CENTRE FOR FAMILY BUSINESS

Rigorous academic research
Research-led engagement in business education and practice
To inspire and support better management of family firms
The Centre for Family Business is an internationally recognised, research-led unit at LUMS. Through our research, teaching and engagement we aim to help put family business at the forefront of management thinking.

Family businesses are the most prevalent form of business organisation globally. In the United Kingdom families hold a majority ownership position in 81% of unquoted companies, and 71% of small and medium enterprises are explicitly identified by the CEO as a ‘family business’.

Family involvement causes family businesses to have unique organisational goals, structures and resources that eventually create distinctive management challenges for owners and managers. The family is an important source of competitive advantage for many firms, on the other hand it may cause serious dysfunctions in the business. For these reasons, family businesses require distinctive strategies and managerial practices in order to achieve success.

By conducting rigorous research, developing innovative teaching modules and directly engaging with family businesses, the Centre for Family Business will help family businesses achieve their potential.

Our Vision:
We inspire and support better management of family firms through our international, collaborative, and multi-disciplinary research on the distinctive organisational goals, processes and outcomes engendered by family influence on businesses.

Our Mission:
To achieve excellence in research that:
- Contributes new and meaningful knowledge to the theory of family business
- Produces impactful implications for the business practice of small-to-medium size family firms.

To lead a community of scholars and family businesses in developing the global resources for catalyzing the international exchange of ideas.

In essence, to be at the forefront of family business research and thinking.
The Centre for Family Business is a research hub for faculty and PhD students studying family businesses from a wide range of perspectives. Our research team is very international, with our researchers coming from 5 different continents, but shares a problem driven, interdisciplinary, multi method approach that has led to significant impact on theory and practice. Currently, our team includes leading and world-renowned researchers in family business studies, research associates and PhD students. The Director of The Centre is Prof. Alfredo De Massis.

Additionally the Centre draws on the experience and knowledge of the scholars and academics from a Research Advisory Board to guide its future research directions and on that of successful family entrepreneurs and family business owners from a Business Advisory Panel to understand the actual needs of families in business. Both Research Advisory Board and Business Advisory Panel play a critical role in bridging academic theory and practice.

People

The Team

Prof. Alfredo De Massis
PhD, MSc (Hons)
Director of the Centre for Family Business

Prof. Jess Chua
Professor of Family Business
Chairman of the Research Advisory Board

Dr. Allan Discua Cruz
PhD, PgDip, MMM, MBA, BSc
Lecturer in Entrepreneurship

Jacqui Jackson
MA, Cert Ed
Head of Family Business Engagement

Ambra Mazzelli
MSc, BSc
PhD Student

Prof. Ellie Hamilton
PhD, MA, BA (Hons) Dip M Dip MRS, FRSA
Associate Dean for Enterprise

Dr. Josip Kotlar
PhD, MSc, BSc
Lecturer in Family Business

Dr. Edward McKeever
PhD, BA
Management and Business Development Fellow

Angela Carradus
MA, MIfil
PhD Student

Emanuela Rondi
MSc, BSc
PhD Student

www.lancaster.ac.uk/lums/familybusiness
Research Advisory Board

Prof. James Chrisman  
Mississippi State University, U.S.

Prof. Frank Hoy  
Worcester Polytechnic Institute, U.S.

Prof. Mattias Nordqvist  
Jönköping International Business School, Sweden

Prof. Sara Carter  
University of Strathclyde Business School, U.K.

Prof. Carole Howorth  
Bradford University School of Management, U.K.

Prof. Mike Wright  
Imperial College Business School, U.K.

Business Advisory Panel

Andrew Beale  
Managing Director  
Beales Hotels

Edwin Booth  
Chairman  
Booths Supermarkets Ltd

Chris Cox  
Managing Director  
George Cox Ltd

Mark Evans  
Managing Director  
Coutts Institute

Gill Hall  
Owner  
Butlers Farmhouse Cheeses

Joe Horak  
Director  
Family Owned Business Institute, Seidman College of Business

Kevin McCurren  
Executive Director  
Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, Seidman College of Business

Daniel Mclaughlin  
Enterprise Strategy  
Department for Business, Innovation and Skills

Alison Park  
Owner  
Low Sizergh Barn Ltd

Mike Roberts  
Owner  
Frank Roberts & Sons Ltd

Call or email Jacqui Jackson – 01524 510710 – j.jackson@lancaster.ac.uk
Areas of Strategic Intent

Current research areas:

- Innovation and growth strategies in family business
- Family business organisational goals and goal setting process
- Intrafamily succession and leadership development
- Family entrepreneurship and intergenerational learning
- Dynamics of family entrepreneurial teams
- Corporate social responsibility and corporate social reporting in family business

Education and Knowledge Transfer

We develop and teach family business and entrepreneurship modules at the undergraduate, master, executive and doctoral levels in specialised courses at LUMS and elsewhere.

- Introduction to family business
- Managing family enterprises across generations
- Strategy and planning in family business
- Innovating the family enterprise
- Theories and methods for family business research
- Thematic workshops and lectures

We are also engaged in knowledge transfer activities that have a marked impact on the business community and society at large.
Lancaster’s Centre for Family Business has collaborative links with family business practitioners, advisors, and academic communities both locally and internationally:

- It is actively involved with leadership roles in the Global STEP Project for Family Enterprising founded by Babson College (USA). Engaging over 200 scholars from 41 leading universities, this global applied research initiative explores the entrepreneurial processes within business families and generates solutions that have immediate application for family leaders.

- It administers the Editorial Office for the Special Section on Family Business History in the Journal of Family Business Strategy, one of the two major international journals dedicated to family business research.

- It is actively involved with leading research and engagement networks in family business such as:

We seek to help improve family business management through our collaborative and multi-disciplinary research and teaching. So we welcome the opportunity to incorporate your experiences with family businesses into our research and teaching through case studies and guest lectures.
Lancaster University Management School (LUMS) is a triple-accredited, world-ranked management school, consistently among the UK’s top five. LUMS is among the few leading business schools to combine excellence in research with a student-centred campus and a full spectrum of undergraduate, postgraduate, PhD and executive programmes.

Leadership programmes for multinational companies and outreach provision for SMEs are of equal importance to the Lancaster University Management School mission.

The Centre for Family Business is a research-led unit at LUMS focusing on family business. Through our research, teaching and engagement, our goal is to put family business at the forefront of management thinking.
For further information contact:

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or Jacqui Jackson: 01524 510710
e-mail: j.jackson@lancaster.ac.uk

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The Centre for Family Business is still growing. We have great ambition and need help to reach the full potential. With your help, we can advance our research and support for family businesses – to achieve more and sooner for the benefit of all family businesses and those who depend on them.

Philanthropy comes in many forms - money, time, expertise and gifts in kind. By getting involved, you can make a difference to family businesses now and in the future.

Contact Maggie Wild on m.wild@lancaster.ac.uk or call her for a philanthropic conversation on 01524 510693