Message from the Climate Change Institute Director

It’s very hard to escape the conclusion that our greenhouse gas emissions are causing a huge change in the functioning of the earth system – and this is impacting humans; it’s impacting our environments and it’s impacting our economies. This is why it’s really important for ANU to engage in a very cross-disciplinary way to address these impacts and to help develop effective solutions.

The ANU Climate Change Institute (CCI) has had some great wins in 2017, especially in engaging different audiences on climate change, as you can see on the pages following. In particular, we’ve had some really strong engagement with Federal and ACT Government policymakers and politicians.

In 2018, we’ll be focused on getting the ANU research and teaching community even more engaged on climate change. We’ll be working to develop the negative emissions agenda (which encompasses ways of actively reducing the greenhouse gas emissions in the atmosphere). We’re also developing a range of collaborations and large proposals to accelerate progress on climate adaptation nationally and internationally. Another priority is increasing science and policy interactions on climate change – we’re already good at this at ANU, but we want to increase the effectiveness of interactions on climate change.

2018 will also see the release of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 1.5°C report. This report will be really critical in policy-making not just by governments, but also by industry, individuals and community groups. ANU is heavily involved in producing this report, and as an IPCC Vice-Chair, I have a key role.

In 2018, we’re also holding our first ANU Climate Update, bringing together perspectives on what’s happening to our climate and how we’re responding. We’ll be expanding this event to other cities such as Brisbane, so that we start to fill an existing communications gap – informing the public and policymakers about the key climate issues in their jurisdiction and developing practical responses to these.

If you’d like to get involved in ANU activities in relation to climate change, please get in touch via climate@anu.edu.au.

This flyer gives a tiny snapshot of what we’re working on – please visit http://climate.anu.edu.au/2017-highlights to find out more.

Prof Mark Howden
Director of the ANU Climate Change Institute
Over 50 climate courses across ANU

ANU runs over 50 undergraduate and postgraduate courses that address the multiple dimensions of climate change, from climate science to economics, law, policy and governance aspects of climate change vulnerability, adaptation and mitigation.

Master of Climate Change

Why I study climate change – video
“The Master of Climate Change really sells you up to work in climate change professionally – one of the best things about the degree is that you’re learning from some really influential people.”
Aaron Kirby, Master of Climate Change student.

Addressing the challenges of climate change
“I’ve seen the problems that climate change is causing in my home country. This Masters has given me the skills and knowledge to help address many of these issues when I get back home.”
Parawa Amberlani, Master of Climate Change graduate.

The Master of Climate Change program
Equip yourself with the knowledge and understanding to tackle one of the world’s most vital challenges. Tailor the degree to your interests and needs.

Climate change short professional courses for government departments

The Climate Change Institute regularly delivers short professional courses on recent advances in climate science and the social, policy, economic and governance aspects of climate change for policymakers and professionals. Our clients include government departments and commercial participants.

What people said
“Fantastic overview of climate change and relevance to key areas of our work including disaster, food security, water security, migration & health.”
“This was the first time I’ve experienced such a targeted professional development course run by academics.”

In 2017, CCI launched the Climate Change Institute PhD supplementary scholarship which offers $7,500 pa for ANU PhD scholars undertaking interdisciplinary research with a cross-ANU supervisory team.

PUBLIC POLICY ENGAGEMENT

CCI members are engaged with policymakers at an international, national and state / territory level on an ongoing basis. Here are a few examples:

Hosted 6 policy roundtable discussions, attended by over 150 people
4 targeted parliamentary briefings on sea level rise
7 policy submissions on climate change
Leadership roles in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

DEVELOPING A COMMUNITY OF CLIMATE RESEARCHERS AND TEACHERS - OUR PEOPLE

251 All 7 ANU Colleges
7 24 out of 27 ANU schools
2017 60% growth in membership over 2016

“...in the breadth of research it covers – there are hundreds of people working on climate change at ANU and I’ve had the chance to interact with other researchers via the CCI that I never would have otherwise.”
Dr Sophie Lewis, Fenner School of Environment and Society.

ANU CLIMATE EVENTS

18 CCI public lectures & Climate Cafes
1500+ Over 1500 audience members at CCI events
34 Climate related public seminars at ANU

94% felt the event was somewhat or very relevant to them
94% of those surveyed will tell others about the event