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The Institute of Work Psychology and CREED are delighted to host  
**Professor Per Davidsson**  
in its Distinguished Academic Speaker Series.

**When:** July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2012, 11am with Sandwich lunch from 12noon

**Where:** ICOSS Boardroom, University of Sheffield, ICOSS, 219 Portobello, Sheffield, S1 4DP  
Please register for this event by sending an email to [M.E.Holmes@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:M.E.Holmes@sheffield.ac.uk)

## **Entrepreneurial Opportunity and the Entrepreneurship Nexus: A Reconceptualization**

**Professor Per Davidsson**

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**Queensland University of Technology (QUT) Business School , Australia**

In the past decades considerable progress has been made towards a better understanding of the second element of the entrepreneurship nexus – i.e., what is usually referred to as the “opportunity” – and its role in the entrepreneurial process. However, a critical examination of this literature also reveals that the research – collectively and often also within individual works – lacks construct clarity (Suddaby, 2011). This creates a somewhat confused image of the progress made to date and a serious obstacle to cumulative growth of knowledge in the future, especially since the various disciplines contributing to the multi-disciplinary field of entrepreneurship may define and label related phenomena in different ways. We suggest a triplet of more precisely defined construct to capture what prior research has studied under the label of “entrepreneurial opportunity”. These three constructs are: (1) Opportunity Conditions for the combinations of external and usually actor-independent circumstances that make venture creation efforts more or less feasible; (2) New Venture Idea for the “imagined venture”; the evolving set of conjectures regarding the product/service; the customers; the resources, and the resource transformation processes, and (3) Perception of Opportunity for the actor’s assessment of (1) and (2).

**Professor Per Davidsson** is the Director of the Australian Centre for Entrepreneurship Research (ACE) in the Queensland University of Technology (QUT) Business School , Australia. Per is especially known for his extensive research on start-up and growth of small firms as well as societal well-being and job creation effects of those activities. Apart from many books, book chapters and research reports he has published over 50 peer reviewed articles in, e.g., Strategic Management Journal, Regional Studies, Journal of Management Studies, Journal of Business Venturing, Entrepreneurship Theory & Practice and Entrepreneurship and Regional Development. He is appointed Field Editor of the Journal of Business Venturing (#1 scholarly journal in entrepreneurship). He has also rendered his service as a consultant to many reputed companies and international organizations.

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