



JUSTYNA DĄBROWSKA

STRATEGIC INNOVATION & TRANSFORMATION |
EXPERT IN OPEN INNOVATION, STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT &
ECOSYSTEM PARTNERSHIPS

CONTACT

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EDUCATION

2012 - 2018

LAPPEENRANTA UNIVERSITY
OF TECHNOLOGY, FINLAND

- PhD Industrial Engineering and Management (Open Innovation)

2003 - 2009

UNIVERSITY OF SZCZECIN,
POLAND

- Master's in Management and Marketing (Spec. HR Management)
- grade 5/5

2006 - 2007

LAPPEENRANTA UNIVERSITY
OF TECHNOLOGY, FINLAND

- International Business and Technology Management (exchange)

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

- Building Strategic Foresight Capabilities – EDHEC & UNESCO (2025)
- Digital Transformation for Leaders (LinkedIn Learning, 2021)
- Strategyzer Masterclass – Business Models & Strategy (2019)

PROFILE

Dr Justyna Dąbrowska is an internationally recognized innovation strategist with over 15+ years of experience across academia, corporate, consulting, and international project leadership. Her work centres on open and collaborative innovation, organisational renewal in the digital era, strategic foresight, and how organisations adopt emerging technologies, including AI, through ecosystems and partnerships. She has collaborated with corporations, helping them translate research-based frameworks into actionable innovation strategies. Justyna is a sought-after speaker, educator, and consultant, bridging the worlds of academia and business to help leaders future-proof their organizations.

WORK EXPERIENCE

RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia

2019 - PRESENT

Vice Chancellor's Research Fellow, Innovation Management |
Program Manager, Strategy & Innovation

- Co-led the EINST4INE project on digital transformation (EU-funded, €4M), engaging 16 global industry partners.
- Designed and delivered Australia's first Bachelor course in Open Innovation, aligning academic content with corporate innovation practices.
- Advised city and corporate partners (e.g., City of Melbourne, ARC Lifeblood) on open innovation and strategic foresight.
- Spearheaded new initiatives on strategic foresight and technological roadmapping to accelerate industry-academia collaboration.
- Frequent keynote speaker and advisor to organizations on innovation strategy, AI in leadership, and transformation culture.
- Recipient of the Dean's Merit Award for Innovative Learning & Teaching 2025 and the Outstanding Teaching Score Award 2025

Lappeenranta University of Technology, Finland

2012 - 2019

Innovation Project Manager & Researcher

- Directed multi-country innovation programs (EU, EIT, TEKES) totaling over €23M in funding.
- Managed the EU-wide Open Innovation Network (OI-Net), connecting 52 institutions across 35 countries and producing the first European OI education framework.
- Worked on digital innovation simulation tools with the Wharton School of Business.
- Coached executives and entrepreneurs in innovation strategy and startup collaboration (SpinUp project).

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

Senator Ltd, Poland

2010 - 2012

Sales Manager, CEE region

- Business development and client management across six markets.

General Motors Europe GmbH, Germany

2008

Assistant to International and Diplomat Sales Manager

- Supported cross-border diplomatic and corporate accounts.



TEACHING

- Managing Technology and Innovation Strategy (Executive MBA, RMIT)
- Open Innovation (Bachelor's, RMIT)
- Applied Entrepreneurship (Bachelor's, RMIT)
- Digital Marketing (Master's, LUT)
- Open Innovation (Master's, LUT)
- Strategic Entrepreneurship in an Age of Uncertainty (Master's, LUT)
- Culture in High Technology Management and Innovation (Master's, LUT)

CORE EXPERTISE

- Open Innovation Strategy & Ecosystem Design
- Corporate Innovation Capability Building
- Change Management
- Strategic Foresight & Scenario Planning
- Digital Transformation & AI Adoption
- Executive Education & Leadership Development

LANGUAGES

- Polish (Native)
- English (Fluent)
- Finnish (Basics)
- German (Basics)

ADVISORY, SPEAKING & INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT

- **Advisory Board Member**
 - Open Innovation Labs at UC Berkeley, USA, (since 2024)
 - RMIT Commercialization and IP Committee (since 2024)
 - International Observatory of Innovation Initiative (since 2020)
- **Editorial Board Member**
 - R&D Management Journal (ABDC A, since 2024)
 - World Open Innovation Conference (since 2016)
 - International Society for Professionals in Innovation Management (since 2016)
- **Selected Keynotes**
 - Building (Open) Innovation Capabilities for a Disrupted World at the Corporate Innovation Summit, Perth (2025)
 - Leading with AI: Strategy Masterclass, RMIT EMBA (2025)
 - How AI Will Rewire Entrepreneurship Education at RMIT Activator (2025)
 - Debunking (Open) Innovation" at ARC Lifeblood (2024)
 - Demystifying Innovation and AI at Australian Bureau of Meteorology (2024)
- **Workshops Facilitated**
 - New learnings from dynamic use of innovation ecosystems: how industry can learn from academics and how academics can learn from practical experience, ISPIM Conference, Ljubljana, Slovenia
 - Digital transformation- trends & challenges for businesses, Barcelona, Spain
 - Organizing for Open Innovation, Helsinki, Finland
 - Engaging for Impact: Applying Strategic Roadmapping to Navigate the Future, Melbourne, Australia
 - Strategic technology roadmapping workshop in quantum technologies, Melbourne, Australia

RESEARCH PROJECTS (SELECTED)

- **DREAM+PLAN – Driving Climate Positive Futures** (EU MSCA, €9.1M, 2025 - present)
 - Role: Proposal development and strategic design; PHD cotutelle supervisor
 - Partners: Multinational academic and industry consortium (EU).
- **EINST4INE – European Training Network for Industry Digital Transformation** (EU MSCA, €4.06M, 2021–2024)
 - Role: Co-Chief Investigator, project design and implementation lead; PhD supervisor
 - Partners: RMIT University (Australia), LUT University (Finland), University of Stuttgart (Germany), Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies (Italy), LUISS University (Italy), University of Cambridge (UK), Aarhus University (Denmark), University of California Berkeley (USA), and 16 multinational firms
- **ISSUE – Innovative Solutions for Sustainability in Education** (EU Erasmus+, €0.36M, 2018–2021)
 - Partners: 8 higher education institutions from Finland, Hungary, UK, Spain, Slovenia, and Germany.
- **DOIT – Entrepreneurial Skills for Young Social Innovators in an Open Digital World** (EU Horizon 2020, €2.56M, 2017–2020)
- **Overcome – Open Innovation in Raw Materials** (EIT Raw Materials, €0.12M, 2017–2018)
- **C3PO – Collaborative City Co-Design Platform** (ITEA3 / TEKES, €6.47M, 2015–2018)
- **Accelerate – Platform for Acceleration of Go-to-Market in the ICT Industry** (ITEA2 / TEKES, €11.36M, 2013–2016)
 - Role: Project Manager and Researcher
 - Project partners: 18 partners (academia, ICT companies) from Finland, Belgium, France, Spain, Romania
- **OI-Net – The European Academic Network for Open Innovation** (EU ERASMUS, €0.85M, 2013–2016)
 - Role: **Consortium Manager** and Principal Proposal Author
 - Partners: **52** organizations from **35** countries, including universities, research institutes, and corporate partners.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

- Lima, V.M.S, Dąbrowska J, and Mention A-L. (2026) The Innovation Transition Roadmap: A Practical Tool for Navigating the Exploration–Exploitation Divide. *Research-Technology Management*, 69(1), pp.24-41. (ABDC A)
- Dąbrowska J, Keranen J, and Mention A-L. (2024) Beyond the Buzz: Unpacking the Forms and Practices of Dedicated Open Innovation Function, *California Management Review* (ABDC A, ex-FT50)
- Kokshagina O. Dąbrowska J. and Balcells M.P. (2023) Crowd-Resourcing in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Resource Transformation Perspective. *IEEE Transactions on Engineering Management* (ABDC A)
- Lima V.M.S., Mention A.L. and Dąbrowska J. (2023) Digital Innovation: Exploring Integration and Transition Modes in Scaling Success. *International Journal of Innovation Management*, 27(05), p.2340001.
- Dąbrowska J, Almpanopoulou A, Brem A, Chesbrough H, Cucino V, DiMinin A, Giones F, Hakala H, Marullo C, Mention A-L, Mortara L, Nørskov S, Nylund P, Oddo C, Radziwon A, Ritala P. 2022. Digital transformation, for better or worse: A critical multi-level research agenda, *R&D Management* (ABDC A, Wiley Award)
- Dąbrowska J. Keränen, J. and Mention A.L., (2021) The emergence of community-driven platforms in response to COVID-19. *Research-Technology Management*, 64(5), pp.31-38. (ABDC A)
- Dąbrowska J. Lopez-Vega H. and Ritala P (2019) Waking the sleeping beauty: Swarovski's open innovation journey. *R&D Management*, 49(5), pp.775-788 (ABDC A, Wiley Award)
- Dąbrowska J. and Podmetina D., (2017) Roles and responsibilities of open innovation specialists based on analysis of job advertisements. *Journal of Innovation Management*, 5(4), pp.103-129.
- Dąbrowska J and Savitskaya I (2014) When culture matters: exploring open innovation paradigm, *International Journal of Business Innovation and Research*, Vol. 8, No. 1
- Dąbrowska J, Fiegenbaum I and Kutvonen A (2013) Mapping the perception and reality of open innovation, *International Journal of Innovation Management* Vol. 17, No. 6(ABS2)
- Podmetina D, Volchek D, Dąbrowska J and Fiegenbaum I (2013) Human Resource practices and open innovation, *International Journal of Innovation Management*, Vol. 17, No. 6 (ABS2)

Co-edited books

- Mention A-L, Nagel A, Hafkesbrink J and Dąbrowska J (2016) *Innovation Education Reloaded: Nurturing Skills for the Future. The Open Innovation Teaching Handbook*, LUT Scientific Publication

Book chapters

- Dąbrowska J, and Sims, J. (2024) Teaching Open Innovation in Business Schools; in Chesbrough, Radziwon, Vanhaverbeke, West. *The Oxford Handbook for Open Innovation*, Oxford Press
- Dąbrowska J and Fiegenbaum I (2017) Open Innovation and Culture: A System Dynamics Model. *Open Innovation: Unveiling the Power of the Human Element*, 2, p.29.
- Podmetina D, Soderquist K.E, Dąbrowska J, Hafkesbrink J and Lopez-Vega H (2016) Industrial needs for open innovation education, *Innovation Education Reloaded: Nurturing Skills for the Future. The Open Innovation Teaching Handbook*, LUT Scientific Publication
- Podmetina D, Kutvonen A, Albats A, and Dąbrowska J (2016) Open Innovation Process in Innovation Education Reloaded: Nurturing Skills for the Future. *The Open Innovation Teaching Handbook*, LUT Scientific Publication
- Podmetina D, Kutvonen A and Dąbrowska J (2016) Open Innovation and Business Models in Innovation Education Reloaded: Nurturing Skills for the Future. *The Open Innovation Teaching Handbook*, LUT Scientific Publication

Other research outputs

- Dąbrowska J., Lenz A-K., Gallage N. (2026) Building innovation capability under heightened sensitivity. Insights and Recommendations for ARC Lifeblood.
- Tauri I, Dąbrowska J., Altrock S., Marcelino V, Mortara A. (2024) Supportive mechanisms and current practices in managing digital transformation across industries, EU Report. EINST4INE series
- Jennes P. Altrock S. Rojas A. Hassan S. Dąbrowska J. (2024) Novel managerial approaches for collaborative human/robot interaction. EU Report, EINST4INE series
- Marcelino V. Altrock S. Rojas A. Mantiottini Ch. Dąbrowska J. (2023). The future skills for managing digital transformation, EU Report, EINST4INE series