



## Research Network Group

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## EuroFM Reports

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### Education Network Group

Pekka Matvejeff, Chair



In Scandinavia, there is a saying that “Repetition is the Mother of Learning”. Therefore, I would like to remind us again that the role of the Education Network Group (ENG) in EuroFM is to facilitate an active education network in Europe that reflects the integrated approach to FM education, research and practice. Another aim is to encourage and facilitate student exchange between EuroFM Member universities and encourage and facilitate an active knowledge-sharing and staff-exchange culture among EuroFM member Universities.

We have also frequently discussed possibilities for developing cooperation between IFMA Foundation and EuroFM Education and Research Network groups. Similar developments are visible with the Latin American Education Institutes. To start up concrete and result-oriented actions for our future cooperation, we are delighted to

announce that in Fall 2016 we will define certain topics, with which IFMA Foundation and EuroFM can further the collaboration. These discussions will continue at our Oslo Members Meeting in February 2017. With these developments, our aim is to create even more opportunities for students and universities worldwide to connect and share knowledge for the benefit of FM environments.

EuroFM Network wants to provide a platform for all players under the FM Umbrella, no matter where they come from (Latin America, US, Far East, etc.). To succeed, we need to be an open, transparent network, creating opportunities to exchange experiences and share knowledge for the benefit of the future of FM. We are not an association of associations; we are a network for everybody within FM. This is the message the previous boards of EuroFM have been trying to push through and the recently selected new board also aims to continue this work in the future.

I am writing this still as the Chair of Education Network Group. I know that our new ENG Chair, Olga van Diermen, is highly motivated to further with the abovementioned initiatives. It is obvious, that as the new Chair of EuroFM, I will stress the importance of these developments. Let’s bring people together, communicate and stay connected!

I look forward to meeting many of you in Oslo!

### Practice Network Group

Renske van der Heide, Chair



Time flies and the first half-year of my term has already passed. I would like to inform you about two bigger projects I’m currently working on: FM Benchmarking; and Women in FM.

#### EuroFM Benchmark Club

The EuroFM Benchmark club was founded during the Members’ Meeting in Madrid. The benchmark club connects practitioners, educators and researchers with a common interest in FM benchmarking. They share research results, ideas and best practices to measure and compare the value-added of FM. They have the ambition to share valuable data and improve FM benchmarking in Europe.

#### Results so far

- Webinar: Measuring value-added, by Theo van der Voordt
- Webinar: Success factors and pitfalls of FM benchmarking, by Peter Kimmel

Both webinars can be viewed online on the EuroFM website.

#### Upcoming

- Presentation and discussion about benchmarking by national associations, IFMA chapters and other institutes (during the Members’ Meeting in Oslo)
- Promotional video to show the value-

added of Facility management

- More webinars

I would like to contact national associations, IFMA chapters and other institutes with a special interest in FM benchmarking. Do you measure benefits or costs? Do you share data among your members? Do you define best practices? Please, let me know!

#### Women in FM

Unfortunately, there are still many more men than women working in the field of Facility Management.

Not only would it be much more fun to have more women in FM, but it would also be more productive. In general, women are more people-oriented and create better working environments, and we know these skills are important for Facility Management. Besides that, if you include women, you double the pool of talented employees. That’s why EuroFM supports projects that encourage the presence of Women in FM.

#### Results so far

- Identifying promising initiatives among EuroFM members
- Women in FM film for the Portuguese association for Facility Management

#### Upcoming

- Knowledge-sharing session about female role models and mentoring young professionals
- Roundtable discussion about Women in FM (during the EFMC2017 in Madrid)
- Survey and interviews by two highly motivated PhD students

I would like to hear your ideas and projects regarding Women in FM. Please contact me if you would like to be involved in any other way!

### Research Network Group

Susanne Balslev Nielsen, Chair



In a competitive market everyone tries to be better than their closest competitors. It is a matter of winning or losing the next job and, in the long run, it might mean life or death for the organization. One classic problem is that everyday life leaves little time for innovation. Without getting better, cheaper or faster, it is hard to survive; this also applies to the FM business.

My suggestion is that both commercial and public FM organizations should set up a partnership with an FM researcher from RNG to gain extra resources and the latest insights from research. A deliberate innovation process in an engaged partnership needs a good match of persons and capabilities. The

“EuroFM who is who?” is an excellent overview of FM experts specialising in service innovation, space management, real estate management, sustainability, IT and more. From the current stage, the “who is who” is open for all members of Euro FM to add similar presentations and become more visible for the EuroFM community.

An innovation partnership with a researcher might lead to publications and conference papers, which we know is frequently used for educational purposes. This year, six of the thirty-three abstracts accepted for the 16th research symposium at EFMC2017 have been written in joint authorship by a researcher and a practice partner. Based on their unique learning journey, we will hear their experiences and recommendations for best FM practice. Let’s use the members’ meeting in Oslo (16-17 February) and the next EFMC in Madrid (26-27 April) to team up even more EuroFM members for a better FM future together.

*EuroFM who is who?*

<http://www.eurofm.org/index.php/network-groups/who-is-who-resource-map>

