



## JULY 2016 NEWSLETTER FOR THE SAP AOM INTEREST GROUP

Dear SAP members,

We are looking forward to reuniting with you and meeting our newest members at the **AoM Meeting in Anaheim** in just a few weeks. To help you prepare for your stay in Anaheim, we have prepared an **overview of the SAP program** and highlighted activities. In total, the SAP IG features a diversity of **46 papers**, **4 symposia** and **15 PDWs**; most sessions will take place in the **Hilton Anaheim**, unless otherwise noted.

In this newsletter, we highlight our newest addition to the SAP program: **the SAP Doctoral and Early Career Program**. The

initiative has proven to be exceedingly popular, with all 20 seats in the inaugural group at Anaheim filled and 50 members registered on our Facebook page.

In addition, we draw your attention to this year's **SAP keynote Speaker Jean Bartunek** who will discuss the relevance of academic work and explore the forms that relevance might actually take in a practice setting. Her talks are always interesting and animated.

Also, make sure not to miss any of our engaging social events. We have very few places left for our popular **Friday Night Dinner**. Moreover, we have again put together a series

of **SAP Meet & Greet sessions**, where you can enjoy a relaxed breakfast together with key members of the SAP community.

Lastly, we take this opportunity to **congratulate Professor Paula Jarzabkowski** for winning this year's Practice Impact Award of the AoM PTC. We also announce the **SAP election results** in the newsletter and point out a number of upcoming events/ initiatives.

So, print out the overview of our SAP program and the schedule for the Meet & Greet and be sure to join us for these events!

We look forward to seeing you in Anaheim and wish you safe travels!

### **Inside this Issues: Upcoming in Anaheim**

PDW and Program Highlights  
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SAP Annual Friday Dinner  
SAP Business and Social Meeting

### **Announcements**

Congratulations to Paula Jarzabkowski  
SAP IG Election Results  
New Strategy Work Program at Aalto University  
Workshop on Large Social Phenomena  
AoM Special Conference on Digital Entrepreneurship  
Thank you from the Treasurer

## PDW AND PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

SAP IG features a diversity of work represented by **46 papers, 4 symposia** and **15 PDWs** (7 as primary sponsor and 8 as secondary sponsor) across a range of SAP-relevant topics. All PDWs and scholarly program sessions are taking place at the Hilton Anaheim (unless otherwise stated). Here is a taster for some of the sessions we will be hosting:

The **Doctoral & Early Career Program** is a one-day event which takes place on Friday, August 5<sup>th</sup> at Hilton Anaheim, Malibu. We have selected three PDWs for the targeted skill level, multiple networking possibilities as well as individual coaching with advanced SAP scholars. See more details in **page 3**.

8:00am - 9:30am **Bridging Strategic Practices and Information Systems for Real-Time Strategic Management** (Facilitators & Presenters: Kohtamäki, Vaara, Farmer).

9:45am - 11:45am **So you finished your dissertation... Now What? Advice for managing academic careers worldwide** (Facilitation: Bednarek, Dittrich, Smith; Panel: Balogun, Jarzabkowski, Mantere).

12:00pm - 2:45pm **Coding in the trenches: Qualitative Analysis Boot Camp** (Facilitation: Cloutier, Smith; Plenary: Golden-Biddle; Presenters: Ravasi; Langley; Furnari; Phillips; LeBaron; O’Kane).

**Social Dinner and Meet & Greet**: Continuing with past success, please reserve Friday night to our SAP informal dinner (pre-registration required; **see also p. 9**) and watch out for our Meet & Greet breakfast sessions during the conference (no pre-registration; **see also p. 7**).

**Four Saturday PDWs** with the SAP IG as the primary sponsor:

8:00am - 10:00am **Intersections of Strategy Process and Practice Research**, Hilton Anaheim: Pacific B (Organizers: Burgelman, Laamanen, Welch Guerra).

10:15am - 12:15pm **A Practice-based Perspective on Paradox: Studying Strategic Tensions**, Hilton Anaheim: Pacific B (Organizers: Knight, Lé, Bednarek).

1:15pm - 4:00pm **Opportunities for Integrating Discourse Analysis into Strategy Research**, Hilton Anaheim: California D (Organizer: Kahl).

4:15pm - 6:15pm **Social Practice Theory: Uncovering Large-scale, Systemic Risks in Financial Markets**, Hilton Anaheim: California D (Organizers: Bednarek, Jarzabkowski, Spee)

**SAP Distinguished Keynote Jean Bartunek** “When academic relevance truly happened in practice: The US consumer financial protection bureau”, Chair: Smith, Discussant: Balogun. Monday 9:45am - 11:15am Hilton Anaheim: Pacific A. See more details in **page 6**.

**Featured symposium** on “**Meaningful strategy**” (Organizer & Chair: Mantere, Discussant: Jarzabkowski), Monday. 11:30am - 1:00pm Hilton Anaheim: San Simeon B.

Our warm thanks to everyone involved to make this program a reality. We look forward to some great interactions!

Paul Spee (Program Chair) & Sotirios Paroutis (PDW Chair)

# SAP'S INAUGURAL DOCTORAL & EARLY CAREER PROGRAM AT THE AOM ANNUAL MEETING IN ANAHEIM – READY, SET, GO!

**Christina Wawarta, Doctoral Researcher, Warwick Business School, UK**

**Katharina Dittrich, Assistant Professor, University of Zurich, Switzerland**

Early this year, when we first came up with the idea to launch a consortium at the AoM for Doctoral & Early Career scholars interested in SAP work, we did not really know what to expect. The **positive feedback and overwhelming interest** in our one-day program that we received since then, however, confirmed our hunch that this was a much needed addition in the SAP program.

We believe the great interest can be attributed to the attractive agenda we put together for the entire day on Friday. This day includes an **Ice-breaker Breakfast** with key members of the SAP community, **3 interesting and thematically relevant PDWs**, a **mentoring program**, an **aperitif** to recap the day and the participation in the well-known **SAP dinner** to close out the day on Friday.



Further, we created an online community for promotion, ongoing and real-time communication.

The **Facebook group** has **50 members** and serves as platform to network, exchange and discuss SAP topics in general and the event specifically.

## Facts & Figures:

The following facts & figures impressively show that the time has actually been ripe for a Doctoral & Early Career program for our interest group.

- The **20 available places were quickly filled** with an **accomplished and diverse** choice of Doctoral & Early Career **scholars from all over the world**. We even had to set-up a **waiting list** for this inaugural group!
- With **Saku Mantere** we were able to commit a well known member of the SAP community as the **patron of the program**.
- We secured **10 experienced mentors** from different SAP areas who will provide valuable feedback and help to their mentees in **informal mentoring sessions** throughout the meeting.
- **50 participants** – more than double the amount of places we had available for the program – signed up and actively participate in our **Doctoral & Early Career Network on Facebook**.
- The program will be free to the participants due to our **generous sponsors** from the **University of Liverpool** (Joint Breakfast), **Haslam College of Business (University of Tennessee)** (scholarships for the SAP Dinner), and the **University of Queensland** (Aperitif).



# OVERVIEW OF SAP PROGRAM

A. Paul Spee (Program Chair), Sotirios Paroutis (PDW Chair)

| Day           | Start         | #                                  | Location                                    | Session Information  |
|---------------|---------------|------------------------------------|---|--|
| Fri           | 8:00am        | 46                                 | Hilton Anaheim, Malibu                      | Bridging Strategic Practices and Information Systems for Real-time Strategic Management  |
|               | 9:45am        | 64                                 | Hilton Anaheim, Malibu                      | So you Finished your Dissertation... Now What? Advice for Managing Academic Careers Worldwide  |
|               | 10:15am       | 78                                 | Anaheim Marriott, La Jolla, Los Angeles     | What is New in Research, Teaching and Consulting about Managing Major Organizational Change?   |
|               |               | 81                                 | Anaheim Marriott, Grand Ballroom Salon G    | Impact Studies as Collaborative Endeavors: Achieving Meaningfulness in Practice  |
|               | 12:00pm       | 104                                | Hilton Anaheim, Malibu                      | Coding in the Trenches: Qualitative Analysis Boot Camp   |
|               | <b>6:00pm</b> | <b>185</b>                         | <b>Offsite, Zov's Restaurant</b>            | <b>SAP Dinner (sign up on AOM PDW page; spaces still available)</b>  |
| Sat           | 8:00am        | 258                                | Hilton Anaheim, Pacific B                   | Intersections of Strategy Process and Practice Research  |
|               |               | 264                                | Anaheim Marriott, Grand Ballroom Salon G    | Organizational Project Management: Crafting an Organizational View of Project Management   |
|               | 10:15am       | 288                                | Hilton Anaheim, El Capitan AB               | What Do We Know About Strategy Formation?  |
|               |               | 303                                | Anaheim Marriott, Platinum Ballroom 8       | Pragmatism, Organizations and Management – Ideas and Applications  |
|               | 12:30pm       | 305                                | Hilton Anaheim, Pacific B                   | A Practice-based Perspective on Paradox: Studying Strategic Tensions   |
|               |               | 349                                | Anaheim Marriott, Grand Ballroom Salon J, K | Explorations in Performativity: Rationality in Action  |
|               | 1:00pm        | 363                                | Anaheim Convention Center, 201A             | Process Research Methods PDW: Representing Process in Process Research   |
|               | 1:15pm        | 369                                | Hilton Anaheim, California D                | Opportunities for Integrating Discourse Analysis into Strategy Research  |
|               | 2:00pm        | 384                                | Sheraton Park Hotel, Plaza D                | Realizing Y-Our Impact: Meaningfulness in Professionalism Through Reflexivity and Art-based Methods  |
|               | 4:15pm        | 432                                | Hilton Anaheim, California D                | Social Practice Theory: Uncovering Large-scale, Systemic Risks In Financial Markets  |
| Sun           | 4:15pm        | 735                                | Hilton Anaheim, Mezzanine 7                 | Extending the boundaries of strategy-as-practice research  |
| Mon           | 8:00am        | 894                                | Hilton Anaheim, San Simeon A                | Strategic Practices and the Strategy Process   |
|               | 9:45am        | 972                                | Sheraton Park Hotel, Park D                 | Perceived Value of Research: Pluralistic Meanings of Scholarly Impact  |
|               |               | <b>1004</b>                        | <b>Hilton Anaheim, Pacific A</b>            | <b>SAP Keynote Speaker Jean Bartunek “When Academic Relevance Truly Happened in Practice: The US Consumer Financial Protection Bureau”</b> |
|               | 11:30am       | 1125                               | Hilton Anaheim, Mezzanine 2                 | The Influence Of Strategy Tools on Decision Making   |
|               |               | 1126                               | Hilton Anaheim, San Simeon A                | Paradoxes in Strategy  |
|               | 1:15pm        | <b>1642</b>                        | <b>Hilton Anaheim, San Simeon B</b>         | <b>Featured Symposium: Meaningful Strategy</b>   |
|               |               | 1224                               | Anaheim Marriott, Grand Ballroom Salon J    | Leadership-as-Practice: Theory and Application   |
|               | 3:00pm        | 1243                               | Hilton Anaheim, Mezzanine 2                 | The Performativity of Strategy Tools   |
|               |               | 1353                               | Anaheim Marriott, Platinum Ballroom 3       | Ecologies of Organizational Routines - Enacting Interdependencies and their Consequences   |
|               |               | 1360                               | Hilton Anaheim, Mezzanine 2                 | Materiality & Temporality in Strategy Research   |
|               |               | 1361                               | Hilton Anaheim, San Simeon A                | Advancing Ambidexterity  |
|               | 4:45pm        | 1483                               | Hilton Anaheim, Mezzanine 2                 | The Role of CEOs and Senior Executives on Strategizing   |
|               | <b>6:30pm</b> | <b>1512</b>                        | <b>Hilton Anaheim, El Capitan A</b>         | <b>SAP Business Meeting</b>  |
| <b>7:00pm</b> | <b>1515</b>   | <b>Hilton Anaheim, Sunset Deck</b> | <b>SAP Business Meeting and Social</b>      |  |
| Tue           | 8:00am        | 1640                               | Hilton Anaheim, Mezzanine 2                 | Achieving Growth: Effectiveness and Value in Strategy  |
|               |               | 1641                               | Hilton Anaheim, Mezzanine 7                 | The Relation of Identity and Strategy  |
|               | 9:45am        | 1768                               | Hilton Anaheim, Mezzanine 2                 | Capability and Collaboration as Sources for Success  |
|               |               | 1769                               | Hilton Anaheim, Mezzanine 7                 | Strategizing in Start-ups and Incumbent Firms  |
|               | 11:30am       | 1887                               | Hilton Anaheim, Mezzanine 2                 | Power, Discourse and Narrative   |

## SAP 4TH ANNUAL KEYNOTE SPEAKER JEAN BARTUNEK

**Monday, Aug 8 9:45AM - 11:15AM at Hilton Anaheim in Pacific A**

**Jean Bartunek**  
**Robert A. and Evelyn J. Ferris Chair, Professor**  
**Management and Organization Department**  
**Carroll School of Management**  
**Boston College**



We are so fortunate to have Jean Bartunek as our SAP Keynote Speaker this year! Dr. Bartunek is not only a distinguished scholar, active associate editor of management journals (AMR, JABS) and supportive mentor to many junior scholars, but her contribution back to the profession is exemplary such as the 2001-2002 AOM President, an AOM Fellow, and the list continues. We appreciate Dr. Bartunek sharing her insights and time at AOM with our group!

Dr. Bartunek's topic is timely and builds on her scholarship linking theory, research, and practice. Specifically, she addresses the relevance of academic work but explores the forms that relevance might actually take in a practice setting. Specifically, Dr. Bartunek will describe the case of the recently created U.S. Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, tracing its evolution from two scholarly articles written by Elizabeth Warren when she was a Professor at Harvard Law School. (She is currently a US senator.) Then, Dr. Bartunek will identify how scholarly ideas were translated into the creation of this bureau through a wide variety of actors (including Dr. Phil, President Barack Obama among others!), activities and political processes. Dr. Bartunek will connect this emergence of a new government bureau to SAP-related topics, such as framing contests (Kaplan, 2008), the use of metaphors, and the venues for presenting particular types of framing. In this talk, Dr. Bartunek will suggest issues related to making academic work practically relevant.

On a personal note, I have enjoyed getting to know Jean over the past year. She joined us at the University of Tennessee last fall to enjoy the leaves and to visit Dollywood [theme park dedicated to the US-American country singer Dolly Parton]! Dr. Bartunek is the most ardent Dolly Parton [\*} fan I have ever met... and that is saying a lot given I live in Dolly's area of the country. So if you hear a Dolly Parton song ringtone, look around – it might possibly be Jean's phone!

I am looking forward to this talk that will be engaging, provocative, and entertaining!

Anne Smith, Chair SAP IG

[\*] Dolly Parton is one of the most famous country singers, songwriters, and performers in the U.S. She is also an actress, author, businesswoman, and humanitarian. She has won just about every country music honor there is to win!

## MEET & GREET SAP!

**Organizers: Rebecca Bednarek, Katharina Dittrich, Violetta Splitter**

A highlight of AOM is the opportunity to meet and engage in discussions with other scholars in your field. After a hugely successful "Meet & Greet" event last year we are repeating this again for Anaheim, 2016. Come chat with and learn from some leading scholars in SAP!

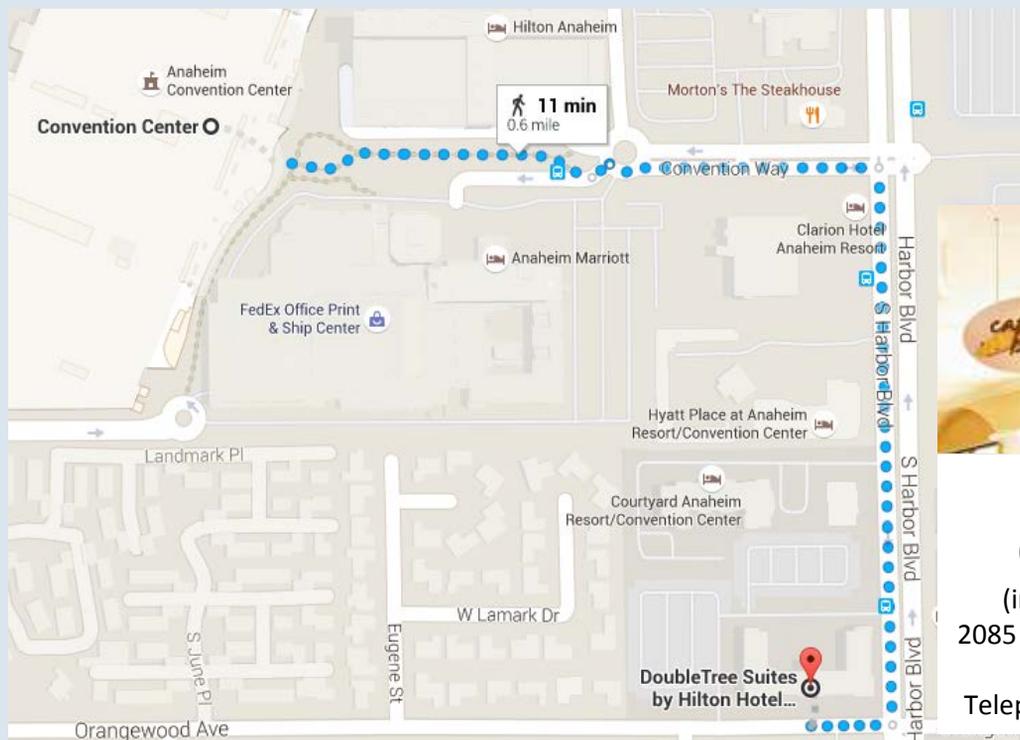
### Sat, August 6th – 8-9:30am @ Café Biscotti, publishing journeys

Conversation with **Julia Balogun & Jane Lê** on their experiences of "Publishing SAP research". **Katharina Dittrich & Leonhard Dobusch** will also be joining this conversation.

### Sun, August 7<sup>th</sup> – 8-10am @ Café Biscotti, methodological insights

Conversation with **Paula Jarzabkowski** (8-9am) about qualitative methods and **Tomi Laamanen** (9-10am) on quantitative methods & SAP research. **Rebecca Bednarek & Charlotte Cloutier**, will also be joining the conversation.

This is an informal event: no need to sign-up - just order yourself a drink/food, and come join the conversation. *There will be a sign on the table so you can easily find your session hosts.*



### Venue:

## Café Biscotti

(in Double Tree Suites)  
2085 South Harbor Boulevard,  
Anaheim, CA 92802  
Telephone: +1-714-750-3000

## SAP ANNUAL FRIDAY DINNER TAKES PLACE AGAIN AT AOM AUGUST 5TH!

**Date:** August 5<sup>th</sup>, 6 to 9pm

**Location:** Zov's Anaheim, 1801 E Katella Ave #1001, Anaheim, CA 92805, United States

**Organizer:** Paul Spee, SAP Program Chair

Over the years, AOM participants passionate about Strategizing, Activities and Practices have met for dinner on Friday night of the AOM Meeting. We have been having these dinners for at least six years, going back to the AOM meeting in San Antonio (2011)! We are continuing the tradition of a Friday dinner in Anaheim.



After much deliberation, we decided on the restaurant **Zov's Anaheim** which started as a family business in 1987 and has become culinary institution in the area. Zov's serves a unique cuisine that blends contemporary cuisine with Eastern Mediterranean influences, in an upscale chic environment. As usual, we tried to keep the costs low, given that California is not the cheapest place to visit. The restaurant is a 10min taxi ride or a 40min walk from the convention center. We will arrange a meeting point for registered participants that are interested in sharing a taxi ride.

This event is open to SAP veterans, newcomers, partners, and doctoral students alike. There are only **VERY FEW spaces left**, so please register as soon as possible, if you are interested.

Go to: <https://secure.aom.org/PDWReg> and search for the date, then the event. Once you chose the event, you will be asked for your meal choices and payment. The deadline to register online is **August 1, 2016**, and the cost for this event is US\$50.00.

## SAP BUSINESS MEETING AND SOCIAL!

**Date:** August 8<sup>th</sup>, Business Meeting (6:30 to 7:00pm) and Social (from 7:00pm)

**Location:** Hilton Anaheim, El Capitan (Business Meeting) and the Sunset Deck (Social)

**Organizer:** Paul Spee, Program Chair & Anne Smith, IG Chair



This year we managed to secure the Sunset Deck at the Hilton Anaheim for our Social!

Come and join us for a relaxed drink and some delicious food to meet old and new friends of the SAP community.

No need to register.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO PAULA JARZABKOWSKI FOR WINNING THIS YEAR'S PTC PRACTICE IMPACT AWARD

Professor Paula Jarzabkowski has won **Academy of Management PTC Practice Impact Award 2016**: a prestigious award that seeks to recognize and celebrate an outstanding scholar for her or his contribution to research and theory in practice based studies and overall impact on managerial and organizational practices. Previous winners include Herman Aguinis (Kelley School of Business), Steward R. Clegg (UTS), Martha S. Feldman (UC Irvine) and Denise M. Rousseau (Carnegie Mellon University).

The award committee noted that Professor Jarzabkowski's nomination was "among the set of very impressive nominations, the most outstanding one in terms of making a contribution to research and theory in practice based studies and overall impact on managerial and organizational practices." Her nomination referenced her impressive achievements in establishing and furthering the field of strategy as practice through seminal articles and books, advancing practice-based management and organizational research more generally in the top journals of our discipline, and the impact for a range of industries stemming from her large scale ethnographic projects. Such projects have most recently included a global ethnography of the reinsurance industry which has been much discussed in the press and for which she won the 2013 ESRC Outstanding Impact on Business Award.

This award highlights the rigor and relevance of strategy as practice research and the important and far-reaching implications work in this field can have. A big congratulations to Paula from the whole SAP Community!



## SAP IG ELECTION RESULTS

**We congratulate our newly elected officers at the IG!**



Elected as PDW Chair

**Dr. Rajiv Nag**

LeBow College of Business, Drexel University, Philadelphia, USA  
rn362@drexel.edu



Elected as Treasurer

**Dr. Carola Wolf**

Aston Business School, UK  
c.wolf@aston.ac.uk

# THE NEW STRATEGY WORK PROGRAM AT AALTO UNIVERSITY

**Fernando Pinto Santos, Aalto University** ([fernando.santos@aalto.fi](mailto:fernando.santos@aalto.fi))

The Strategy Work Program focuses on processes, practices, and dynamics of strategy making in and across organizations, particularly from the viewpoint of language, discourse, and narratives. The concept of strategy work – referring to what strategists in organizations do when they do strategy – is central to the research program, which comprises a variety of activities in terms of research, teaching, and societal impact.

The program is led by Aalto University School of Business **Professor Eero Vaara**. Professor Vaara is supported by **Aalto University professors Henri Schildt, Janne Tienari, and Johanna Moisander** as well as other top scholars in Finland and across the world. Numerous junior scholars and PhD students are also affiliated with this program.

This research program is unique and it has developed a distinct brand over the years. It is often referred to as the Helsinki school of strategy research, which is characterized by bold thinking, novel insights, and extensive collaboration. This is reflected in theoretically ambitious and practically relevant research, student focused teaching, and active cooperation with business practitioners and the society at large.

The new website of the Program is available at [www.strategywork.org](http://www.strategywork.org). The website gathers information about the research activities of the Program members, includes an agenda of upcoming seminars in Helsinki, and presents up-to-date news, such as calls for papers, scholarships and new publications.

The screenshot shows the website for the Strategy Work Program at Aalto University. The navigation menu includes: STRATEGY WORK helsinki, HOME, ABOUT US, RESEARCH AREAS, MEMBERS, SEMINARS, NEWS, RESOURCES, and CONTACT. Below the navigation is a large header image of a modern building interior. The main content area features a paragraph about the program's focus on processes, practices, and dynamics of strategy making. To the right, there is a section titled "Upcoming Seminars in Helsinki" listing two seminars:

- May 4, 2016 - 14:00 – 16:00**  
  
**Linda Putnam**  
 (UC Santa Barbara)  
 Aalto BIZ, A-401
- May 12, 2016 - 14:15 – 15:30**  
  
**Timothy Kuhn**  
 (U. of Colorado at Boulder)

At the bottom of the page, there is a paragraph discussing the growing research interest in strategic management practice and discourse, and how strategizing develops in social interaction.

# WORKSHOP ON “CONNECTIONS IN ACTION: KEEPING TRACK OF LARGE SOCIAL PHENOMENA USING RELATIONAL AND ‘MICRO-SOCIOLOGICAL’ APPROACHES”

**Location:** University of Warwick, Coventry, UK

**Date:** December 5<sup>th</sup> (2pm) to December 6<sup>th</sup> (4pm)

**Organizers:** Davide Nicolini, University of Warwick

Katharina Dittrich, University of Zurich

**Theme:** One of the challenges that process, practice and organizational routine studies share with other micro-sociological approaches (Collins, 1981) is how to deal with some of the **‘big issues’ or ‘grand challenges’** of our times. Examples of such issues include the nature and functioning of financial markets, the rise and fall of large institutional arrangements, the global travel of idea and ideologies, inequality, the bureaucracy and its failures, climate change and the future of the planet.

While work in this direction starts to emerge, current theoretical and methodological approaches appear to be generally ill-equipped to **grasp social phenomena that are increasingly “complex, dynamic, distributed, mobile, transient, and unprecedented”** (Feldman & Orlikowski, 2011: 1240). As a consequence studies primarily concerned with understanding local situated action have been accused of ‘micro-isolationism’ (Seidl & Whittington, 2014) and therefore of little relevance outside academic circles. In contrast, studies describing large phenomenon by focusing on macro-level dynamics and processes are accused of lacking practice relevance as practitioners struggle to grasp the relevance of these abstract ideas to their local practices and everyday work. Thus, scholarly attempts of grasping large social phenomena through their local enactments are also closely related to what can be done about them.

**Aim:** In this international workshop **we aim** to bring together scholars who explore how we can account for and keep track of large phenomena utilising existing and new ‘micro-sociological’ and relational approaches in organisation studies. Our aim is to (1) **advance theorizing** about large social phenomena, (2) **re-imagine our methods of inquiry** in a way that they are more productive in dealing with the complexity of contemporary organizing (see also Law & Urry, 2011), (3) **exchange about the challenges** in doing this kind of research and (4) **develop exemplary studies** that path the way for a new stream of research.

**Program:** The final program will include a mix of keynote presentations, interactive sessions in which participants can discuss their projects in small groups and a networking event. Confirmed keynote speakers are **Paula Jarzabkowski, Barbara Czarniawska** and **Jennifer Howard-Grenville**. The closing panel will include **David Seidl**, the three keynote speakers and the organizers. The workshop will be deliberately designed to be highly interactive, explorative and speculative.

**Arrangement:** To cover the cost for refreshments, lunch and dinner we ask participants to pay a fee of £100 (without accomodation) and £175 (including accomodation and breakfast). Participation is strictly limited to 30 places so early application is encouraged. To apply as a contributor, please send an extended abstract of 3000 words **by September 15<sup>th</sup>** to [dawn.coton@wbs.ac.uk](mailto:dawn.coton@wbs.ac.uk). Applications will be selected based on demonstrable alignment of their project with the theme of the workshop. Applicants will be notified of acceptance by October 15th. Registrations close by November 15th.

**For more information** on the workshop please contact [katharina.dittrich@uzh.ch](mailto:katharina.dittrich@uzh.ch) or [dawn.coton@wbs.ac.uk](mailto:dawn.coton@wbs.ac.uk).

## AOM SPECIAL CONFERENCE WITH THE THEME OF “DIGITAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP”

**Professor Fang Zhao (PhD), Associate Dean (Management), School of Business and Law  
Edith Cowan University, Australia**

### **Rational for the Conference:**

Digital entrepreneurship is broadly defined as creating new ventures and transforming existing businesses by developing novel digital technologies and/or novel usage of such technologies (European Commission, 2014). The Conference aims to explore the emerging concept of digital entrepreneurship, examine its impacts on the growth of the economy and develop strategy to grow and capitalize on digital entrepreneurship. Digital entrepreneurship has been viewed as a critical pillar for economic growth, job creation and innovation by many countries. It is imperative to develop a fine-grained understanding of digital entrepreneurship. However, only recently have some studies in the entrepreneurship field started to examine the impact of digital technologies on entrepreneurs’ decision making and entrepreneurial activities for venture development. There is a lack of conceptual discussion and development of the concept of digital entrepreneurship. The potential of digital entrepreneurship has been largely underexplored and underexploited in practice as well. The Conference will provide researchers and practitioners with a forum to explore the potential of digital technologies in not only supporting traditional entrepreneurial activities and outcomes, but also enabling new entrepreneurial activities, processes and venture outcomes.

### **Conference Audience:**

Digital entrepreneurship is a multi-disciplinary concept concerning information technology and systems, entrepreneurship and management, as well as political/legal and socio-economic environments. Therefore, the theme of the Conference would attract a variety of participants from academia as well as business/industry and government sectors. We will promote the Conference locally (in Australia), in the Oceania region and internationally. AOM members from different Divisions (i.e. BPS, ENT, IM, and TIM) and Non-Members who are interested in digital entrepreneurship will be invited to the Conference. Scholars and practitioners in the field of digital technologies will also be targeted. Entrepreneurs online and/or offline will be our targeted audience. Government officials, strategists, and policy makers will also be our targets for the Conference promotion.

### **Conference dates and Venue**

The Conference is scheduled to be held on 4-6 December 2017, in Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre, Perth, Australia. Perth has been ranked as one of the top ten world’s best cities to live in the latest Global Liveability Ranking (Economist Intelligence Unit, 2015).

If you are interested in supporting this conference and **becoming involved**, please contact the convenor of this conference

**Professor Fang Zhao**  
at [f.zhao@ecu.edu.au](mailto:f.zhao@ecu.edu.au).



## THANK YOU FROM THE TREASURER

**Claus Jacobs (Treasurer)**

This year's program was again kindly supported by various institutions from the Strategy as Practice community. The **University of Queensland**, **University of Liverpool** and **University of Tennessee** all provided the extra resources needed to support our 'new' SAP Doctoral & Early Career Program, which includes a convivial business meeting, great social events and our distinguished keynote speaker! Sponsorship provides high visibility of your institution's commitment to the Strategy as Practice agenda, so do get in touch with me or Carola if your institution would like to be a sponsor for the 2017 meeting. It really helps the IG and can raise the profile and network of your institution (various rates are available):

[Claus.Jacobs@kpm.unibe.ch](mailto:Claus.Jacobs@kpm.unibe.ch) or [c.wolf@aston.ac.uk](mailto:c.wolf@aston.ac.uk)



THE UNIVERSITY  
OF QUEENSLAND  
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UNIVERSITY OF  
LIVERPOOL

MANAGEMENT SCHOOL

## YOUR SAP INTEREST GROUP OFFICERS!



**Past IG Chair:** Tomi M. M. Laamanen, University of St. Gallen (tomi.laamanen@unisg.ch)

**IG Chair:** Anne D. Smith, University of Tennessee (asmith51@utk.edu)

**IG Chair-Elect:** Jane Lê, The University of Sydney (jane.le@sydney.edu.au)

**Program Chair:** Paul Spee, University of Queensland (p.spee@business.uq.edu.au)

**PDW Chair:** Sotirios Paroutis, Warwick Business School (Sotirios.Paroutis@wbs.ac.uk)

**Representative-at-Large:** Rebecca Bednarek, Birkbeck, University of London  
(r.bednarek@bbk.ac.uk)

**Representative-at-Large:** Carola Wolf, Aston Business School (c.wolf@aston.ac.uk)

**Representative-at-Large:** Robert P. Wright, The HongKong Polytechnic University  
(robert.wright@polyu.edu.hk)

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**Membership Secretary:** Katharina Dittrich, University of Zurich  
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