

## A Sustainable Future research theme

### Mai i te kāhui Maunga ki Tangaroa - From the Mountains to the Sea

Kia ora koutou

*Thanks to all who attended our first hui for the year last Wednesday. We had a good discussion on possible activities, research initiatives and potential seed projects to support. Read on for more about:*

- ***twitter handle @SustainUoA***
- ***opportunities to promote your research in water or climate change***
- ***seed funding opportunities***
- ***our new Steering group***

We are continuing our efforts to improve the visibility of Faculty of Science sustainability research and capability. In addition to our [webpage](#), our theme has now joined the twitter universe with the **twitter handle @SustainUoA**. If you have your own twitter account then please follow us (thanks to those who already have) and we'll follow you back. If you include @SustainUoA when you tweet about relevant issues, then that will help us to identify material for retweeting or liking. For example, if tweeting about a media article, blog or scientific paper you have published that relates to our sustainability theme, then include @SustainUoA and we can retweet to help amplify your message. If you are interested in tweeting on behalf of the sustainability theme – either on an ongoing basis, or for a fixed period of time, then contact Jacqueline. If you don't yet have your own twitter account, then I strongly recommend you consider starting one. It can be a great way to connect with other academics with similar interests from around the world, and provides an additional way to promote your research papers and advertise postgrad opportunities.



Following a **meeting with government departments** in Wellington last year, two issues were identified as being priority areas – water and climate change. We are proposing to showcase our research on water and climate change in a return visit to MfE, MPI and DoC in Wellington later this year. This would just be a relatively small group again, but it would be good if we could showcase a broad range of our work. We are also keen to work with Gilbert Wong who is the Research Communications Manager for UoA. The Communications Office has a project “**Beacons - Future of the Planet**” which will produce in-depth material highlighting the issues our theme tackles and the impact of our work. Water and climate change would be excellent topics that we would like to pitch to them.

So, if you do **research in water or climate change** and would like your work to be included then please could you email Kathryn (Kathryn.howard@auckland.ac.nz) with the following information:

1. What is your capability (including what is unique)
2. Current projects
3. Current connections/collaborations
4. Future ideas
5. Are you willing to travel to Wellington to present UoA capability in water/climate change
6. Are you interested in involvement in the University's Beacons communication project?

We are again calling for [seed projects proposals](#) to be funded by the theme. If you would like a small amount of seed funding (\$2,000 - \$5,000) please email your interest to Kathryn by **Friday 20 March** and include:

- Principal investigator name (must be employed as academic staff in Science who is required to undertake research)
- Lay summary of the project to include on our webpage – 1 to 2 sentences
- Brief description of the project and how it will contribute to the objectives of the theme
- Amount of funding you require (funds can be used for travel, hosting collaborative meetings, research assistants, direct student support, consumables and must be spent by the end of 2020)

As mentioned last month, I'm now looking to establish a small **Steering Group** to help me lead the theme. So far Quentin Atkinson and Cate Macinnis-Ng have expressed interest in joining. Do let me or Kathryn know if you're interested in coming on board too.



Jacqueline Beggs – theme leader



Kathryn Howard – Research programme manager

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