

Practice and Process Studies (PPS)

Driving change and enhancing outcomes

Helping organisations and communities

The Practice and Process Studies (PPS) research hub provides a framework for working closely with policy makers, NGOs and industry to drive change and enhance outcomes on macro level societal issues and on organisational issues.

Working for society

Grand societal challenges

- We are studying how organisations, NGOs, governments and societies deal with new societal and critical challenges.
- We are working on disaster resilience for homeowners, sustaining insurance markets in the face of growing disaster, building multi-dimensional societal resilience to disaster and other social issues such as labour inequality in the gig economy.

Entrepreneurship

- Our research examines the development of the startup ecosystem, with a particular focus on South East Queensland and Australia.
- We follow entrepreneurs in real-time, to analyse how they create startups, what works and what doesn't.

Strategy

- We are helping answer questions such as 'How can organisations and institutions shape strategic action inside and outside firms, to meet a changing and uncertain environment?'

Skilful performance

- Our researchers are advancing our understanding of what defines knowing (e.g. capabilities, knowledge, competence) and learning in the skilful performance of individuals, groups and organisations.

Advancing practice and process theory

- We are working to to better understand the philosophical and empirical underpinnings of practice and process theories and extend their boundaries to fields such as strategy-as-practice, entrepreneurship-as-practice, organising-in-practice, routine dynamics and beyond.



Making an impact

PPS scholars ensure research impact through:

- international industry keynotes on a range of topics including digital transformation, disaster protection and entrepreneurial ecosystems
- national and international board and policy advisory roles
- attracting significant mainstream and social media attention.

Future-focused goals

- Our academics undertake future-focused, industry- and policy-relevant research that impacts society.
- We actively engage with private and public sector organisations, NGOs and state and federal governments on helping address key challenges.

Leading the way

Professor Paula Jarzabkowski (Co-Lead PPS)


Paula is a Professor of strategy and is a global expert in the public-private mechanisms proliferating around the world to address the insurance protection gap. She is currently researching climate adaptation and individual and community resilience to extreme weather. Paula is also a Fellow of the Academy of Management, a Fellow of the British Academy and a Fellow of the Academy of the Social Sciences of Australia.


Professor Paul Spee (Co-Lead PPS)

Paul is a Professor of strategy and entrepreneurship and is a leading scholar in strategy and qualitative research. His research reflects his passion to identify the relevance of theory in practice and how practice can inform theory. Paul's research is at the forefront of theory development, in particular strategy-as-practice, and advances qualitative research methodology.

By the numbers

 **90** publications in 2025

 **94** members (researchers and PhD students)

 **\$500,000** awarded in grant funding in 2025

Helping build society!

World-leading expertise

The University of Queensland



Ranked in the world's top 50, The University of Queensland is one of Australia's leading research and teaching institutions.



We are committed to providing knowledge leadership for a better world and are striving towards building a better future for our students and community.



Research with global impact: We're finding solutions to the world's biggest challenges.

UQ Business School



Our academics collaborate across multidisciplinary content.



Research themes help businesses support progress towards achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.



Cross disciplinary research helps companies achieve sustainability goals without added financial strain.

Points of contact

[Professor Paula Jarzabkowski](#)

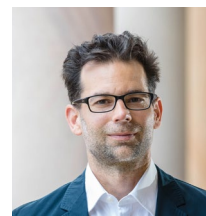
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For more information

Practice and Process Studies Research Hub

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