts of the broader community who might be affected by that research and have an interest in it. The RM&RP SIG aims to stimulate debate in a supportive environment in which all levels of academic from doctoral students through to senior professors feel at home. The RM&RP SIG aims to promote understanding across national borders and to draw strength from the diversity of research approaches that exist across Europe and beyond. It seeks to generate continuous debate between conferences through its use of a range of different media including electronic newsletters and a presence on the World Wide Web. The RM&RP SIG celebrates the intellectual diversity that exists both within and outside of Europe and it seeks to use that diversity to help facilitate advancement in research methods, research practice, and the knowledge that stems from those methods and practice.

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SIG General Track

12-00 Uncertainty in Research and Researching Uncertainty – Advances in Research Methods and Practices

Uncertainty provides a great opportunity as we strive toward making our research more impactful. Indeed, instead of viewing uncertainty as a threat, researchers should see it as a challenge that provides a lever to help address managerial and societal negative outcomes in an innovative way to generate novel solutions. For research scholars this has direct and strong implications in terms of methods and practices. By what novel methods and practices can we contribute to understanding uncertainty - be it as a threat, and/or an opportunity? What adaptations are needed? What role can the Internet and social media play in our efforts to understand, explain, and exploit uncertain contexts? In addition, more directly, how does uncertainty affect the realities of scholars interested in research methods and practice? In some instances, uncertainties have led to reduced resources and shifting of resources from research to teaching, providing constraints on research. Such constraints add to the challenges that academics already face in their own community, such as demands of research quality audits, increasing teaching loads, the introduction of different and sometimes conflicting criteria for assessing research, biases of some forms of publication outlets in choices of particular epistemological positions, limits to conducting meaningful research across international boundaries, dominance of one language – namely English – in an international community and the challenges of reaching some important stakeholders affected by our research, and so forth. How can such uncertainty be leveraged toward better and more meaningful research?

The Research Methods and Research Practice (RM&RP) general track invite papers on: all forms of quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods that can help generate knowledge, heuristics, methods, and practices to help society to understand, address and leverage uncertainty with confidence and contribute toward building a more sustainable societal model. We are particularly interested in manuscripts on any aspect of research practice concerned with leveraging uncertainty and challenging constraints in research, and/or on how to engage with a wider audience, particularly those who are often not provided with a voice.

Chairs

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Keywords	Qualitative methods	Quantitative methods	Mixed methods
	Systems design and databases	Stakeholder engagement, impact and dissemination	Adaption of research methods to uncertainty.

SIG Standing Track

ST_12-01 Evolutionary and Darwinian Methodological Endeavours in Management Research

This track seeks papers that address uncertainty by adopting theory-led, holistic, multi-level, systems thinking, population thinking and co-evolutionary approaches through the partial (or general) applying of the Darwinian principles of adaptive fit, accumulation of complexity and multi`finality from common origin.

This innovative track seeks to build on a constantly growing body of evolutionary-based research within a wide range of disciplines from economic geography, and culture, to psychology and organisational studies. Cross-disciplinary is encouraged. The track thus invites papers from scholars interested in organization and management theory, marketing, managerial decision-making, innovation management, entrepreneurship, industrial organization, and evolutionary economics. Papers are particular welcome on the challenges faced by today's organisations, economies, and their resolution by multi-level, co-evolutionary narratives as the basis for theory-led approaches that can better inform management and organisations as they move forward to face the challenges of an ever-increasing turbulent global economy.

Proponents

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Keywords	Evolutionary Approaches Multi-Level Co- Evolution	Evolutionary Epistemology Organizational Adaptation	Generalised Darwinism Organizational Life Cycle