MAPPING OF THE PORTUGUESE NETWORK OF RESEARCH SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS

Madalena Martins, Cristina Oliveira, Helena Mendes, José Avelino Silva, Teresa Costa, and Cláudia Oliveira

PORTUGUESE PLATFORM OF SCIENCE INTERFACE
PLATAFORMA DE INTERFACE à CIÊNCIA (PIC)

24TH ANNUAL EARMA CONFERENCE, PK-6 PECHA KUCHA SESSION 6 (14.15H)
18 APRIL 2018, BRUSSELS
WHO WE ARE

Plataforma de Interface à Ciência (PIC) is a Portuguese network of professionals working at the interface to science, in areas such as research management, science communication, innovation and value creation, which aims to boost international competitiveness and improve the impact of research.
WHO WE ARE

PIC Working Group 1
Professionals from 14 institutions: 5 national regions (Aveiro, Braga, Coimbra, Lisbon, Porto) + 1 international (Brussels, Belgium)

Moderators:

Cláudia Oliveira
Madalena Martins

António Monteiro
Cláudia Oliveira
Cristina Oliveira
Filipa Borrego
Helena Mendes
Inês Lopes da Fonseca
Joelma Almeida

José Avelino Silva
Madalena Martins
Manuel Silva
Maria João Machado
Paula Pais
Sara Abade
Teresa Costa

Mapping of the Portuguese Network of Research Support Professionals
OBJECTIVES WG1

• Analysis of previous surveys / studies to prepare the national survey (e.g. RAAAP, COST BESTPRAC)

• Establishment and selection of key questions (national vs. European)

• Preparation of the survey “Mapping of the Portuguese Community of Science Interface Professionals”

• Coordination of WG1 with the other working groups:
  - WG2 (Communication)
  - WG3 (Training and Professional Development)
  - WG4 (Science and Benchmarking Policies)
First PIC Conference: “From Challenge to Opportunity-Perspectives for the Research Managers in Portugal”
24th November 2016

Second PIC Conference “Interfaces to Science: Adding Value to Knowledge”
2nd March 2018

Launch of Survey to Portuguese Science Interface Professionals (ongoing)
February 2018 (Deadline 30th April 2018)

WG1: Setting of the action plan: design and preparation of the survey to be launched
Since February 2017

WG establishment (WG1/2/3/4) and monthly communication/interaction among its members
Since December 2016

First PIC Conference: “From Challenge to Opportunity-Perspectives for the Research Managers in Portugal"
24th November 2016

TIMELINE

Mapping of the Portuguese Network of Research Support Professionals
Objective: Mapping the Portuguese community of Research Support Professionals gathering information on their career prospects, type of contract, expertise, among other criteria

Questions: 36 (in English)

Response time: 10 to 15 minutes

Target audience: any professional working in any area that supports, promotes or creates value for research

Dissemination:
- Associations - PIC, Finca Pé, Cogitec and Scicom.
- Governmental organizations - Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education, Foundation for Science and Technology (in talks for broader dissemination)
OUTCOMES (N=301)

Highest Qualifications (N = 301)

- PhD (Doutoramento): 35.9%
- MSc (Mestrado / Mestrado Integrado): 16.3%
- MBA: 41.2%
- Bachelor – 5 years (Licenciatura)
- Bachelor – 3 years (Bacharelato)
- High School
- Pós graduação
- Post-Graduation

Demographics (N = 301)

- Female: 70.1%
- Male: 29.9%

Age (years):

- ≤20 years: 0%
- 20 - 29: 9.0%
- 30 - 39: 47.5%
- 40 - 49: 32.2%
- 50 - 59: 9.6%
- ≥60: 1.7%

Years of Experience as Science Interface Professional (N = 301)

- ≤2 years: 24.6%
- 2 < years ≤ 4: 14.6%
- 4 < years ≤ 6: 20.3%
- 6 < years ≤ 8: 12.3%
- 8 < years ≤ 10: 10%
- 10 < years ≤ 20: 7.6%
- > 20 years: 10%
OUTCOMES (N=301)

Type of employer institution (N = 294)

- Public: 42.5%
- Private non-profit: 53.7%
- For-profit
- Self-employed
- Fundação pública com regime de direito privado
- Science and Technology Management Fellowship
- Public Education Foundation
- Foundation

Office/Department/Unit characterisation (N = 294)

- Research Support Office (Pre-award): 136 (46.3%)
- Project Management Office (Post-award): 102 (34.7%)
- Technology Transfer Office / Business Development Office: 41 (13.9%)
- Internationalization Office: 27 (9.2%)
- Communication / Outreach Office: 22 (7.5%)
- 2 (0.7%)

Mapping of the Portuguese Network of Research Support Professionals
OUTCOMES (N=301)

Type of contract (N = 294)

Current annual remuneration/gross income (N = 294)
# OUTCOMES (N=301)

## Currently developed activities (N = 234)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of activities</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dissemination of funding opportunities</td>
<td>55.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advising researchers about calls for funding...</td>
<td>52.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preparing guides for preparation of proposals</td>
<td>44.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting budgeting</td>
<td>59.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providing support and assistance in proposal writing</td>
<td>52.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providing training</td>
<td>31.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication with national contact points and...</td>
<td>50.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organizing webinars, seminars, training, events</td>
<td>56.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liaison tasks inside and outside of own institution</td>
<td>50.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Research management

### Post-award

- Research project management: 62.6%
- Financial reporting: 49.0%
- Grant agreement preparation: 46.5%
- Trainings on implementation and reports preparation: 29.8%
- Event organization (e.g. general meetings, kick-off...): 63.1%
- Providing support for audits (national, EU projects, etc): 42.4%
- Negotiating contracts with external sponsors: 27.3%
- Others: 0.5%
Current level(s) of responsibility (N = 301)
OUTCOMES (N=301)

To what level do you think your Senior management (Directors/Heads of Faculty/Deans, etc.) considers the added value of your role (not your performance) in the organisation? (N = 301)
OUTCOMES (N=301)

To what level do you think the scientific community of your organisation (academics, researchers, etc.) considers the added value of your role (not your performance) in the organisation? (N = 301)
To what level do you think the science interface professionals contribute to the R&D development in Portugal? (N = 301)

- **High (“Important contribution”)**: 23.6%
- **Medium/High (“Reasonable contribution”)**: 68.4%
- **Medium/Low (“Small contribution”)**: 8.3%
- **Low (“No contribution”)**: 0.3%
- **Do not know**: 1.5%
OUTCOMES (N=301)

Top priorities for the Portuguese Science Interface Professionals

- Employment contracts
- Formal profession recognition
- Career definition
- Training for skills development
- Certified training

Research Management Priorities
OUTCOMES (N=301)

Most relevant challenges for the Portuguese Science Interface Professionals

- Potential changes of the political scenario for science at the European and National level
- The need to deal effectively with an increasing diversity of international cooperation contexts
- Increased expectations from society
- Increased expectations from funding agencies
- Increasing complexity of contracts and calls
- Increasing complexity of ethical issues
- Increased expectations from society
- Potential changes of the political scenario for science at the European and National level

Research Management Challenges
OUTCOMES (N=301)

Reasons to stay working in areas of Interface to Science

- I am making an important contribution (68%)
- I am constantly learning something new (65%)
- I enjoy the work related to R&I (51%)
To the Portuguese Interface Professionals at the Conference

TAKE PART!

This is your contribution for a better knowledge about our emerging and challenging professions. Please do take the time to answer it; your contribution is very important!

http://goo.gl/sA98fB

Survey: Mapping of the Portuguese Community of Science Interface Professionals

Plataforma de Interface à Ciência (PIC) is a Portuguese network of professionals working at the interface to science, in areas such as research management, innovation and value creation, which aims to boost international competitiveness and improve the impact of research.

PIC invites all professionals at the interface to science to answer this short survey which will take you approximately 10-15 minutes to complete. You should answer this questionnaire if you work in any area that supports, promotes or creates value in research or innovation - all time researchers without substantial management or communication duties should abstain from answering.

DOCS.GOOGLE.COM

Deadline 30th April 2018

Mapping of the Portuguese Network of Research Support Professionals
THANK YOU!

For further information, please contact:
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Questions?

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