

Sydney Environment Institute



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY

SEI Statement of Activities
2019



The Sydney Environment Institute is located on the Gadigal Lands
of the Eora Nation.

We acknowledge that sovereignty was never ceded, and we pay
our deepest respects to the Traditional Owners of this land and to
Elders past, present and future, here in Eora and beyond.

Director's Note

Throughout 2019, research at the Sydney Environment Institute has led us from the atolls of the Great Barrier Reef to the coastline of the Great Australian Bight; from the depths of uranium mines in Kakadu to copper mines in Sweden; from the mangrove forests of Fiji to the drought stripped riverines of the Murray Darling; from the banks of the Cooks River to the skyscrapers of the Sydney CBD.

Through our events, research and conversations, we have been exploring these environments as more than just places — instead, as inextricably interlinked spaces inhabited by and with community. We have been practising the art of listening; hearing the voices that have gone unheard, highlighting injustices too often overlooked, integrating knowledge and experience to instigate truly inclusive justice and radical change.

Toward these goals, SEI creates robust multidisciplinary research communities. We facilitate and curate the cross-fertilization of approaches, questions, methods, and outputs on core questions of human relationships with the environment. We pride ourselves on bringing people together with similar interests and passions who would not normally work together. There are few institutes, in Australia or abroad, that integrate the breadth of social sciences and humanities with law, business, planning and design, engineering, public health, natural sciences, and creative arts that the Sydney Environment Institute does.

The communication of our work across campus, within Sydney, nationally, and internationally is a hallmark of the Institute's innovation and success. The Institute has generated a global reputation for the high quality and collaborative work we produce. Out of numerous innovative groups on key environmental challenges our researchers have produced a wide range of research outputs and grants that would not have happened otherwise.

A huge heartfelt thanks to everyone who joined us as researchers, visiting scholars, students, industry experts, collaborators, community leaders and audience members over the past twelve months.

— David Schlosberg, Director and Co-Founder





Photo: Dhaalu Atoll, Maldives

Our Vision, Aims and Objectives

The Sydney Environment Institute is a national and world leader in multidisciplinary environmental research, known in particular for work in the environmental humanities and social sciences.

The key premise of the Institute is the need to engage with social, cultural, historical, political and economic processes, and meanings as a necessary element of dealing effectively and justly with ongoing transformations of the planet. The Institute aims to harness the existing capacity of Sydney's expansive range of environmental scholars in order to tackle entrenched problems, design and implement strategies for surviving our increasingly unsustainable world, and facilitate work toward genuine and sustainable social, cultural, and environmental transformation.

Our objectives are broad and ambitious, but clear and consistent:

— **Identify matters of critical environmental concern, and engage them** – through creative, collaborative projects designed for real impact.

— **Cross disciplinary boundaries** – to ask new questions, develop new methods, and generate new forms of knowledge and awareness among the arts, the humanities, and the natural, social, and technological sciences.

— **Build flourishing working communities** – among academics, policymakers, cultural institutions, practicing artists, students, NGOs, and committed citizens.

— **Support and mentor** – ambitious, imaginative, collaborative endeavours by students, scholars, and practitioners, within the university and beyond.

— **Communicate our work, and invite conversations** – with the publics we serve in Sydney, across Australia, throughout the Indo-Pacific, and across the globe.

— **Impact and affect communities, culture, and policy** – with our direct work with partners in community organisations, cultural institutions, and government.

Leadership and Professional Staff

"The SEI has an incredibly unique and talented staff – bold, competent, professional, and productive. Each and every one of our core staff has a degree to, experience in, and dedication to the environmental work of the Institute. Everyone is involved in both the everyday operations of the Institute and in the substance of our research.

We pride ourselves on blurring that line between 'professional' and 'academic'. We are dedicated to a daily combination of rigor and care, which is then reflected in the breadth of assistance and talent that the SEI staff brings to supporting the amazing work of our affiliated scholars."

— David Schlosberg



David Schlosberg

Co-Founder and Director

David Schlosberg is Professor of Environmental Politics in the Department of Government and International Relations, Payne-Scott Professor, and Director of the Sydney Environment Institute at the University of Sydney. His work focuses on contemporary environmental and environmental justice movements, environment and everyday life, and climate adaptation planning and policy. He is the author of *Sustainable Materialism: Environmental Movements and the Politics of Everyday Life* (2019), *Defining Environmental Justice* (2007) and co-author of *Climate-Challenged Society* (2013).



Eloise Fetterplace

Project and Communications Officer

Eloise has a Masters in Communication Management at UTS. Her undergraduate degree was a Bachelor of Socio-legal Studies at the University of Sydney, where she majored in Sociology.



Charlotte Owens

Executive Assistant and Project Officer

Charlotte is currently completing her Master of International Security at the University of Sydney, after completing her undergraduate degree in International and Global Studies.



Liberty Lawson

Content Editor and Knowledge Translation Officer

Liberty completed a Bachelor of Science with First Class Honours in History and Philosophy of Science. She is currently completing her PhD in the Department of Gender and Cultural Studies.



Michelle St Anne

Co-Founder, Deputy Director and Operations Manager - Programming, Impact and Engagement

Michelle St Anne is the Deputy Director at the Sydney Environment Institute where she oversees the Institute's operations and engagement, including its notable public programme. Michelle is also an Honorary Associate of the Department of Theatre and Performance Studies.

She currently leads the multidisciplinary project, 'Sites of Violence', which merges artistic and academic understandings of human and non-human experiences of violence, and the processes, emotions, and meaning that this violence makes manifest.



Research Themes

— Adaptation

Anticipating the future by reflecting on today

— Blue Humanities

Exploring our oceans through the insights and approaches of the humanities

— Food Systems

Understanding and developing sustainable access to food

— Justice

Addressing imbalances in the experience of environmental damage

— Nature In Culture

Applying the wisdom of First Nations politics and philosophies to environmental justice and the climate crisis

— Transition

With the publics we serve in Sydney, across Australia, throughout the Indo-Pacific, and across the globe.

— Sustainability

Creating systems for sustainable living

Research Highlights

In 2019, the SEI oversaw 25 interdisciplinary projects with 82 members representing seven faculties.

Our research activity demonstrates how we continue to challenge disciplinary silos through creating multi-authored, multidisciplinary outputs that meaningfully contribute to the academy, communities, and industry.

Food Justice

There remains limited attention on a comparative analysis and global review evidence of the potential and pitfalls of urban governments as new food policy actors.

Key questions in this space include: What are the shared discursive elements of the emerging municipal policy discourses on food? Are these narratives signalling a wider shift in the way policy practitioners are addressing the complex dynamics of current food insecurities? More particularly, do these shifts hold transformative potential for urban food systems in the context of Australian cities? Addressing these questions will assist in informing the first objective of the FoodLab Sydney project.

"For us, food's more than just food - it's a tangible, joyful, creative way to promote a more healthy, just, resilient world. "

— FoodLab Detroit

What is FoodLab Sydney?

FoodLab Sydney exists to support local residents in bringing their idea for a food business or career in food to life in their own community. It is Sydney's own, local version of an internationally recognised food business incubator model that aims to support food entrepreneurs from all backgrounds and levels of education. FoodLab Sydney seeks to capture the diversity of our city by working with communities to provide pathways to entrepreneurship and employment, stimulate local economies, and create healthier and more equitable food environments for all residents.

How does it work?

At the heart of FoodLab Sydney is a custom-designed program providing training and support to people who want to work in food. It gives them the qualifications they need to prepare and handle food plus the knowledge and skills to successfully package, market, and sell products.

Most importantly it provides an environment where the graduates of the program support each other and learn from business mentors and thought leaders. Access to kitchen spaces and retail opportunities will provide vital infrastructure for those who want to develop their own local food enterprises.

Find more information about the project at the FoodLab Sydney website: foodlabsydney.com

Unsettling Ecopoetics

Ecological poetics. Eco-poetics. Eco-poiesis. These and other words give terminological form to a growing impulse among those who labour with language and literature: to articulate, reckon with, and remake relations among the world's human and more-than-human communities. Words, images, sounds, and stories—and the voices, histories, and desires they hear and ignore—are implicated in the shaping, as well as the undoing, of worlds. An ethical ecological poetics, then, imagines, composes, and speaks through a spirit of responsibility for the places, relations, and beings it draws near.

Unsettling Ecological Poetics, a collaboration between the Sydney Environment Institute and the Visiting Indigenous Writers Program, situates these challenges in and from Australia. A pivotal recent symposium, at the University of Sydney, gathered a cosmopolitan and multidisciplinary array of scholars and practitioners to ask how Australian perspectives intersect with, and diverge from, eco-poetics on a planetary scale. A coincident, warmly received salon performed this and other inquiries for a broader public.

Reading Environments: A Humanities Salon

Languages and literatures are neither passive nor neutral. More than merely transcribing the world, they collaborate with it in the makings of meaning—of place, experience, memory, identity, and on. In the courses of crises, as meanings shift, shudder, and shatter, it matters even more than usual how we name, imagine, describe, and story-tell.

Unsettling Ecopoetics Salon

Wrestle with what role poetry – and writing more broadly – can play in a time of increased uncertainty about our role on this planet and in the unique geographical and socio-political circumstances of the land masses commonly called Australia.

"Poetry is the way we help give name to the nameless so it can be thought."

- Audre Lorde, "Poetry is Not a Luxury" (1977)



“How might we move from seeing, hearing and responding to the nonhuman as non-agental, to viewing the nonhuman as a *companion* to human political representation?”

— Christine Winter

Multispecies Justice

In June 2019, the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at the University of Sydney hosted a series of four symposia featuring University of Sydney and international academics and experts to work in a focused and exploratory way on the question of what justice means in a multispecies context. The four linked symposia each comprised a set of formal presentations and an extended roundtable for informal reflection, discussion and project planning.

Participants were invited to present new and exploratory research to be collected into an edited volume or special journal issue in the hope that the conversations commenced during the symposia will enable future collaborations. The series was proudly supported by the Sydney Social Sciences and Humanities Advanced Research Centre (SSSHARC) and the Sydney Environment Institute.

1 — Moral, legal and political status of humans, animals and the environment

Ravi Agarwal, artist, environmental campaigner, writer and curator, India; Sria Chatterjee, PhD Candidate, Princeton University; Associate Professor Mel Y Chen, University of California, Berkeley; Dr Alasdair Cochrane, University of Sheffield; Assistant Professor Stefanie Fishel, University of Alabama; Dr Daniel Ruiz-Serna, McGill University

2 — Climate change, non-humans and relational impacts

Professor Makere Stewart-Harawira, University of Alberta; Associate Professor Lauren Rickards, RMIT University; Professor Petra Tschakert, University of Western Australia

3 — Economic justice, human and non-human

Dr Maan Barua, University of Cambridge; Dr Krithika Srinivasan, The University of Edinburgh

4 — Extinction and biocultural conservation

Professor Marisol de la Cadena, University of California, Davis; Dr Matthew Chrulew, Senior Research Fellow, Curtin University



Sites of Violence: 'The foul of the air' by The Living Room Theatre Photo: Nathaniel Fay

Sites of Violence

'Sites of Violence' merges artistic and academic understandings of human and non-human experiences of violence, and the processes, emotions, and meaning that this violence makes manifest. The purpose of this transboundary approach is to dismantle learned indifference by introducing multiple perspectives to old problems, whilst facilitating productively disruptive collaborations between researchers and artists. By providing a framework that challenges artists and academics to step beyond their normal sphere of thought to combine various processes of knowledge creation and translation, Sites of Violence is both a clear-eyed examination of the systemic mechanisms of violence that underpin the human desire for control and domination, as well as a recognition of injustice for the landscapes and people who bear the burden of that violence.

Composing Self Workshop

We formed ourselves together, formed our words, our sentences and our thinking together. Embodied and together all the way down, uncovering a new possibility for the meaning and expanse of an inter-disciplinarily that might be the source of the authentically transformative.

Articles

Articles published on the SEI website are a way for both the SEI members and associated affiliates to explore current research they are undertaking, to reflect on recent events or symposia, or critique current issues in their field of expertise.

In 2019, we published 82 articles from 93 authors.

Blaming the Rain: Who Is Responsible for the Murray-Darling River Crisis?

[Liberty Lawson](#)

Published 14 January 2019

Working Under Pressure: Social Justice, Employment and Equality in a Time of Environmental Crisis

[Frances Flanagan and Liberty Lawson](#)

Published 29 January 2019

MSJ Series: Beyond the Human: Imagining the Future of Justice

[Dinesh Wadiwel](#)

Published 30 January 2019

HfE Series: Recrafting Environmental Communication in The Circumpolar North

[Joni Adamson](#)

Published 04 February 2019

Between Sea and Land: In Praise of Interstices

[Liberty Lawson](#)

Published 10 February 2019

Making Space: Feeling the Anthropocene

[Astrida Neimanis](#)

Published 04 March 2019

Spiritual Wealth as Data: Tony Birch on Collective Obligation, Appropriation and Climate Justice

[Charlotte Owens](#)

Published 05 March 2019

The People vs. Oil: The Extraordinary Risks of Deep-Sea Drilling in the Great Australian Bight

[Brett Morgan](#)

Published 13 March 2019

Political Change, Not Climate Change: How Australians Can Overcome Climate Denial

[Adrienne Hunt](#)

Published 14 March 2019

Investing in a Better Future: Can Sustainable Finance Save the

Planet?

[Nicole Jullian Sahr](#)

Published 18 March 2019

World Making Through Dance, Plants and Sci-Fi: Rhiannon Newton and Megan Clune In Conversation

[Megan Alice Clune and Rhiannon Newton](#)

Published 20 March 2019

Photo Essay: Travelling The Cooks River, From Yagoona to Botany Bay

[Clare Britton](#)

Published 20 March 2019

Beyond the Comfort Zone with Jazz Drummer Simon Barker

[Simon Barker and Liberty Lawson](#)

Published 27 March 2019

Writing as Spinning: Weaving the Darkest Acts of Our Nation-State

[Reneé Pettitt-Schipp](#)

Published 28 March 2019

Geographies of Fear and the Arts of Female Resistance

[Lisa Trogisch](#)

Published 02 April 2019

After Nature: Aesthetics of Care in a Time of Loss

[Adrienne Hunt](#)

Published 02 April 2019

MSJ Series: Guessing at Depth

[Killian Quigley](#)

Published 08 April 2019

The Struggle of Climate-Induced Statelessness

[Giacomo Ranalli](#)

Published 10 April 2019

Great White Lies: Sharks and the Dangers of Media Sensationalism

[Christopher Pepin-Neff and Liberty Lawson](#)

Published 12 April 2019



Image by Phoenix Han

(Re)Composing the Self: A Collaborative Reflection
[Danielle Celermajer, Killian Quigley, Christine Winter and Liberty Lawson](#)

Published 15 April 2019

Being Part and Apart: Fragility and Belonging in Wild Places
[Claire Moser](#)

Published 23 April 2019

Plastic Clothing: The Social and Environmental Politics of Polyester

[Elyse Stanes and Liberty Lawson](#)

Published 03 May 2019

Calm Yourself, the World Is Ending

[Xan Chacko](#)

Published 06 May 2019

Everyday Militarisms in the Kitchen: Tasting History

[Lindsay Kelley](#)

Published 08 May 2019

The City of the Future Is Regenerative, Circular and Place-Focused

[Steven Liaros](#)

Published 13 May 2019

Ignoring the Voices That Matter: Food Production and the Media in a Changing Climate

[Alana Mann](#)

Published 15 May 2019

Australia's Energy (In)Security and the Proposed Drilling in the Great Australian Bight

[Madeline Taylor](#)

Published 20 May 2019

Oil and Water: On Collaboration and Complexity

[Nicole Endacott](#)

Published 30 May 2019

The Rocky Hill Mine Has Been Refused — So What Will Happen to the Land?

[Rebecca Lawrence and Hedda Askland](#)

Published 05 June 2019

Finding Connection to Country: Future Cities as Networks of Waterholes

[Steven Liaros](#)

Published 05 June 2019

The Business of Climate Change: The Challenges of Accountability, Consistency and Long-Term Sustainability

[Christine St Anne](#)

Published 11 June 2019

Culture, Food and Environment: Indigenous Experiences of Hunger in West Papua

[Sophie Chao](#)

Published 12 June 2019

An Ideal Theory? On Political Philosophy, Ideology and Multi-Species Justice

[Hal Conyngham](#)

Published 14 June 2019

Everyday Militarisms: Multi-media Artist Katja Aglert on Encounters Beyond the Human

[Katja Aglert and Liberty Lawson](#)

Published 18 June 2019

Risky Business: Adapting Climate Science for Industry and Finance

[Christopher Wright](#)

Published 24 June 2019

Warren Roberts on Talking, Yarning and Deadly Collaborations

[Kate Johnston and Warren Roberts](#)

Published 25 June 2019

MSJ Series: Just Coal Transitions In The More-Than-Human World

Rebecca Pearse

Published 26 June 2019

Is Water Life?

Mark Bosch

Published 01 July 2019

When North Meets South: Cross-Cultural Connection and the Importance of Integrating Indigenous Knowledge

Rebecca Lawrence

Published 03 July 2019

Tiwi + Jazz: Singing, Performing, Healing, Dreaming

Genevieve Campbell

Published 08 July 2019

Blind and Dumb: Temporal Reverberations in Australian Geopoethic

Nandi Chinna

Published 10 July 2019

Lessons From the Reef: Spiritual and Aesthetic Legacies as Care

Iain McCalman and Mark McKenna

Published 11 July 2019

Breaking Damper and Building Connection: Food as a Community Connector

Omar Elkharouf

Published 15 July 2019

From Business Risk to National Risk: Decarbonising Finance and Mainstreaming Climate Change

Tanya Fiedler

Published 17 July 2019

What Is This Thing Called Ecocriticism?

Claire Moser

Published 25 July 2019

Social Vulnerability: A Framework for Transforming Society and Our Shorelines

Max Maddison

Published 29 July 2019

Sinking Emissions: The Role of Tropical Mangrove Forests in Reducing CO₂

Lauren MacRae

Published 31 July 2019

Nature In Culture II: The Power of Meeting

Jessica Lili Pasisi

Published 05 August 2019

Living Lab Series: Integrating Passion and Practicality

Liv Arkell and Liberty Lawson

Published 08 August 2019

Leadership in a Vacuum: CBA's So-Called Bold Move on Climate Change

Tanya Fiedler

Published 12 August 2019

Weaponised Weathers: Heat, Don Dale and 'Everything-ist' Prison Abolition

Stella Maynard

Published 12 August 2019

Prime Minister Scott Morrison and the Pacific Island Forum

Rosemary Lyster

Published 19 August 2019

Sustainable Materialism: Power in the Practices of Everyday Life

David Schlosberg and Luke Craven

Published 20 August 2019

Digital Geographies: Exploring the Shadows of Our Technological Landscapes

Jess McLean and Liberty Lawson

Published 26 August 2019

Stealing Worlds Into Being: On Crows

Thom van Dooren

Published 28 August 2019

Questioning the Sustainability of 'Clean Meat'

Austin Jacob

Published 29 August 2019

Useless Beauty: Re-Politicising Australian Wildflowers

Ann Elias

Published 03 September 2019

Living Lab Series: Sustainability Across Campus, From Wave Flumes to Waste Fighter

Lisa Heinze

Published 05 September 2019

HfE Series: Extraction and the Environment at the African Observatory

Kirsty Nepomuceno and Tafadzwa Mushonga

Published 10 September 2019

Snail Stories for a Time of Extinctions

Thom van Dooren

Published 09 September 2019

How to Talk About Climate Change (Without Losing Friends)

Belle, Year 7 student

Published 12 September 2019

No Wonder the Children Are Mad

Joy Murray and Vivienne Reiner

Published 16 September 2019

See You in the Streets: The Climate Strike and Extinction Rebellion

Rosemary Lyster, Nicole Graham, Piero Moraro and Astrida Neimanis

Published 18 September 2019

The Evolution of the Living Lab

Ruth Barcan

Published 19 September 2019

Rhino Roulette: Impact Investors Set to Gamble on New 'Rhino Bond'

Benjamin Thompson

Published 25 September 2019

MSJ Series: The Atmospheric Politics of Lively Capital

Maan Barua

Published 01 October 2019

Looking Beyond our Plates: Food in a Changing Climate

Alana Mann

Published 04 October 2019

Living Lab Series: Ben Pinney on Championing Sustainability in the USU

Ben Pinney and Liberty Lawson

Published 09 October 2019

Enacting Corporate Social Responsibility with Rachel Mason Nunn

Liv Arkell and Rachel Mason Nunn

Published 13 October 2019

Ghostly Landscapes: Reflecting on Sunlit Noir and the Australian Gothic

Mark Bosch

Published 16 October 2019

HfE Series: Listening for Coastal Futures

Willis Jenkins

Published 17 October 2019

Living Lab: Thinking Outside the HexBox

Eduardo De Oliveira Barata and Liberty Lawson

Published 20 October 2019

The Non-Human Gaze: Mutual Vision and the Fatigue of Injustice

Hal Conyngham

Published 24 October 2019

Closure for Whom? When 10,000 Years Isn't Enough

Gemma Viney

Published 31 October 2019

Oceanic Sydney

Steve Mentz

06 November 2019

The Perils of Protecting Coastal Property

Max Maddison

Published 11 November 2019

Policies for Just Transition: Reducing Public Fears, Reducing Emissions

Felicity Macourt, Catherine Ku, Max Vishney, Sam Alexander-Prideaux

Published 12 November 2019

Everyday Militarisms in O'ahu: Feel-ed Work and Toxic Sovereignities

Stella Maynard, Tess Lea, Astrida Neimanis

Published 27 November 2019

On The Australian Gothic

Heather Shannon

Published 01 December 2019

MSJ Series: Georegional Justice from Legal Personhood to Democratic Agency

Christine Winter

Published 04 December 2019

Knowledge Equity, Not Extraction: Reflections on Contemporary Injustice

Anna Sturman, Blanche Verlie, Gemma Viney, Omar Elkharouf and Catherine Donnelley

Published 09 December 2019

Dinesh Wadiwel on Labour, Dominance and Animal Agriculture

Dinesh Wadiwel and Liberty Lawson

Published 17 December 2018



Image by Katherine Lu.

Members

Architecture, Design and Planning

Arianna Brambilla
 Eduardo De Oliveira Barata
 Robyn Dowling
 Dagmar Reinhardt
 Lee Stickells

Arts and Social Sciences

Ruth Barcan
 Benedetta Brevini
 Genevieve Campbell
 Danielle Celemajer
 Sophie Chao
 Linda Connor
 Ann Elias
 Alastair Fraser
 Lisa Heinze
 Adrienne Hunt

Julia Kindt
 Rebecca Lawrence
 Tess Lea
 Leah Lui-Chivizhe
 Caitlin Maling
 Alana Mann
 Ian Maxwell
 Iain McCalman
 Zoe Morrison
 Astrida Neimanis
 Susan Park
 Rebecca Pearse
 Jude Philp
 Elspeth Probyn
 Susan Reid
 Cressida Rigney

Rebecca Scott Bray
 Sabine Selchow
 Anna Sturman
 Madeline Taylor
 Thom Van Dooren
 Blanche Verlie
 Dinesh Wadiwel
 Christine Winter
 Terry Woronov

Business School

Jan Kucic-Riker
 Leanne Cutcher
 Tanya Fiedler
 Frances Flanagan
 Kiju Jung
 Christopher Wright

Engineering

Abbas El-Zein
 Ehssan Sakhaee

Health Sciences

Ollie Jay
 Eloise Howse

Law

Rosemary Lyster
 Kate Owens
 Tim Stephens
 Madeline Taylor

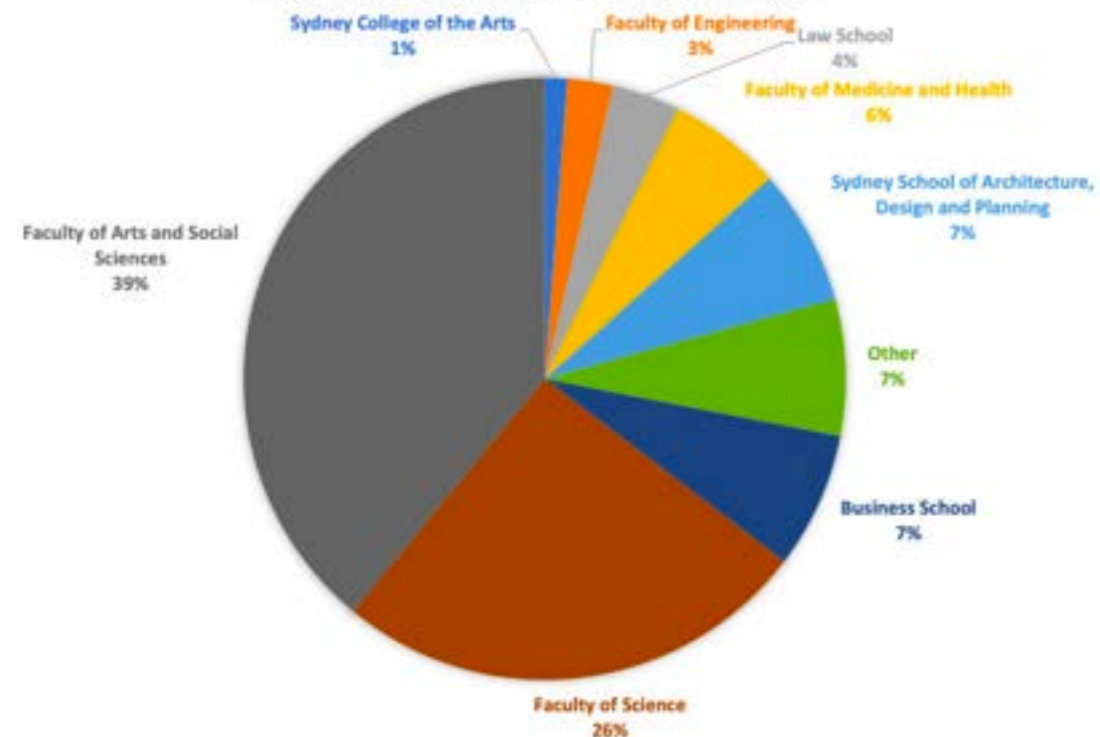
Medicine

Sinead Boylan

Science

Maria Byrne
 Edwin Clatworthy
 Amelia Cornish
 William Figueira
 Jacob Fry
 Monica Gagliano
 Bradley L Garrett
 Dieter Hochuli
 Kurt Iveson
 Brian Jones
 Tanya Latty
 Manfred Lenzen
 Thomas Maschmeyer
 Arunima Malik
 Paul McGreevy
 Joy Murray
 Bill Pritchard
 David Raubenheimer
 Glenn Shea
 Brigitte Sommer
 Willem Vervoort
 Ana Vila Concejo

FACULTY DISTRIBUTION OF SEI MEMBERS



Events

The SEI's events enable us to connect to with our community through dispersing academic thinking into the public space. Our events are curated to call for deeper thinking and invite conversations on the untenable systems underpinning our world.

FEBRUARY

The Inaugural Iain McCalman Lecture

— To celebrate the career of retiring co-director Professor Iain McCalman in 2019, the Sydney Environment Institute launched an annual lecture aimed at highlighting early-career researchers who, like Iain, are working across disciplinary boundaries to impact both scholarship and public discourse. The inaugural lecture was given by Dr Frances Flanagan.

Climate Change and the New Work Order

06 February 2019 | 250 attendees

The Law is in the Land

Symposium

15 February 2019 | 22 attendees

Culture, Trust, and Systems: Local and Democratic Politics for the Anthropocene

Sydney Ideas

21 February 2019 | 42 attendees

MARCH

Making Space I: Bodies, Space and the Anthropocene

SEI Series

06 March 2019 | 70 attendees

Composing Self through Free Play

Workshop

22 March 2019 | 8 attendees

APRIL

Making Space II: Caught on the Brim

SEI Series

03 April 2019 | 20 attendees

Resource Developments and Social Impact Assessment

Workshop

08 April 2019 | 20 attendees

The Great Australian Bight Workshop

Workshop

23 April 2019 | 20 attendees

MAKING SPACE SERIES

— Making Space is a Sydney Environment Institute off-campus series partnered with 107 Projects, Redfern - that asks what happens when performers, artists and academics approach the act of 'making space' to begin a conversation about methodology.

MAY

Making Space III: Launching the Ocean

SEI Series

01 May 2019 | 35 attendees

Disaster in the Murray Darling Basin: Explanations and Consequences

SEI Amplify

09 May 2019 | 200 attendees

Deindustrialisation: Memories, Ecologies, Futures

Roundtable

13 May 2019 | 12 attendees

Writing the Pacific in Critical and Creative Practice

Workshop

14 May 2019 | 11 attendees

Thinking Like (and for) a Planet

SEI Amplify

16 May 2019 | 48 attendees

Thinking Like (and for) a Planet

Workshop

16 May 2019 | 8 attendees

Composing Self: An explorative methodology through violence, landscapes and underpants

Workshop

16 May 2019 | 8 attendees

Editing, Publishing, and Promoting Pacific Islander Literature

Seminar

17 May 2019

Why Investors are Worrying About Climate Change

SEI Series

22 May 2019 | 170 attendees

MAINSTREAMING CLIMATE SERIES

— The Business Making of Climate Change series, held in May and June, brought together investors, lawyers, insurers, corporates, consultants and scientists for three panel discussions to collectively consider why climate change is increasingly relevant to the corporate sector.

JUNE

How are Businesses Responding to Investor Pressure On Climate Change

SEI Series

05 June 2019 | 70 attendees

Adapting Climate Science for Business

SEI Series

19 June 2019 | 75 attendees

JULY

Culture in Conversation: Creating Inclusive Food Communities

SEI Amplify

08 July 2019 | 140 attendees

Film Screening: We Don't Need A Map

SEI Amplify

09 July 2019 | 140 attendees

The Re(e)mergence of Nature in Culture II

Workshop

11 – 12 July 2019 | 30 attendees

SEPTEMBER

Mining Legacies

SEI Amplify

26 September 2019 | 50 attendees

OCTOBER

Ghostly Aesthetics: Localising Sunlit Noir

Workshop

14 October 2019 | 15 attendees

Mining Legacies

SEI Amplify

26 September 2019 | 50 attendees

Failure of CSR in a Warming World

SEI Series

16 October 2019 | 85 attendees

Unsettling Ecological Poetics Symposium

Symposium

24 -25 October 2019 | 45 attendees

BLUE HUMANITIES

— Ocean swimming can serve as embodied ecological meditation for the Anthropocene. In touching the great waters, we feel something. SEI welcomed visiting scholar Professor Steve Mentz for his keynote lecture.

Swimming into the Blue Humanities

SEI Amplify

29 October 2019 | 45 attendees

Oceanic Thinking Workshop

Workshop

30 October 2019 | 25 attendees

NOVEMBER

Dimensions of Contemporary Injustice Masterclass

Masterclass

20 November 2019 | 12 attendees

Environmental Disasters Symposium

Symposium

21 – 22 November 2019 | 34 attendees

Violence in Plain Sight

SEI Amplify

27 November 2019 | 60 attendees

CULTURAL EVENTS

Heart of Sky, Heart of Earth

Film Screening & Conversation

13 February 2019 | 70 attendees

Wild Waters

Film Screening & Conversation

19 March 2019 | 80 attendees

Ghosts of our forest

Film Screening & Conversation

09 April 2019 | 90 attendees

Tiwi + Jazz: Ngarukuruwala – we sing

SEI Sound Evening

15 March 2019 | 120 attendees

MAKING SPACE SOUND ART

Clare Cooper

Simon Barker

'Clocks and Clouds'

BAPTISM

Gail Priest

Unsettling Ecopoetics Salon

SEI Poetry Evening

24 October 2019 | 40 attendees

Select publications

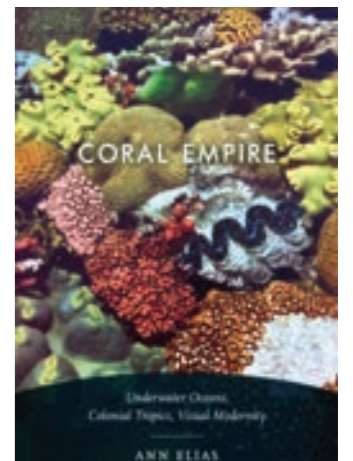
The Aesthetics of the Undersea

Margaret Cohen and Killian Quigley
[Routledge](#)



Coral Empire: Underwater Oceans, Colonial Tropics, Visual Modernity

Ann Elias
[Duke University Press](#)



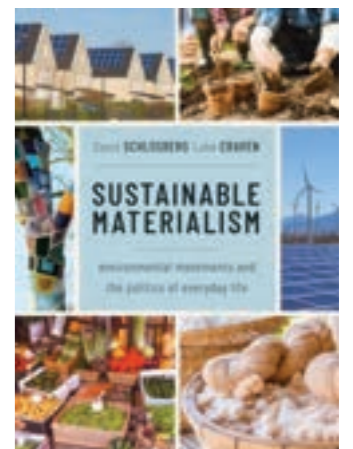
Global Environmental Governance and the Accountability Trap

Susan Park and Teresa Kramarz
[The MIT Press](#)



Sustainable Materialism: Environmental movements and the politics of everyday life

David Schlosberg and Luke Craven
[Oxford University Press](#)



Serving Our Community

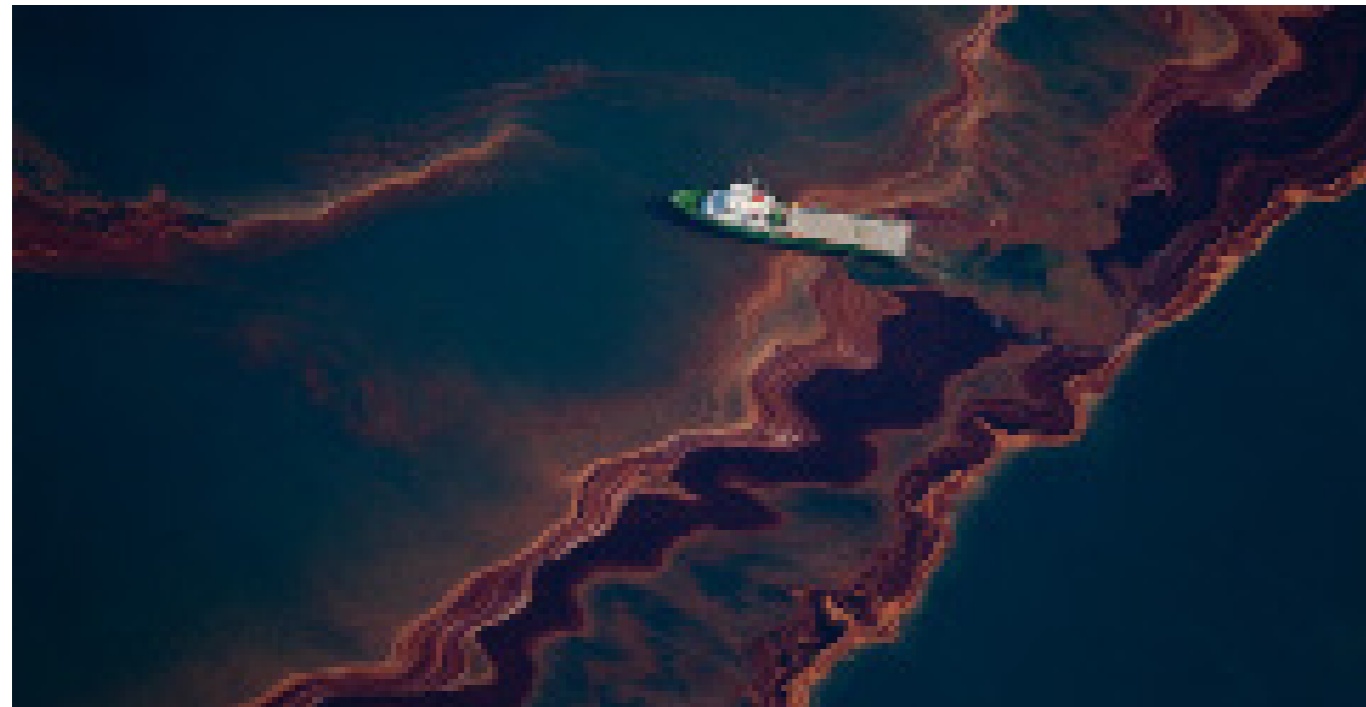
"We're taking charge and demanding action for ourselves, our children, grandchildren and generations not yet born".

— Rosemary Lyster

NOPSEMA Special Report —

In late April, the Sydney Environment Institute convened a group of experts from academia and industry to consider key issues around drilling in the Bight. Based on the event, these experts have made a pro-bono submission to the National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority (NOPSEMA).

The submission was co-authored by University of Sydney energy and natural resources law expert Dr Madeline Taylor, with Emeritus Professor Andrew Hopkins (Australian National University), Greg Bourne (Australian Climate Council Council and former President of BP Australia), and Professor Tina Soliman-Hunter (Aberdeen University Centre for Energy Law). In the submission, the experts say that Equinor's overconfidence in its ability to prevent a major spill could lead to catastrophic environmental impacts.



An aerial shot of oil from the leaking wellhead in the Deepwater Horizon disaster in the Gulf of Mexico, 2010. Copyright Daniel Beltrá/Greenpeace

Environmental and Social Impact Reports



Fighting to be Herd: Impacts of the Proposed Boliden Copper Mine in Laver, Älvsbyn, Sweden for the Semisjaur Njarg Sami Reindeer Herding Community

Published 30 April 2019

Authors

Rebecca Lawrence, Research Affiliate, Sydney Environment Institute and Rasmus Kløcker Larsen, Stockholm Environment Institute; in collaboration with the Semisjaur Njarg Sami community.

This report concerns the impacts of Boliden's proposed open-cut copper mine on the Swedish side of Sápmi in Laver, Älvsbyn, in Northern Sweden, for the Semisjaur Njarg Sami reindeer herding community.



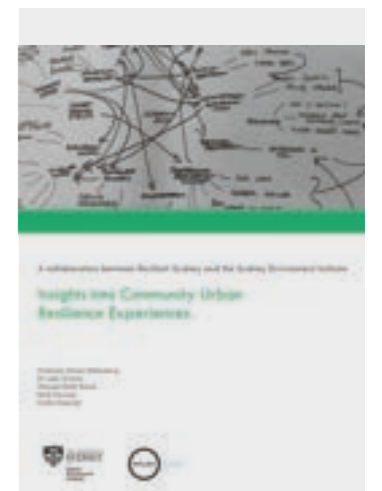
Unfinished Business: Rehabilitating the Ranger Uranium Mine

Published 07 May 2019

Authors

Rebecca Lawrence, Research Affiliate, Sydney Environment Institute and Dave Sweeney, Australian Conservation Foundation.

This report investigates and assesses the closure and rehabilitation plan for the Rio Tinto Ranger uranium mine in the dual World Heritage listed Kakadu National Park on the traditional lands of the Mirarr people.



Insights into Community Urban Resilience Experiences

Published 18 July 2019

Authors

Professor David Schlosberg, Dr Luke Craven, Hannah Della Bosca, Beck Dawson, Kristin Gabriel

A collaboration between Resilient Sydney and the Sydney Environment Institute

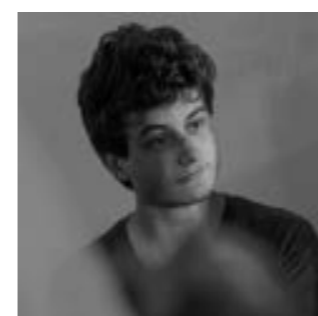
This research explores experiences of residents and emergency and non-emergency service providers in Sydney following the 2013 Blue Mountains bushfires, the 2016 East Coast Low in the Northern Beaches, the 2016/17 heatwave in Penrith, and the 2014 Martin Place Siege

Building Our Community

"Mentoring begins with our very early career researchers – our Honours Fellows, who we include in research projects and events. Students and researchers serve as project managers as well as PAs... We pride ourselves on the value that every single person associated with the Institute brings to our work, and we are dedicated to the intensive personal and career development available to all of our researchers."

— David Schlosberg

Honours Fellows



Mark Bosch

Department of Gender and Cultural Studies

Mark majored in French and Gender Studies. He plays the violin and has since 2017 been a member of the Sydney University Symphony Orchestra. He also writes as Lead Critic for the online youth classical music magazine CutCommon, and participates in environmental justice activism. Mark lives on Darug land in southwest Sydney. He received the University Medal for his honours thesis.



Lauren MacRae

School of Geosciences

Lauren has a Bachelor of Science majoring in Environmental Studies and Chemistry from the University of Sydney and is currently undertaking Honours with the school of Geosciences. Lauren's research interests combine elements of physical and human geography to examine how climate change and management strategies impact Pacific Island nations, particularly Small Island Developing States.



Hal Conyngham

Department of Philosophy

Hal's thesis examines the political issues surrounding working animals, and explores the possible paths to creating an ethical framework for animal labour. Hal's research interests include the intersections of animal studies and political philosophy, climate change in the context of international relations, and youth voting. She co-facilitates Reading Environments, and is a member of the Multispecies Justice HDR group.

PhD Candidates_



Liberty Lawson

Department of Gender and Cultural Studies

SEI PhD Research Fellowship

Liberty is a PhD Research Fellow in the Department of Gender and Cultural Studies. Her research looks at the ontology of art-nature symbioses, post-humanist conservation policy and the future of coral reefs. Liberty is passionate about science communication and has worked with NGO's across the Into-Pacific in coral reef restoration, marine conservation policy and sustainability education. She completed her Bachelor of Science with First Class Honours in History and Philosophy of Science. Liberty is a Global Oceans Ambassador for the NGO Positive Change for Marine Life, and an ACU Blue Charter Fellow.

Eco-Epistemologies of One Tree Island



Anna Sturman

Department of Political Economy

SEI PhD Research Fellowship

Anna is a PhD candidate in the Political Economy Department. Her research centres on New Zealand's climate change policy and uses a range of neo-Marxian theory to explore the state, agricultural capital and the valuation of non-human nature. In early 2019 Anna co-founded the Climate Justice Collective, a grassroots network organising toward a radical Green New Deal for Australia, with her fellow political economist Tash Heenan. Anna holds a First Class Honours degree in Political Science from the University of Canterbury and is a qualified Barrister and Solicitor of the High Court of New Zealand.

Capital, the State and Climate Change in Aotearoa, New Zealand



Gemma Viney

Department of Government and International Relations

Gemma is currently completing a PhD in the Department of Government and International relations. She is also a Research Assistant on the FASS 2018 Strategic Research Program Project developing the field of Multispecies Justice. Gemma's research investigates how issues of environmental justice are being presently articulated by Australian communities, and build from this, a context specific framework. Gemma was an Honours Research Fellow with the Sydney Environment Institute in 2017. She has a Bachelors degree in International and Global Studies from the University of Sydney, and a First-class Honours Degree in the Department of Government and International Relations.

Anti-Mining Community Movements



Jan Kucic-Riker

Business School

Jan is a PhD student at the University of Sydney Business School where his research examines the role of community-owned renewable energy in Australia's low-carbon transition. His work considers the relations that govern the ownership and use of renewable energy as well as the tensions that exist between competing understandings of community energy. He is particularly interested in issues of political economy and how environmental crises interface with sufficiency-based ideas like the movement for degrowth. Jan has written on the challenges to building post-capitalist alternatives and reimagining wellbeing as separate from economic growth in the context of globalization.



Eva Perroni

Department of Media and Communications

FoodLab Sydney

Eva is a doctoral student at FoodLab Sydney, an interdisciplinary project supported by University of Sydney's Sydney Environment Institute (SEI) and UNSW Canberra, in partnership with the City of Sydney, and TAFE NSW addressing local food insecurity through participatory social enterprise. Her research will assess opportunities and processes in building a participatory culture to effectively address food insecurity and social exclusion within local communities in Sydney.



Omar Elkarouf

Department of Government and International Relations

FoodLab Sydney

Omar is a PhD student with the Department of Government and International Relations and an SEI Research Assistant for Foodlab Sydney. Omar holds a Bachelor degree in Arts/Sciences with Honours in Human Geography from the University of Sydney. Omar gained field-based experience through several merit-based scholarship programs across the Asia-Pacific region, including Indonesia, China and Singapore. Omar was awarded First Class Honours for his research that investigated the ways that civil society actors based in Myanmar conceive, describe and address the food problems in their rural agrarian communities.

Postdoctoral Fellows_



Kate Johnston

FoodLab Sydney

Kate Johnston works on the ARC-funded project FoodLab Sydney with partners including City of Sydney and FoodLab Detroit. She has previously worked as project leader on a partnership project between the University of Sydney and Taronga Conservation Society Australia. The project developed and trialled a holistic tool for measuring socio-cultural, economic, and ecological dimensions of conservation.



Genevieve Campbell

Genevieve Campbell's close involvement in the discovery and repatriation to the Tiwi Islands of archived song recordings led her to complete a PhD, working with elders to document and preserve Tiwi song language and melody. Her current focus is on documenting endangered song sets and the creation of new work centred around archival recordings of passed Tiwi composers and the words, knowledge, and voices of current Tiwi elders and young people.



Killian Quigley

Killian Quigley's research spans literary history, aesthetic theory, the history of science, colonial and postcolonial studies, historical geography, and the environmental humanities. Killian received his PhD from Vanderbilt University's Department of English. At Vanderbilt and at the Université Sorbonne Nouvelle, in Paris, he taught across a range of subjects including maritime and marine literatures, ecocriticism, the poetry of the British Isle and Southern American fiction.



Brigitte Sommer

Sydney Fellow

Brigitte Sommer's research combines field ecology and statistical modelling to understand the processes that control the distribution and abundance of marine organisms and how they will respond to climate change. She is particularly interested in ecosystems at the transition of biogeographical zones, where tropical and temperate species overlap at the limits of their environmental tolerance and geographical ranges.



Blanche Verlie

SEI Post-doctorate Fellow

Blanche Verlie has a multidisciplinary background and works at the intersections between climate change, gender, culture, education, science studies, justice, emotions, affect and the more-than-human world. Blanche is currently working on a book title "Learning to Live-With Climate Change" which will be published by Routledge in 2021.

Visiting Fellows



Lisa Disch

Lisa Disch is Professor of Political Science and Women's Studies at the University of Michigan where she teaches a large introductory course on political ideas and ideologies, as well as upper-division courses on population and the environment, contemporary political theory, political representation, and Anglo-American and French Feminism among other things.



Lisa Trogisch

Lisa Trogisch holds a BA in Political Science and International Relations from the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität Munich (Germany) and in Environmental Sustainability and Development from UNSW, and an MSc in Political Economy of Violence, Conflict and Development at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) in London (UK).



Kari Marie Norgaard

Kari Norgaard is an Associate Professor of Sociology and Environmental Studies at University of Oregon, whose work on the social organisation of climate change denial is critically acclaimed and widely recognised for its understanding of societal factors which contribute to denial.



Steve Mentz

Steve Mentz is a Professor of English at St John's University, New York. He has directly engaged with port and harbour studies in New York and Bristol, and has authored numerous publications including Shipwreck Modernity: Ecologies of Globalization 1550-1719, (2015) and At the Bottom of Shakespeare's Ocean (2009).

Our Collaborators and Partners

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 Sydney Symphony Orchestra
 The Power Institute
 USU

Cultural Organisations

107 Projects
 Art Gallery NSW
 Australian Earth Law Alliance
 Australian Museum
 Australian National Maritime Museum
 Climate-KIC Australia
 Kea Conservation Trust
 Lock the Gate Alliance
 Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council
 National Museum of Australia
 North Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency
 Powerhouse Museum
 Terra Foundation for American Art
 The Living Room Theatre
 TWT Creative Precinct- Brand X

Government/Industry Partners

ACT Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment
 AGL
 ARC Centre of Excellence for Climate Extremes/LandSurface Processes
 Australia Institute
 Banking and Finance Publication
 Citibank
 City of Sydney
 Climate Policy Research and Chair of

the Stakeholder Advisory Group of the Earth Systems and Climate Change Hub
 Colonial First Estate Global Asset Management

Department of Premier and Cabinet

Edge Environment

Environmental Defenders Office NSW

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Food First

Future Earth Alliance

Future Earth Australia

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Insurance Australia Group

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NSW State Emergency Services

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Resilient Sydney

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Green World Revolution

Greenpeace Australia Pacific

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Universities

Arizona State University

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Food Lab Sydney



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