

Process Research Workshop: A Spectrum of Methods, AOM PDW, Saturday, August 12, 2006

103 SPDW. Cosponsors: RM, OB, OMT, TIM, BPS, ODC, OM
Process Research Workshop I: A Spectrum of Methods
8:30-11:30 a.m.; 1-4 p.m. Atlanta Marriott Marquis: Cluster 3 - Bonn

Pre-registration required by contacting Chuck Pierce at
capierce@memphis.edu.

Presenters: - **Kevin Dooley**, Arizona State U.;
- **Ann Langley**, HEC Montreal;
- **Brian T Pentland**, Michigan State U.;
- **Andrew M Pettigrew**, U. of Bath;
- **Daniel Robey**, Georgia State U.;
- **Clive Smallman**, Lincoln U., New Zealand;
- **Andrew H. Van de Ven**, U. of Minnesota

Pettigrew on Contextual Models of Process *Regretfully can't be here due to UK airline incident*

- Catching reality in flight
- Some generic process questions
- Studying processes in a contextualist manner
- Process research designs
- Truth is the daughter of time
- Varieties of research output from longitudinal comparative case research



Andrew Pettigrew
Univ. of Bath, U.K.

Process Research Workshop: Morning Session

8:30a.m. Welcome and overview

9:00 a.m. Concurrent Sessions A:

1. Applying process philosophy – **Clive Smallman**, Lincoln U. NZ
2. Narrative models-**Brian Pentland**, Michigan State U.
3. Process research design-**Andrew Van de Ven**, U. of Minnesota

10:00a.m. Break

10:15a.m. Concurrent Sessions B:

1. Qualitative methods-**Ann Langley**, HEC
2. Quantitative methods-**Kevin Dooley**, Arizona State U
3. Developing cross-level theory-**Daniel Robey**, Georgia State U.

11:15a.m. Plenary Discussion of Key Ideas & Questions from Sessions

11:30a.m. End of morning session -- Lunch is on your own

Process Research Workshop: Afternoon Session

1:00p.m. Group discussions of participants' process research papers

Organizers: **Clive Smallman**, Lincoln U., New Zealand and Volunteers

- Group 1 lead by Kevin Dooley, Arizona State U.
- Group 2 lead by Ann Langley, HEC
- Group 3 lead by Brian Pentland, Michigan State U.
- Group 4 lead by Clive Smallman, Lincoln U. NZ
- Group 5 lead by Daniel Robey, Georgia State U.
- Group 6 lead by Andrew Van de Ven, U. of Minnesota

3:00p.m. Break

3:15p.m. Panel session on conducting process research studies

3:45p.m. Concluding discussion

Suggestions for building process research community

Website <http://www.processresearchmethods.org>

Participants in 06 Process Research Workshop

39 pre-registered participants & faculty

- 13 - Ph.D. students
- 5 - Post doctoral research fellows
- 21 - Professors

From nine countries

- 19 - U.S.A.
- 8 – Canada
- 5 – U.K.
- 3 – Australia
- 2 - Finland, Netherlands, Switzerland
- 1 – Denmark, Italy

Background: Poole on Building Process Theories



Marshall Scott Poole
Univ. of Illinois
at Urbana/Champaign

1. Meanings of Process
 2. Ontological views of Process
 3. Process and Variance Methods
- Review Audio Slides by M. Scott Poole on *Building Process Theories I, II & III*
 - At our web site: processresearchmethods.org

Ontological Views of Reality

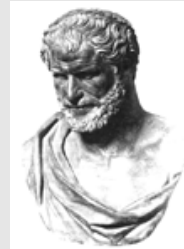
Democritus (460 – 370 BC)

- Reality consists of enduring things (substances).
- All of nature is composed at the micro level of stable material substance or atoms that change only in their positions in space and time.
- Qualitative changes or growth are caused by rearrangements or additions to the atoms composing them.



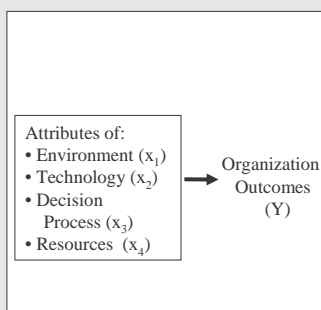
Heraclitus (540 – 480 BC)

- Reality consists of processes. "All is flux, nothing stands still. Nothing endures but change"
- "You could not step twice into the same river; for other waters are ever flowing on to you."
- Process is fundamental: The river is not an object but an ever-changing flow; the sun is not a thing, but a flaming fire. Everything in nature is a matter of process, of activity, of change.



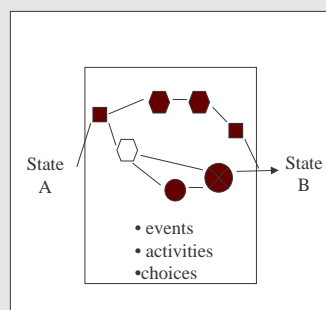
Variance and Process Research Epistemologies

Variance Method



$$Y = f(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4)$$

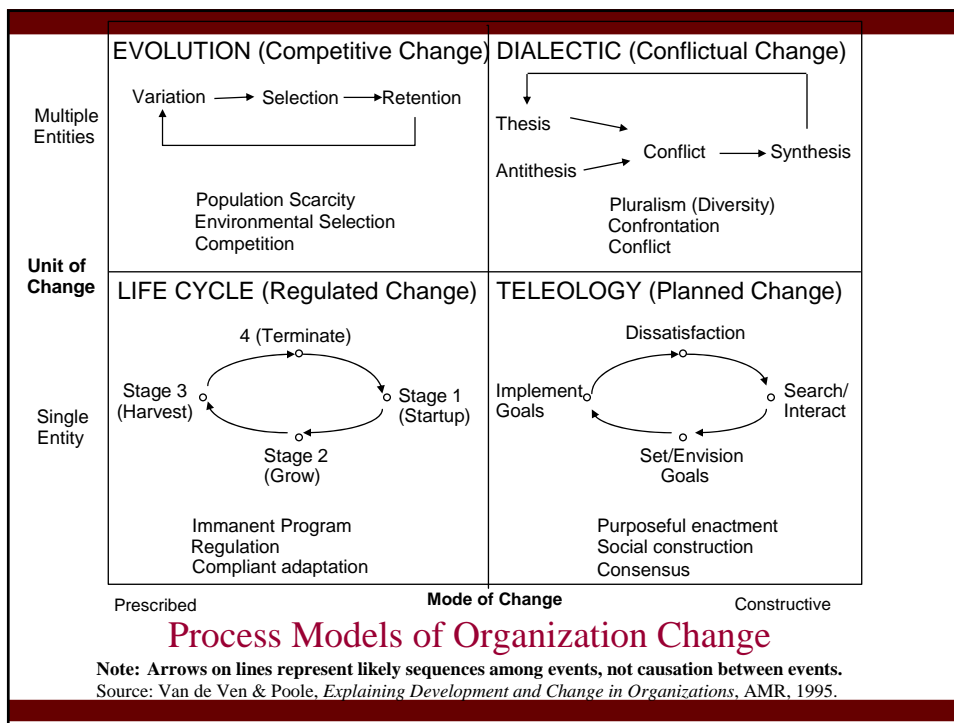
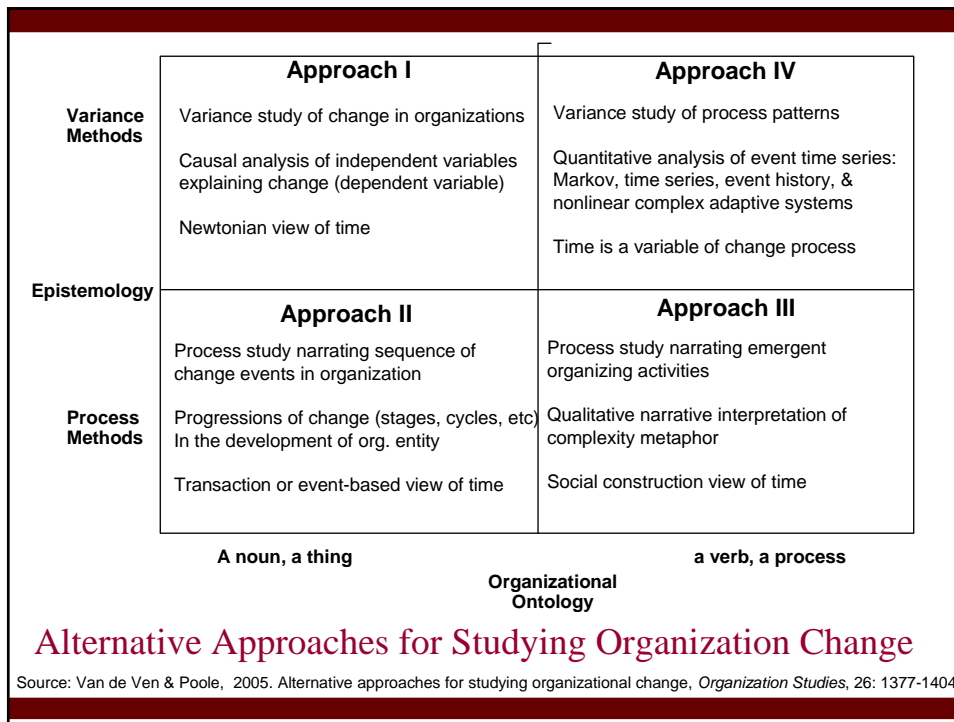
Process Method



$$T_0 \longrightarrow T_1$$



Ann Langley



9 a.m. Concurrent Session 1: Smallman on Applying Process Philosophy



Clive Smallman
Lincoln University
Christchurch, New Zealand

Literature Review

- Ontology
 - Reality is Process
- Epistemology
 - Narrative interpretations
- Implications for Process Research

9 a.m. Concurrent Session 2: Van de Ven on Designing Process Studies



Andy Van de Ven
U. Of Minnesota

- Basics of Process Research
- Designing Field Studies
- Analyzing Process Data
- Exercise: Design a process study

9 a.m. Concurrent Session 3: Pentland on Narrative Process Theory

- In narrative theory, the story includes more than just event sequence. A process theory should include:
 - Sequence in Time
 - Focal Actor(s)
 - Narrative Voice
 - Evaluative Frame of Reference
 - Indicators of Content and Context

Brian Pentland, "Building Process Theory with Narrative: From description to explanation," *Academy of Management Review*, 24, 4 (1999): 711-724.



Brian Pentland
Michigan State Univ.

10:15 a.m. Concurrent Session 1: Langley on Qualitative Methods

- Narrative Strategy
- Template Matching
- Grounded Theorizing
- Visual Mapping
- Temporal Bracketing
- Synthetic Strategy
- Quantitative Strategy



Ann Langley
HEC, Montreal

10:15 a.m. Concurrent Session 2: Dooley on Quantitative Methods



Kevin Dooley
Arizona State University

- Analyzing Event Sequence Data
- Structures of Event Time Series
- Models for examining different structures of time series
 - Orderly data
 - Chaotic data
 - Random data

10:15 a.m. Concurrent Session 3: Robey on Cross-Level Process Theory



Daniel Robey
Georgia State Univ.

- Crossing Levels of Processes:
- individual & collective actions
 - micro incidents & macro events
 - short & long term scales
 - stories of insiders & outsiders
- Cross-Level Explanations
- convergent stories
 - inconsistent stories
 - contradictory stories

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Sourcebook for Process Research Methods

Marshall S. Poole, Andrew Van de Ven, Kevin Dooley, and Michael Holmes,
New York: Oxford University Press, 2000.

1. Perspectives on Change and Development
2. Process Theories and Narrative Explanations
3. Process Theories of Organizational Change
4. Overview: Methods for Process Research
5. The Design of Process Research Studies
6. Stochastic Modeling
7. Phasic Analysis
8. Event Time Series Regression Analysis
9. Nonlinear Dynamical Analysis
10. Conclusions

