



MELBOURNE SUSTAINABLE
SOCIETY INSTITUTE

2014 | ANNUAL
REPORT





Photograph by Peter Casamento

Credits

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Photograph by Peter Bennetts

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Photograph by John Gollings

Background

The Melbourne Sustainable Society Institute (MSSI) is an interdisciplinary research unit at the University of Melbourne, part of the strategic suite of Melbourne Research Institutes [www.ri.unimelb.edu.au] led by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research), Professor Jim McCluskey. The Institute is located administratively within the Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning.

The Institute functions as a *portal* to sustainability-related research at the University and serves as a *platform* on which to base research personnel and projects. It is committed to setting the agenda and leading discussion on research questions that are fundamental or pivotal to sustainability. This work is drawn together into a program that seeks to make our economy and practices sustainable while not only maintaining our standard of living but enhancing our quality of life and regenerating natural systems.

MSSI bases its approach on the findings of current biophysical, health or technical sciences and draws on the contribution of the social sciences and humanities to help understand sustainability trends, challenges and solutions. People and values are of central importance in creating integrated sustainable solutions. MSSI therefore engages with community, industry, policy makers and research providers to collaborate on solving particular problems while contributing to societal transformation. MSSI is committed to responding to issues relevant to its city, the state of Victoria, Australia, and the world.

MSSI organises information on sustainability research into three main research clusters:

- *Climate Transformations*
- *Future Cities*
- *Sustainability In The Anthropocene*

Melbourne Sustainable Society Institute

Dean of Host Faculty/School
Prof Tom Kvan
Faculty of Architecture,
Building and Planning

MSSI Advisory Board, 2014
15 experts and leaders in sustainability
Chair: Prof Kate Auty

Associates of MSSI, 2014
17 sustainability researchers and leaders

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)
Prof James McCluskey

**Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research
Collaboration & Infrastructure)**
Prof Liz Sonenberg

MSSI Core Staff

MSSI Director
Prof Brendan Gleeson

MSSI Deputy Director
Prof John Wiseman

Executive Officer
Craig Prebble

Executive Assistant
Rebecca Johnson

Administrative Officer
Claire Denby

MSSI research project staff
10 fixed-term fellows and honorary fellows

MSSI Executive Committee, 2014
16 University of Melbourne
sustainability researchers
Chair: Prof Brendan Gleeson



Photograph by Thami Groeser

Director Brendan Gleeson at the Future Melbourne Forum series.

Message from the Director

This year the Institute settled into its new host faculty, Architecture, Building and Planning. While MSSI works to a University-wide brief, we are happy to be hosted by this faculty and very grateful indeed to have relocated to its new, six Green Star-rated building, the Melbourne School of Design.

MSSI established its Advisory Board in 2014, chaired by that tireless sustainability leader, Prof Kate Auty. This board is comprised of energetic and accomplished leaders from a wide variety of sectors. They generously give their time to help guide the Institute on its journey, reviewing our Strategic Plan 2014-2016 and sharing their ideas.

MSSI made some strategic appointments in 2014. We welcomed to our ranks the respected former CEO of the Australian Conservation Foundation, Don Henry, to the chair of 'Public Policy Fellow, Environmentalism'. We also said hello to Cathy Alexander, environmental journalist and former deputy-editor of Crikey.com. Renowned environmentalist Professor Tim Flannery joined us as an honorary Professorial Fellow. Professor John Wiseman has been a key pillar of MSSI for some years and in 2014 he became Deputy Director. We said farewell, however, to Dr Lauren Rickards, who started with MSSI in 2011. We acknowledge the excellence of her scholarship and her great contribution to the Institute. MSSI has always tried to provide a home for early career researchers and this will continue.

2014 was the proving ground for the sharpened focus of the MSSI research clusters: 'Climate Transformations',

'Future Cities', and 'Sustainability In The Anthropocene'. While the climate change mitigation and adaptation group and the urban studies group leverage off a considerable record of collaboration, MSSI's burgeoning interest in the Anthropocene, the epoch of humanity as a veritable global agent, is our exploration into some cutting-edge interdisciplinary thinking. The wicked problems of sustainability can be better articulated and tackled with the aid of the critical discourse produced by such work.

The year saw increased collaboration between MSSI and the Carlton Connect Initiative, yielding a 32-page booklet, *Sustainability at Melbourne*, profiling some innovative sustainability research from across the University. With the establishment of the EU Centre on Shared Complex Challenges, MSSI gained another ally and partner. Collaborations within the University and high-level linkages with the wider world are the goals of ceaseless effort by the Institute.

A pleasing range of projects was concluded this year, with reports written or books published. And new directions have come to occupy the Institute, as it serves to facilitate research and add value to the sustainability profile of the University. I hope you enjoy reading about our accomplishments.

Professor Brendan Gleeson



Core Team, Project Personnel and Executive Committee

Core Team

- Prof Brendan Gleeson, Director
- Prof John Wiseman, Deputy Director
- Craig Prebble, Executive Officer
- Claire Denby, Administrative Officer
- Rebecca Johnson, Executive Assistant

Project Staff

- Cathy Alexander, Research Fellow – Translation and Development
- Dr Samuel Alexander, Research Fellow
- Dr Seona Candy, Research Assistant
- Prof Jim Falk, Honorary Professorial Fellow
- Prof Tim Flannery, Honorary Professorial Fellow
- Hayley Henderson, PhD student
- Prof Don Henry, Public Policy Fellow – Environmentalism
- Andrew Longmire, Research Assistant
- Carl Obst, Honorary Fellow
- Dr Lauren Rickards, Research Fellow
- Dr Chris Taylor, Research Assistant
- Amanda Townsend, Research Assistant
- Dr Graham Turner, Principal Research Fellow

Executive Committee

The MSSI Executive Committee provides advice to the Director and acts as conduit for communication across the University. The Committee in 2014 consisted of 16 academic staff members hailing from six of the University's 11 faculties.

Professor Brendan Gleeson
Director, Melbourne Sustainable Society Institute

Associate Professor Richard Eckard
Director, Primary Industries Climate Challenges Centre

Professor Robyn Eckersley
School of Social and Political Sciences; Faculty of Arts

Dr Thomas Ford
School of Culture and Communication; Faculty of Arts

Associate Professor Justyna Karakiewicz
Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning

Professor David Karoly
School of Earth Sciences; Faculty of Science

Professor Yoshihisa Kashima
Melbourne School of Psychological Sciences;

Professor Billie Giles-Corti
Director, McCaughey VicHealth Centre for Community Wellbeing

Associate Professor Malte Meinshausen
Director, Australia-German College for Climate and Energy Transitions

Dr Lauren Rickards
Melbourne Sustainable Society Institute

Professor Chris Ryan
Director, Victorian Eco-Innovation Lab

Professor Bob Stimson
Director, Australian Urban Research Infrastructure Network

Professor Helen Sullivan
Director, Melbourne School of Government

Associate Professor Kathryn Williams
Director, Office for Environmental Programs

Professor Stephan Winter
Department of Infrastructure Engineering;

Professor John Wiseman
Deputy Director, MSSI



Kate Auty

In 2014 Prof Kate Auty joined the University as the Vice-Chancellor's Fellow and also became the Chair of the MSSl Advisory Board.

Advisory Board

In 2014, MSSl established its external Advisory Board. The Chair is Prof Kate Auty, Vice-Chancellor's Fellow at the University of Melbourne and former Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability, Victoria. The Board consisted of 15 experts and leaders in sustainability knowledge transfer, with six representatives from industry and business, four distinguished figures from academia, three senior leaders of the non-government/community sector, a member of local government and a senior State public servant. The Advisory Board provides assistance with strategic planning for the Institute and advice on areas in which MSSl can create linkages with external stakeholders to assist the growth of the research program or attract funding. The Board also reviews key MSSl strategic documents.

Dr Kate Auty

Chair of MSSl Advisory Board;
Vice-Chancellor's Fellow, University of Melbourne

Anne Barker

Managing Director, City West Water

Rueben Berg

Director, Indigenous Architecture and Design Victoria

Rosemary Bissett

Head of Sustainability Governance and Risk,
National Australia Bank

Dr David de Kretser AC

Sir John Monash Distinguished Professor,
Monash University

Dr Peter Doherty AC

Laureate Professor, University of Melbourne

Dr Ruth Fincher AM

Professor, Geography, University of Melbourne

Rob Gell AM

Director and Principal, World Wind for Change

Jeremy Hobbs

Director, Development Essentials

Kelly O'Shanassy

CEO, Australian Conservation Foundation

Ian Porter

Senior Consultant, Nous Group

Annie Volkering

Director of Applied Science,
Environment Protection Authority (EPA)

Mark Wakeham

CEO, Environment Victoria

Bob Welsh

Executive Director, Sustainability Advisors

Arron Wood

Councillor, City of Melbourne

Above left: Staff photo 2014 (left to right) Tim Flannery, Wouter Bervoets, Cathy Alexander, Lauren Rickards, Don Henry, Brendan Gleeson, Carl Obst, Craig Prebble, Sam Alexander, Claire Denby, Rebecca Johnson, John Wiseman.



Photograph by Anton Malishev

Research Clusters

Climate Transformations

The Climate Transformations research cluster aims to facilitate research and policy linkages and projects leading to increased understanding of climate change trends and responses with a particular focus on:

- climate change trends, impacts and implications;
- climate change adaptation and resilience;
- strategies for accelerating the transition to a just and resilient zero-carbon future.

Key climate change research initiatives at the University of Melbourne include: the ARC Centre of Excellence for Climate System Science (CoE CSS); the C02 CRC; the Melbourne Energy Institute; the Australian-German College of Climate and Energy Transitions; the EU Centre on Shared Complex Challenges; the Victorian Eco-Innovation Lab (VEIL); the CRC for Low Carbon Living; the Victorian Centre for Climate Change Adaptation Research; and the Primary Industries Climate Challenges Centre (PICCC).

Co-Convenors for 2014:

- A/Prof Richard Eckard, PICCC, Agriculture and Food Systems
- Prof David Karoly, School of Earth Sciences; CoE CSS
- Prof John Wiseman, MSSl

Future Cities

The Future Cities cluster is an interdisciplinary research group that seeks to investigate and generate best-practice, policy-relevant evidence to understand and effectively respond to the challenges facing urban environments. It explores the core topics of:

- theoretical and conceptual debates about urban futures, especially at the metropolitan scale;
- urban sustainability, resilience and connectedness;
- planning, design and governance for sustainability, equity, and inclusion.

Research programs connected to this cluster include: the Australian Urban Research Infrastructure Network; the Melbourne Research Cluster on Urban Connectedness; the CRC for Low Carbon Living; VEIL; the NHMRC Centre of Research Excellence in Healthy, Liveable Communities; and the Australian Prevention Partnership Centre. Certain projects receiving Carlton Connect Initiative funding are also championed by this cluster.

Co-Convenors for 2014:

- Prof Billie Giles-Corti, McCaughey VicHealth Centre for Community Wellbeing, Melbourne School of Population and Global Health
- A/Prof Justyna Karakiewicz, Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning
- Prof Chris Ryan, Victorian Eco-Innovation Lab
- Prof Stephan Winter, Melbourne School of Engineering



Prof Robyn Eckersley

Robyn is a member of the MSSI Executive Committee and one of the conveners of the Institute's Sustainability in the Anthropocene Research Cluster. She was Chair of the Discipline of Political Science in 2014.

Sustainability In The Anthropocene

The 'Anthropocene' names a proposed new geological epoch, our own times, as distinguished by the pervasive impact of human activity. The Sustainability In The Anthropocene research cluster (SITA) aims to facilitate research and dialogue on the character of the Anthropocene and its implications for sustainability, with a focus on these topics:

- conceptual, scientific and political debates about the Anthropocene;
- representing the Anthropocene narratives, aesthetics and ethics;
- measuring and modelling the Anthropocene.

The SITA cluster frames questions about civilisation and society in terms of planetary scope and geological timescale, and with respect to ecological assessments of present and future risks. Accordingly, SITA brings together researchers from the Faculty of Arts (Social and Political Sciences; Culture and Communication), the Faculty of Science (Social and Environmental Change; Biodiversity, Ecology and Conservation), and from disciplinary areas across the University.

Co-Convenors for 2014:

- Prof Robyn Eckersley, School of Social and Political Sciences, Faculty of Arts
- Dr Tom Ford, School of Culture and Communication, Faculty of Arts
- Dr Lauren Rickards, MSSI



Guest speaker Suzie Brown, at the event Emotional Resilience in a Warming World.



Prof David Karoly

David Karoly is a Professor of Atmospheric Science in the School of Earth Sciences and the ARC Centre of Excellence for Climate System Science at the University of Melbourne. He is a member of the MSSl Executive Committee and a co-convenor of the MSSl Climate Transformations Research Cluster.

Key Research Projects

MSSl serves as a platform for the development and managing of research projects. The scholarship and engagement work of these hosted projects builds capacity in key areas of sustainability research at the University. In this way, MSSl strives to innovate and to focus disciplinary lenses on defined, whole-of-society challenges.

‘Post Carbon Pathways’ Research Program

This long-standing program, hosted and supported by MSSl, continues to study how rapid, large-scale transitions to a post-carbon future can be achieved in a feasible and equitable way. It explores and evaluates decarbonisation strategies and their social, economic and political implications from various disciplinary and interdisciplinary perspectives. Research leader Professor John Wiseman coordinates this scholarly and collaborative work. In 2014, research assistant Dr Samuel Alexander produced two *Post Carbon Pathways Working Papers*. ‘A Critique of Techno-Optimism’ considers whether techno-efficiency improvements can decouple economic growth from environmental impact, or whether they must instead occur within an economic paradigm of ‘sufficiency’, rather than growth. In ‘Post-Growth Economics’, Samuel Alexander conducts a literature review and critical analysis of such a post-growth economics. He also wrote an *MSSl Issues Paper* on the economics of oil and how peak oil will itself undermine the dominant paradigm of growth. Professor Wiseman has been leading a study of the development and significance of the fossil fuel divestment movement, co-writing an *MSSl Issues Paper* on the topic with student Kara Nicholson and Samuel Alexander. Post Carbon Pathways participated in a project funded by the Carlton Connect Initiative, ‘Carbon Governance 2050’. Chief investigator Dr Adam Bumpus worked with the MSSl team on how to ‘scale-up’ low emissions innovations in order to link the economies of the Asia-Pacific region. Outputs include a book published by Routledge and planning for a two-day workshop to be held in 2015.

‘Visions & Pathways 2040 Project: Scenarios, visions and pathways for a low-carbon, resilient, built environment’

Part of the Cooperative Research Centre for Low Carbon Living, this project is the collaboration of MSSl’s John Wiseman and Samuel Alexander with research staff from the Victorian Eco-Innovation Lab (VEIL). Two *Visions & Pathways Working Papers* were produced in 2014. John Wiseman’s ‘Pathways to a Zero-Carbon Economy’ provides an overview of key features of the most promising and innovative large scale low-carbon economy transition plans and strategies. The study identifies a range of strategies authored by various governments which are designed to achieve 2050 emissions reduction targets of 80-100%. It also identifies a range of strategies developed by non-government research organisations that demonstrate the feasibility of achieving emissions reductions of almost 100% in the period 2020-2050. Samuel Alexander’s paper, ‘Disruptive Social Innovation for a Low-Carbon World’, considers a range of contenders for effective disruption. Its findings include: the divestment campaign can harness reinvestment capital for scaling up renewable energy systems; transition strategies relocating the economy can renew our cultures; collaborative consumption and the ‘sharing economy’ can reduce fossil fuel dependence; as can community-based renewable energy projects; urban agriculture and open source innovations can reduce the carbon-intensity of food; and indicators other than GDP offer a means to redefine production and progress.



Graham Turner

Graham is a Principal Research Fellow at the Institute and his research involves the development and use of a highly detailed simulation and historical database system of Australia's physical economy – the Australian Stocks and Flows Framework (ASFF).

'Australian Stocks and Flows Framework' Project

Former CSIRO researcher Dr Graham Turner joined MSSI in 2013 to develop and apply the unique ASFF software which can simulate the physical processes for all sectors of Australia's economy and create scenarios of whole-system sustainability. Graham works alongside Dr Seona Candy, a research fellow associated with the Victorian Eco-Innovation Lab. In 2014, this work received additional funding from the Australian Urban Research Infrastructure Network (AURIN). This 'Data Integration' project involves a two-way data exchange between AURIN and the MSSI project. Current ASFF datasets have been integrated into AURIN's portal, which provides valuable input to the framework, introducing new data and increased detail to the model. The overall project has enjoyed automation of some of the calibration work required to incorporate new datasets. Graham has used the framework to test the alarming predictions of the Club of Rome's 'Limits to Growth' Report (1972), in which a computer simulation projected exponential economic and population growth along with finite resources. Based on ASFF scenarios, Graham found that these predictions are not far-fetched at all. In his MSSI Research Paper of 2014, 'Is Global Collapse Imminent?', he argues the case for the affirmative.

'Land Use – Forestry & Agriculture' Project

In 2014 the efforts of MSSI-based researchers and NGO partner, Beyond Zero Emissions culminated in the release of this bold and groundbreaking discussion paper. Land use change, forestry and agriculture account for 22% of Australia's greenhouse emissions. Co-authors Dr Chris Taylor, Andrew Longmire, and Gerard Wedderburn-Bisshop demonstrate how Australia's land use sector can take a lead role in addressing climate change.

The report identifies practices which can become net sinks and stores of atmospheric carbon. It provides a comprehensive assessment of how Australia can manage its productive capacity, preserve its ecological heritage and regenerate ecosystems for the future. Key findings include:

- Net zero emissions can be achieved through limited revegetation and changes to some agricultural activities.
- Revegetation can provide an alternative revenue stream for farmers.
- Eucalypt forests can sequester 7,500 million tonnes of carbon dioxide if left to recover from clearfell logging.

The Zero Carbon Australia 2020 program consists of six inter-related reports, each addressing a sector of the economy and source of emissions. It develops a road map for the transition to a decarbonised Australia on a ten-year time scale.

'Environmental-Economic Accounting' Project

Former Director of the Australian Bureau of Statistics (Victorian office), Carl Obst is an MSSI honorary fellow based at the Institute. He holds the position of Editor of the United Nations System of Environmental – Economic Accounting (SEEA), United Nations Statistical Division. In 2014 Carl continued to design information systems and standards for expanding accounting methods and measures across areas of our society and economy. This work took him to Samoa and to Bali for an Ecosystem Services Partnership conference. This year Carl also co-authored a report, 'Natural Capital at Risk', in conjunction with the National Australia Bank, KPMG, and Flora and Fauna International.



Prof Don Henry

Don came from his position as CEO of the Australian Conservation Foundation to join MSSI in 2014 as a Public Policy Fellow for Environmentalism. Don is researching durable sustainability reform and engaging civil society and decision makers to advance sustainability in Australia and globally.

'Adapting to the Anthropocene in Australia' Project

Dr Lauren Rickards, MSSI Research Fellow and co-convenor of the Sustainability In The Anthropocene cluster, was awarded a Dyason Travelling Fellowship in 2014 to conduct this research. Her project examined the implications of the Anthropocene in the Australian context, focusing on the issues of climate change and bushfire. She presented at the Royal Geographical Society/Institute of British Geographers Conference in London, the 'Unnatural Futures' Conference in Hobart, and the 'Fighting Fire with Fire' Symposium in Sydney. The work has resulted in ongoing research collaborations with key thinkers from around Australia and overseas, including Professor Nigel Clark of Lancaster University. Her project also critiqued the ongoing denial of the causal relationship of climate change and bushfire phenomena. With two research assistants, Lauren conducted an empirical analysis of the Hazelwood Mine Fire Inquiry of 2014 and formed a comparison with the institutional behaviour surrounding the 2011 Fukushima disaster.

'Public Policy and Environmentalism' Project

Don Henry, former CEO of the Australian Conservation Foundation (1998-2014), joined the University in May as 'Public Policy Fellow – Environmentalism'. Professor Henry draws upon his extensive experience working at the highest levels of environmental policy and implementation. Based at MSSI, he has begun a suite of projects which combine the twin strands of research and international engagement. His research projects are assessing the role of collaborations across society and their effectiveness. He is examining how 'peer to peer' science and policy translation for climate leaders can lead to durable reform in the Asia-Pacific region. He is in fact an International Board member of Al Gore's 'Climate Reality Project'. With this connection, Don has been commissioned by Mr Gore and civil society leaders to prepare high level briefings and meetings for the 'priority countries' identified as crucial to negotiation success at the UN Climate Change Conference in Paris, December 2015. Don is also studying how to apply learnings from Indigenous and environmental collaborations to return country to traditional owners and to protect cultural and natural values across Australia's Cape York and the Kimberley. As Public Policy Fellow, Don is a linchpin between grassroots and sectoral stakeholders and the research community, enabling the mutual transfer of knowledge.



Dr Chris Taylor

Chris Taylor is a former Research Fellow at MSSI and is currently a researcher at the Department of Veterinary and Agricultural Science at the University of Melbourne. Chris's current research work involves the analysis and modeling of greenhouse gas emissions in agriculture.

Associates

MSSI benefits from a formal association with prominent members of academia, industry, government, and NGO/community organisations. Our Associates are innovative thought leaders and change agents, striving for a sustainable society for all. They help promote MSSI externally and transfer knowledge back into the Institute.

Professor Kate Auty

Vice-Chancellor's Professorial Fellow,
The University of Melbourne

Dr Kathryn Bowen

Research Fellow and PhD Candidate,
Australian National University; Research Fellow,
Earth System Governance Project; Advisory
Committee Member, City of Melbourne

Dr Iain Butterworth

Manager, Public Health and Western Area, North and
West Metropolitan Region, Department of Health

Mr Ian Dunlop

Governance and Sustainability Advisor; Chairman,
Safe Climate Australia; Member, Club of Rome;
Director, Australia 21

Associate Professor Robert Faggian

Climate Change Adaptation, Centre for Regional
and Rural Futures, Deakin University

Dr Steven Henderson

Honorary Fellow, School of Earth Sciences,
University of Melbourne

Professor Lyndsay Neilson

Management consultant and strategic planner

Dr Brett Parris

Senior Economist at Australian Conservation Foundation
Adjunct Research Fellow, Monash University

Professor Craig Pearson

Former Foundation Director, MSSI;
Professorial Fellow, University of Melbourne

Mr Rod Quantock

Comedian, activist and climate change researcher

Professor Allan Rodger

Professor Emeritus, University of Melbourne;
Chairman of the Board of the Habitat Trust

Ms Simran Sethi

Sustainability journalist, strategist, educator

Ms Meredith Sussex

Strategic Adviser, Office of Living Victoria;
Non Executive Director, Australian Housing and
Urban Research Institute

Dr Helen Sykes AM

Founder, Future Leaders

Dr Chris Taylor

MSSI Associate

Professor Patrick Troy AO

Visiting Fellow, Fenner School of Environment and
Society, ANU; Adjunct Professor Urban Research
Program, Griffith University; Visiting Professor City
Futures Research Centre, UNSW

Dr Tim van Gelder

Principal, Austhink Consulting



Photograph by Gavin Blue

Research Facilitation

An important part of MSSl's brief is to foster and facilitate interdisciplinary research at the University in the general area of sustainability, with particular emphasis on topics within our research clusters. MSSl achieves this by match-making researchers, building teams, offering assistance with grant-writing and seed funding projects.

Seed Funding Scheme

Each year, MSSl invites project teams to apply for grants through our competitive funding round. While the level of funding is quite modest, the scheme is aimed at providing the right assistance at the right time in a project's development, so that applications for significant funding can be enabled and enhanced.

1. 'Socio-economic impacts of ocean acidification in Australia – a pilot project'

Coordinating Investigator: A/Prof Peter Christoff, School of Geography, Faculty of Science

This project is developing a methodology for investigating these socio-economic impacts in Australia in particular industry sectors. It is also considering the broader institutional and governance implications of managing potential impacts and associated responses.

Project Team:

- A/Prof Will Howard, School of Earth Sciences, Faculty of Science
- Prof Helen Sullivan, Melbourne School of Government, Faculty of Arts
- Dr Graham Turner, MSSl, Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning

2. 'Managing urban trees as keystone structures in the social and ecological fabric of cities'

Coordinating Investigators: Dr Rachel Hughes, School of Geography, Faculty of Science, and Dr Dave Kendal, School of Botany/ARCUE, Faculty of Science

This multidisciplinary team is exploring the feasibility of combining fine-scale tree data with health, wellbeing, socioeconomic and biodiversity data to model the effects of individual land management decisions on the urban forest.

Project Team:

- A/Prof Mark McDonnell, School of Botany/ARCUE, Faculty of Science
- Dr Steve Livesley, School of Geography, Faculty of Science
- Dr Rodney van der Ree, School of Botany/ARCUE, Faculty of Science
- Dr Melanie Davern, McCaughey VicHealth Centre for Community Wellbeing, Faculty of MDHS
- Dr Caragh Threlfall, School of Geography, Faculty of Science
- Dr Rachel Hughes, School of Geography, Faculty of Science
- Dr Nicole Cook, School of Geography, Faculty of Science
- Dr Elizabeth Taylor, Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning
- Yvonne Lynch, Team Leader Urban Forest and Urban Ecology, City of Melbourne
- Dr Richard Fuller, Biological Sciences, University of Queensland
- Dr Karen Ikin, Fenner School of Environment and Sustainability, Australian National University



A/Prof Kathryn Williams
Kathryn is Associate Professor in environmental psychology at Melbourne University and a member of the MSSI Executive Committee. She is also Director of the University's Office for Environmental Programs overseeing the Master of Environment, a large cross-faculty, interdisciplinary coursework program.

3. 'Whose Data, Whose Stories?: Re-orienting Social Transformation Processes for adapting to climate change in the Southern Hemisphere'

Coordinating Investigator: Prof Rodney Keenan, School of Ecosystem and Forest Sciences, Faculty of Science

This project is building a social science partnership across Southern Hemisphere nations to work on new approaches for adapting to climate change. 'Nation narratives' will be developed in order to compare socio-ecological settings for aspects such as drought, fire, sea level rise and agriculture.

Project Team:

- A/Prof Ruth Beilin, School of Geography, Faculty of Science
- Dr Adam Bumpus, School of Geography, Faculty of Science
- A/Prof Antonio Almeida, University of Sao Paulo, Brazil
- Asst Prof Paulina Aldunce, Departamento de Ciencias Ambientales y Recursos Naturales Renovables, University of Chile
- Prof Coleen Vogel, University of Pretoria
- Dr Mark Stafford-Smith, Principal Research Scientist, CSIRO
- Prof Jonathan T. Overpeck, Co-Director Institute of Environment, University of Arizona, USA

4. 'City green roof views boost attention'

Coordinating Investigator: A/Prof Kathryn Williams

This project is examining how views of different environmentally sustainable 'green roofs' can boost people's psychological functioning. This will

increase knowledge of the social, environmental and economic sustainability benefits green infrastructure provides for people in cities.

Project Team:

- Dr Katherine Johnson, School of Psychological Sciences, Faculty of MDHS
- Prof Leisa Sargent, Department of Management and Marketing, Faculty of Business and Economics
- Dr Nicholas Williams, School of Geography, Faculty of Science
- Kate Lee, Department of Agriculture and Food Systems, Faculty of Veterinary and Agricultural Sciences

Bids and Grant Writing

MSSI's personnel are experienced in developing project ideas, planning and budgeting, as well as building teams and brokering partnerships. The Institute is an ally for researchers from across the University and it strives to initiate or improve bids for funding.

In 2014, MSSI engaged in developing bids for following schemes:

- ARC Centre of Excellence: three
- ARC Discovery: two
- Economic and Social Research Council (UK)
- International Social Science Council, Transformations to Sustainability Programme: two
- McKenzie Fellowship (University of Melbourne)
- Dyason Fellowship (University of Melbourne)
- Hallmark Initiative proposals (University of Melbourne)
- Carlton Connect Initiative Fund (University of Melbourne): two



A/Prof Malte Meinshausen

Malte is a member of the MSSI Executive Committee and Director of the Australian-German College for Climate & Energy Transitions. Malte was awarded a Future Fellowship Award to investigate Australia's fair contribution towards a global mitigation effort.

Partnerships and Collaborations

Key External Partners

MSSI recognises that tackling the wicked problems of sustainability requires close collaboration with the experts and leaders of peak agencies and groups. For some of these partnerships, MSSI serves as the coordinating unit on behalf of the University. Other linkages enable and add value to the work of MSSI's own project personnel and the activities of MSSI's clusters. The following is a selection of some organisations currently working with MSSI.

- **Association of Pacific Rim Universities**
MSSI Professorial Fellow, Jim Falk, coordinates APRU's 'Sustainability and Climate Change Program'.
- **Australian Conservation Foundation**
The ACF was a key partner for the visit by Al Gore and the 'Climate Reality Leadership Corps Training Program'.
- **Beyond Zero Emissions**
MSSI hosted the research for the *Zero Carbon Australia – Land Use Discussion Paper*, released in 2014.



Photograph by David Hannah Photography

Don Henry speaking at the Carlton Connect Conference.



- **Climate Council**

Chairman Professor Tim Flannery is MSSI's Professorial Fellow at the University.

- **The Climate Reality Project**

MSSI's Professor Don Henry is an International Board Member.

- **Environment Protection Authority (Victoria)**

MSSI's Director sits on the Steering Committee of the 'Strategic Research and Development Partnership'.

- **Future Melbourne Network**

This network collaborated with the University to present the 'Creating a Better Future for Melbourne Forum Series'.

- **Green Alliance of Universities for a Sustainable Future**

Professor John Wiseman represented the University at the 2014 Conference at the University of Beijing.

- **Parks Victoria**

MSSI manages the 'Research Partners Program' with this agency and hosts four Parks Victoria honorary appointments.

- **Sustainable Living Foundation**

MSSI enabled the SLF to hold its 'Breakthrough: National Climate Restoration Forum' on campus.

- **Transitions Film Festival**

MSSI sponsored this festival of world-changing documentaries on sustainability topics.

- **United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network**

MSSI represents the University and is involved in the 'Deep Decarbonization Pathway Project'.

Collaborators at the University

MSSI is a champion of the gamut of sustainability research at the University, understanding that this includes but exceeds the focus of MSSI's own research clusters. For this reason, MSSI maintains close collaborations with other institutes, centres and research units which pursue particular aspects of sustainability inquiry. The following is a selection of collaborators who worked with MSSI in 2014.

- ARC Centre of Excellence for Climate System Science
- Australian-German College of Climate and Energy Transitions
- Australian Urban Research Infrastructure Network
- Campus Sustainability [co-chair of Campus as Lab Working Group]
- Carlton Connect Initiative
- Collaborative Research Centre for Low Carbon Living
- EU Centre on Shared Complex Challenges
- McCaughey VicHealth Centre for Community Wellbeing
- Melbourne Energy Institute
- Melbourne School of Government
- Melbourne Social Equity Institute
- Office for Environmental Programs
- Primary Industries Climate Challenges Centre
- Victorian Centre for Climate Change Adaptation Research
- Victorian Eco-Innovation Lab



Prof Billie Giles-Corti

Billie is a member of the MSSSI Executive Committee and one of the conveners of the Institute's Future Cities Research Cluster. She is a NHMRC Principal Research Fellow and Director of the McCaughey VicHealth Centre for Community Wellbeing.

Visits

Sustainability ideas enter the University courtesy of MSSSI's varied program of national and international visits. MSSSI attracts, selects, and resources visitors ranging from leaders in the field to dynamic early career researchers. Where possible, the Institute supports visitors with expenses and provides a quality workspace. Typically, MSSSI visitors participate in research seminars for University academics, roundtable discussions and mentoring with graduate students, and free lectures delivered to the general public. The visitors program serves a strategic purpose for MSSSI and for the University generally, forming or strengthening relationships with external partners.

Visits to MSSSI

- **Delegation of Brazilian urban experts** (IBM, Samsung, University of São Paulo, etc.): attended the 'ABP Urban Research Think Tank'. 3–7 February 2014
- **Professor Mark Boyle**, National University of Ireland, Maynooth, Ireland. 18 March 2014
- **Professor Carlo Ratti**, Senseable City Lab, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA, USA. 20–30 March 2015
- **Emeritus Professor Patrick Troy AO**, Fenner School of Environment & Society, Australian National University. 19–22 May 2014; 29 August – 5 September 2014
- **Professor David Bowman**, University of Tasmania. 20–21 May 2014
- **Jim Merricks White**, Programmable City project, National Institute for Regional and Spatial Analysis (NIRSA); National University of Ireland Maynooth. A PhD student with the Programmable City Project at the National University of Ireland, Jim worked on his project titled 'Crisis urbanism: Anticipatory logics of the smart city'. Visit: 29 May – 7 July 2014
- **Professor Lesley Hughes**, Macquarie University. 11–12 June 2014
- **Professor Stephen Gardiner**, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington. 1–2 August 2015
- **Prof Chetan Vaidya**, School of Planning and Architecture New Delhi; formerly National Institute of Urban Affairs, India. 24 August – 5 September 2014
- **Sir Brian Hoskins**, Director of the Grantham Institute for Climate Change at Imperial College London. 2–18 October 2014
- **Dr Ben Dibley**, University of Western Sydney. 15–16 October 2014
- **Dr Wouter Bervoets**, Department of Architecture of the University of Leuven, Belgium. A researcher travelling on an EU AUSMIP+ Post-Doc Mobility Scholarship, Wouter's work looks at the interaction between anti-suburban criticism and the envisioned strategies to transform residential neighbourhoods into more sustainable forms. 3 November 2014 – 30 June 2015
- **Professor David Schlosberg**, Director, Sydney Environment Institute, University of Sydney. 18–21 November 2014
- **Professor Katherine Gibson**, University of Western Sydney. 11–12 December 2014



Prof Tim Flannery

Tim is a Professorial Fellow at MSSI as well as being Chief Councillor of the Climate Council and one of Australia's leading writers on climate change. He is an internationally acclaimed scientist, explorer and conservationist and was named Australian of the Year in 2007.

Visits by MSSI personnel

Professor Brendan Gleeson:

- Amsterdam, The Netherlands [5–15 April 2014]; Frankfurt [1–11 July 2014]
Prof Brendan Gleeson met with the Amsterdam's Planning Department, presenting a paper for the City of Amsterdam's Physical Planning Department, and met with personnel at the Amsterdam Institute for Advanced Metropolitan Solutions at the Delft University of Technology. He also met with Oscar Couwenberg, Director of the University of Groningen's MSSI-inspired 'Sustainable Society' initiative. In Germany, Prof Gleeson visited the Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences and the Heidelberg Center for the Environment.

Professor John Wiseman:

- Green Alliance of Universities for a Sustainable Future (GAUSF) UoM was invited by the University of Beijing, Guiyang, China, for the launch of this initiative. Prof John Wiseman, MSSI, attended on the UoM's behalf [10–12 July 2014]
- Professor Wiseman also attended the International Alliance of Research Universities' Sustainability Science Congress in Copenhagen, Denmark [22–24 October 2014]

Professor Don Henry:

- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Bonn, Germany [29 May – 16 June 2014]
- The Climate Reality Project International Board, New York, USA [11–19 July 2014]
- UN Climate Summit, New York, USA [17–29 September 2014]
- Al Gore Climate Reality Training, Brazil [31 October – 8 November 2014]
- COP 20/CMP 10 Climate Change Conference, Lima, Peru [1–12 December 2014]

Dr Lauren Rickards:

- Royal Geographical Society/Institute of British Geographers Conference, London, United Kingdom [26–29 August 2014]
- 'Unnatural Futures' Conference, University of Tasmania, Hobart, Tasmania [3–4 July 2014]
- 'Fighting Fire with Fire' Symposium, University of New South Wales, University of Sydney [30 July 2014]



Events

MSSI devised, hosted or sponsored 61 events in 2014 attended by around 2,500 people in total.

They included:

- 17 Public Lectures and Public Forums.
- 26 Seminars.
- 11 Symposiums, Conferences, Workshops or Roundtables.
- 7 Report or Book Launches, etc.

Event highlights

- **Climate Reality Leadership Corps Training, with the Hon. Al Gore, former US Vice-President.**

The Climate Reality team, including founder Al Gore, visited Melbourne in June 2014 to train over 500 participants to become local climate leaders. MSSI was a proud supporter of the events and MSSI's Don Henry was the MC. Claire Denby and John Wiseman attended the training along with 20 other Melbourne University students and researchers. The main focus of the three-day training was to learn how to communicate effectively the urgent message about climate change, to combine science and solutions to engage audiences, and get updated on the most relevant scientific facts. The training generated substantial media coverage for the University and also MSSI.

- **Climate Transformation events**

The MSSI Climate Conversation series consisted of lunchtime 'brown bag' seminars for Melbourne University staff, students and researchers interested in climate change related issues. Key speakers included Dr Jim Salinger from the Victoria University of Wellington, who discussed his new book 'Living in a Warmer World'; Rod Quantock, Melbourne

comedian presenting on the effects of climate change on everyday life; Prof Stephen Gardiner from the University of Washington discussed ethics and geoengineering; and Sir Brian Hoskins from the Grantham Institute in London talked about the challenges in sustainability research from a UK perspective.

The Climate Research Connections workshop consisted of 40 short presentations from researchers on their area of study. This half-day workshop focused on connecting researchers from across various faculties at the University and exploring collaborative opportunities.



Cathy Alexander at the Carlton Connect Conference.



Cathy Alexander

Cathy left her position as an environmental journalist to join MSSl in 2014 as a Research Fellow working on Research Translation and Development. She was the Editor of the Institute's Sustainability at Melbourne publication and has recently started her PhD, looking at climate change policy and politics in Australia.

Cathy Alexander and Don Henry presented at the Carlton Connect Conference in a session exploring the climate policy and actions required in the lead up to the Conference of Parties in Paris 2015. This will be a strong focus of MSSl's research in the coming year.

- **Future Cities events**

This cluster supports a range of activities, including public lectures and lunchtime seminars, collaborative workshops and Australasian Early Career Urban Research Network (AECURN) Forum and mentoring opportunities. Guest seminar speakers for this cluster included Prof Michael Webber from the Australian Council of Learned Academies (ACOLA); Prof Mark Boyle from the National University of Ireland, Maynooth, discussing planetary urbanization; Carlo Ratti from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology USA; and Brent Toderian from the City of Vancouver discussing advanced urbanism and walkable cities.

Creating a Better Future for Melbourne was a forum series held at Federation Square in Melbourne, that focused on five topics for robust discussion and thought provoking conversations on how to plan for Melbourne's future, including visioning, jobs and housing, climate and design, transport and plan implementation. Guest speakers included Lord Major Robert Doyle, Robert McGauran, Prof Rob Adams and Prof Brendan Gleeson. This seminar series resulted in MSSl publishing an eBook titled '*Melbourne: What Next?*' which has received over 6000 online downloads.

- **Sustainability In The Anthropocene events**

The Sustainability in the Anthropocene (SITA) cluster organised a seminar series to generate debate and discussion around the character of climate change in the Anthropocene. Guest speakers in the series included Prof David Bowman from the University of Tasmania sharing his experience in pyrogeography; Prof Lesley Hughes from Macquarie University discussing biodiversity and species extinction, Prof David Schlosberg, Professor of Environmental Politics at the University of Sydney; and Prof Katherine Gibson from the Institute for Culture and Society at the University of Western Sydney.

- **MSSl Public Lecture:** Ross Garnaut, 'China's Energy Transition: Effects on Global Climate and Sustainable Development'. Professor Ross Garnaut presented a key public lecture for MSSl in August highlighting evidence that China's use of coal for electricity will decline significantly by 2020, greatly impacting the Australian economy. The lecture generated significant media interest, and MSSl also published a paper outlining the details of Garnaut's findings.

- **Book Launches:**

Samuel Alexander and Amanda McLeod (eds.), *Simple Living in History: Pioneers of the Deep Future*.

Carolyn Whitzman, Brendan Gleeson and Alexander Sheko (eds.), *Melbourne: What Next? A Discussion on Creating a Better Future for Melbourne*.

Andrew Longmire, Chris Taylor and Gerry Wedderburn-Bisshop, *ZCA Land Use – Forestry and Agriculture Discussion Paper*.

Brendan Gleeson and Beau B. Beza (eds.), *The Public City: Essays in Honour of Paul Mees*.



Students from the Melbourne Academy for Sustainability and Society (MASS).

Postgraduate Students

A number of postgraduate students working on sustainability topics are provided with funding, support, mentorship, or internships by MSSl.

Melbourne Academy for Sustainability and Society (MASS)

The success of the MASS initiative is a testament to its high achieving and self-organising doctoral students. In 2014, the MASS 3 group elected to pool their individual MSSl funding to enable the group to design and run a one-day research conference, 'Sustainability Ethics and Perspectives', held on 15 August. This event explored how potentially divergent values and sometimes tacit assumptions have been obstacles or challenges for research or practice, and what to do with the sometimes conflicting ethical commitments embedded in various research programs. There were 22 speakers, including two keynote speakers: Professor Freya Mathews, Adjunct Professor of Environmental Philosophy at La Trobe University, and Professor Michael Buxton from Global, Urban and Social Studies, RMIT. The MASS 3 group also conducted a research survey into sustainability behaviour and attitudes. MSSl thanks the MASS convenors, Professors Yoshi Kashima and Marcus Wigan.

Australian-German College for Climate and Energy Transitions

Now solidly established, the College has fifteen PhD students pursuing research in the climate system, climate impacts, emission strategies, and energy systems. They enjoy a cohort-based collaborative environment of enhanced research training. Each student also participates in a six-month overseas exchange program at a partner institution. Director A/Prof Malte Meinshausen has worked to strengthen research networks and to raise the profile of the initiative. To assist him, the College now has an Office

Coordinator. The College also has a new location, occupying part of the former Royal Women's Hospital. The site, known as Lab 14, is also home to the Carlton Connect Initiative and the EU Centre on Shared Complex Challenges. The students enjoy a rich experience there, with opportunities for networking with industry and NGO players. MSSl is a key supporter and co-funder of this innovative program and MSSl personnel supervise several of the students.

Other student initiatives

MSSl also supports other student initiatives. The 'Engreeneers' project, supported by a Dreamlarge Student Engagement Grant, formed a community of practice that engages technology and engineering students in questions about the sustainability context of their studies and future careers. In October, this group collaborated with the Australian Conservation Foundation and the Climate Reality Project to explore further actions and activism in the wake of Al Gore's visit early in the year. Another student group, the 'Ecopreneurs', created a 'Green Innovation Fund' round for ideas that can make the University campus a greener place. Two projects were successful and received seed funding from MSSl. A facilitator position was created to realise the potential of the University's Community Garden (between Buildings 161 and 165, Monash Rd). This role will coordinate volunteers, lead workshops, and run seasonal events that showcase the garden. An experiment looking at 'green study spaces' in the Law Building (106) was also supported. This looks at how indoor plants can lead to increased cognitive function and reduced stress and anxiety.



Publications and Communications

Disseminating research, providing the general public with information, and inviting engagement with new ideas are key activities at MSSI. Our publications arise from events, collaborations, research projects, and scholarship, covering a diverse range of thematic materials.

Key publications

Research and Issues Papers Series

MSSI publishes its own ongoing *Research and Issues Papers Series*, edited in 2014 by Dr Lauren Rickards.

- Research Paper No. 3, 'The Ideology of the Anthropocene?', by Jeremy Baskin (May 2014)
- Research Paper No. 4, 'Is Global Collapse Imminent?', by Graham Turner (August 2014)
- Issues Paper No. 2, 'The Economics of Oil', by Samuel Alexander (March 2014)
- Issues Paper No. 3, 'Coming Through Slaughter: ecology of the urban age', by Brendan Gleeson (June 2014)
- Issues Paper No. 4, 'Fossil Free: The development and significance of the fossil fuel divestment movement', by Kara Nicholson, Sam Alexander and John Wiseman (September 2014)

Public Lecture Paper Series

- Public Lecture Paper No. 1, 'China's Energy Transition: Effects on Global Climate and Sustainable Development', by Ross Garnaut (August 2014)

'Post Carbon Pathways' Working Papers Series

- Post Carbon Pathways Working Paper No. 1, 'A Critique of Techno-Optimism: Efficiency without Sufficiency is Lost', by Samuel Alexander (January 2014)

- Post Carbon Pathways Working Paper No. 2, 'Post-Growth Economics: A Paradigm Shift in Progress', by Samuel Alexander (February 2014)

'Visions & Pathways 2040' Working Papers Series

- Visions and Pathways Working Paper No. 1, 'Pathways to a Zero-Carbon Economy: learning from large scale de-carbonisation strategies', by John Wiseman (March 2014)
- Visions & Pathways Working Paper No. 2, 'Disruptive Social Innovation for a Low-Carbon World', by Samuel Alexander (March 2014)

Books, Monographs and Long Reports

In 2014, eight books, monographs, and long reports resulting from MSSI research and funding were published.

Books

- *Resilient Sustainable Cities: A Future*, edited by Leonie J Pearson, Peter W Newton, Peter Roberts (2014), Routledge.

This book gathers together the work of 38 authors who participated in an international MSSI conference which explored urban resilience from interdisciplinary perspectives.

- *The Urban Condition*, by Brendan Gleeson (2014), Routledge.

This critique of urban thought by MSSI's Director brings together the strands of urbanisation, climate threat, resource depletion, economic default and critical knowledge. It weaves them into a new analysis of the changed climate, resource scarcity and economic stress of our times.



Hayley Henderson

Hayley is one of Professor Brendan Gleeson's PhD students. Her research explores how practical strategies and tactics are used to shape social justice through urban planning based on two cases: Buenos Aires, Argentina and Melbourne, Australia.

- *Simple Living in History: Pioneers of the Deep Future*, edited by Samuel Alexander and Amanda McLeod (2014), Simplicity Institute Publishing.

Simple living is based on such notions as frugality, sufficiency, moderation, and mindfulness. Samuel Alexander, research fellow at MSSl, is co-editor of this anthology which brings together 26 short essays discussing the idea's most significant thinkers and thought traditions.

- *Carbon Governance, Climate Change and Business Transformation*, edited by Adam Bumpus, James Tansey, Blas Luis Pérez Henríquez, Chukwumerije Okereke (2014), Routledge.

A project team seed-funded by MSSl has produced this book which explores fundamental questions about how governments and the private sector conceptualise the problem of climate change and the conditions under which business transformation can genuinely take place.

- *The Public City: Essays in Honour of Paul Mees*, edited by Brendan Gleeson and Beau B Beza (2014), Melbourne University Press.

This special project commemorates the urban scholarship of the late Paul Mees and seeks to advance that legacy with creativity and daring.

MSSl Research Monograph Series

- MSSl Research Monograph No. 1, *Melbourne: What Next? A discussion on a better future for Melbourne*, edited by Carolyn Whitzman, Brendan Gleeson and Alexander Sheko (October 2014).

The material from a series of five public forums on urban planning themes, 'Creating a Better Future for Melbourne', was collated into this research monograph featuring 30 authors. It provided a strong and multifaceted argument for better metropolitan planning in advance of the November 2014 Victorian election.

Long Reports

- Discussion Paper: 'Zero Carbon Australia Land Use – Forestry and Agriculture', by Chris Taylor, Andrew Longmire and Gerard Wedderburn-Bisshop (October 2014).

A multi-year research project at MSSl was completed in 2014 with the launch of this provocative report. It is the result of a partnership with Beyond Zero Emissions, an NGO working to imagine a future that can take Australia to low, zero and even a net drawdown of greenhouse gas emissions.

- Report, 'Interdisciplinary collaboration in context: academics and agendas', Final Report' (2014), by Dr Lauren Rickards.

MSSl Research Fellow Dr Lauren Rickards explores and assesses participants' views of the process, outcomes and context of doing collaborative interdisciplinary research. This report is the culmination of the four-year 'Melbourne Interdisciplinary Collaboration Exploration' (MICE) study.

300,000+ views
worldwide readership
60,000+ shares
100,000+ downloads

Communications highlights

- MSSI's e-Newsletter, MiSSive, communicates our events, news and activities and spotlights our research projects. In 2014 we focused on increasing our subscribers and in this time our membership grew from 480 to 1720, an increase of 258 per cent
- MSSI launched into the social media world of Twitter in 2014, to broaden our communication focus. In one year we have attracted over 500 followers.

Media

Most widely read articles:

- 'Limits to Growth was right. New research shows we're nearing collapse' by Dr Graham Turner and Cathy Alexander, featured in *The Guardian*, 2 September 2014. In total this article received 300,000 views worldwide, 60,000+ shares on Facebook, 100,000+ downloads of the research

paper. The article was based on the MSSI Research Paper No. 4, 'Is Global Collapse Imminent?', by Graham Turner (August 2014)

- Ross Garnaut, subsequent to *MSSI Public Lecture Paper*, 'China's Energy Transition: Effects on Global Climate and Sustainable Development' was featured in numerous media outlets. The Fairfax story featured on page 2 of *The Age*, and was also on the homepage of the *Sydney Morning Herald*. This news story was also covered by the ABC, Channel 7 online, *The Conversation*, the *Climate Spectator*, and *Sky News*. It also received more than 100 retweets on Twitter.
- 'Grand Bargain' may secure enough support for Direct Action to pass senate' – Don Henry wrote for *The Guardian* about the government negotiations on emission reductions and his recent talks with Clive Palmer. Don Henry was also interviewed on this subject by ABC TV and was broadcast on the ABC 7:30 Report. Related news featured in the *Sydney Morning Herald*, *The Age*, *The Australian* and various other media outlets.



Book launch event for Melbourne: *What Next – a discussion on creating a better future for Melbourne*.



Financial Statement

Income

Core funding from Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)	\$900,000
Space and Service Charge Supplement, DVC(R)	\$30,000
Grants, Internal (incl. Strategic)	\$209,241
Grants, External	\$53,587
Sponsorships	\$15,455
Philanthropic donations	\$6,000
Other incidental income	\$69,942
Total Income	\$1,284,225

Expenditure

Core Staff Salaries	\$417,786
Research Project Salaries	\$424,151
Research Projects (non-salary)	\$60,242
Visitors	\$3,195
Staff Travel	\$34,343
Research Higher Degree Student initiatives	\$76,854
MSSI Seed Funding Scheme, 2014	\$22,000
Sponsorships	\$2,000
Faculty Space Charge	\$30,000
Miscellaneous Operating Costs	\$77,459
Total Expenditure	\$1,148,030
Unallocated surplus to be carried forward	\$136,195



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