

John Paul MacDuffie is an associate professor in the Management Department at the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania. His research is centrally concerned with the rise of lean or flexible production as an alternative to mass production, including the consequences of lean production for economic performance; its diffusion across company and country boundaries; patterns of collaborative problem-solving within and across firms; and the implications of lean production for individual managers, engineers, and workers. MacDuffie has worked for many years with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's International Motor Vehicle Program (IMVP) and is currently its co-director. His current research examines patterns of collaboration between automakers and global first-tier suppliers, particularly the transfer of design responsibility to suppliers; efforts to move automotive product architecture toward modularity; trends in manufacturing flexibility; and the ways in which automakers and suppliers are coping with the increased complexity of both products and processes. His research on the comparative performance of manufacturing plants worldwide was featured centrally in the IMVP book, *The Machine That Changed the World* (1990), and he co-edited (with Thomas Kochan and Russell Lansbury) *After Lean Production: Evolving Employment Practices in the World Auto Industry* (1997). This work has also appeared in such journals as *Management Science*, *California Management Review*, *Industrial and Corporate Change*, and *Industrial and Labor Relations Review*. MacDuffie received his BA from Harvard University and his PhD from the Sloan School of Management at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.