ABSTRACT: Research in the area of BPM has traditionally focused on the development and extension of associated tools, methods, standards and technologies. However, when evaluating the suitability of existing BPM technology for a particular project, it is important for practitioners and academics alike to have an informed opinion about their qualities and deficiencies. Capabilities and skills in various empirical research methods are of paramount importance to addressing such challenges, and, consequently, to any research student working in the field of Business Process Management and, ultimately, Information Systems.

This seminar discusses the role, conduct and challenges of empirical research in Information Systems using the example of Business Process Management as a research domain. The seminar consists of two parts, with each part spanning a 1.5 hour session. First, various empirical research strategies will be introduced and presented through the use of examples from BPM research. Second, new, innovative approaches to empirical data collection and analysis in the area of BPM research will be discussed.

SPEAKER: Dr Jan Recker is Senior Lecturer in the Business Process Management Group at Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia. He received a PhD in 2008 and a MScIS and BScIS in 2004. His research interests include Adoption of BPM Standards, Usage Behaviour, Schema Understanding, and Process Flexibility. Jan has published in journals such as the Journal of the Association for Information Systems, Information Systems, the Scandinavian Journal for Information Systems, the Communications of the Association for Information Systems, The Business Process Management Journal, the Australasian Journal for Information Systems, and others. He is also manager of QUT's process management executive education seminars in Australia and overseas. He is also a regular speaker at practitioner conferences such SAP User Groups, SoftEd conferences, Practitioner Roundtables and Enterprise Architecture forums.

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