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## The FINAL Centre for Regenerating Futures Newsletter - #24

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From The Centre for Regenerating Futures <regeneratingfutures@deakin.edu.au>

Date Tue 16/12/2025 8:34

To Jo Raphael <jo.raaphael@deakin.edu.au>; Peta White <peta.white@deakin.edu.au>



### Newsletter #24 - 16th December 2025 - FINAL NEWSLETTER FOR 2025

**Dear Centre Members, HDR Colleagues, and Allied members,**

Last week we received the Faculty Research Review outcomes via the Faculty Town Hall meeting and the full report can be read [here](#). The report describes the changes that impact the Centre for Regenerating Futures...

*With regard to the Faculty Research Groups the following recommendations are:*

*c. Following changes in policy regarding titles, the Centre for Regenerating Futures will become a faculty research group – “Regenerating Futures” and its budget will be brought into line with those groups.*

*With the two exceptions above, it is expected that funding levels will remain broadly unchanged for these groups until the position with regard to funding levels for SRGs is clarified.*

So, after three great years we say farewell to the Centre for Regenerating Futures....



[https://cdn.pixabay.com/photo/2015/09/12/20/25/time-to-go-937265\\_640.jpg](https://cdn.pixabay.com/photo/2015/09/12/20/25/time-to-go-937265_640.jpg)

And HELLO to ***Regenerating Futures for 2026!***



<https://onecommunityglobal.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/06/A-NEW-LIFE-IN-A-NEW-WORLD2.jpg>

We don't yet know what our budget will be but we feel that our planning for 2026 will not change much as the school and faculty funding schemes are quite clear and will 'enable' us to do great research. Early in 2026 we will be invited to express our interest in becoming a centre (again)... we will decide the best next steps then.

While the process of this Faculty research ecology review has been frustrating and slow - little will change in how we operate in 2026... fortunately. We will continue to focus on building research/researcher capacity as well as incubating research collaborations locally, nationally, and internationally.

### **We know that the CRF has been successful due to our Impact Analysis.**

We have been conducting a series of focus groups over the last 2 weeks. A HUGE thank you to those who have participated... greatly appreciated. The findings are quite incredible and very encouraging. These will be shared throughout our website in the early new year. We have heard about the impact the CRF has had on each individual, complete with examples. We also have curated some great ideas about how to proceed into 2026.

One small example is that over the last 2 months the CRF has supported the submission of 2 ARC Discovery Projects and will be supporting at least 2 ARC Linkage applications - well done CRF.

**So, please enjoy our final newsletter as the Centre for Regenerating Futures! We will be back early February 2026 as the Regenerating Futures - a faculty research group.... With a lot of exciting programming ready for action.**

Best wishes and happy end of the year!

Peta and Jo

CRF inbox [regeneratingfutures@deakin.edu.au](mailto:regeneratingfutures@deakin.edu.au)

### **CRF Calendar of Events for 2025**

**Regenerator** - #7 Slow academics - Wednesday 17th December @ 2pm

### **CRF Regenerator - Slow Academics - 17th December 2025 @ 2 - 3.30pm see Zoom link [here](#)**

It feels like a given that in the last week of this year the CRF should Regenerate with Slow Academics! Join us - if you are not already on leave - and enjoy learning about a strong practice and movement - slow academics. At a reflective time of year, it will be valuable to consider your planning for slower and calmer practice in 2026... perhaps we could all benefit from slowing down the pace a little.

There will be readings, activities, and discussion about practices. We will feel valued, honoured, reflective, and we will set the stage for a productive, manageable, and enjoyable 2026 as slow, calm, creative and purposeful academics! [Here](#) is a link to the padlet we will use.

### **Website updates and Focus Groups for Impact Analysis**

Our website contains a catalogue of our CRF activities and is coming along... - see [here](#).

### **Australian Posthuman Summer Laboratory, 2-10 February 2026, Narm Melbourne**

Congratulations to the following for their scholarship to attend the Summer Lab

1. Charlotte Hankin (PhD candidate - CRF Allied Member)
2. Amanda Glob Nielsen (PhD candidate - CRF Visiting Scholar - Denmark CUHRE)
3. Larissa Raymond (PhD - student CRF)
4. Fernanda Rezende (PhD candidate CRF)

5. Alys Mendus (Deakin staff CRF)
6. Jo-Anne Britt (PhD Candidate CRF)
7. Peta White (CRF co-director)

This team will be attending and planning ways to engage and share with Regenerating Future's members in 2026!

### **CRF Partners - agreement to collaborate, support and share**

We have wanted to formalise our partnerships for a long time. Mariel Lima Flores has enabled (yes - through a CRF grant) us to successfully manage this process.

We have invited the following centres and organisations to collaborate with us.

Our request for "formal partnership" is not formal as in a University MOU - but a letter of agreement to collaborate, support, and share.

Our potential partners are...

- Centre for Educational Research (CER) | Institute for Culture and Society (ICS) - Western Sydney University
- CURHE - Southern Denmark University
- Nulungu - Notre Dame University of Australia
- Centre for People, Place & Planet - Edith Cowan University
- TEMS - Waikato University
- City of Greater Geelong
- Sustainability Victoria - Resource Smart School
- Climate Change Education Network
- Science Education in the Anthropocene Lab - Monash University
- Sustainability, Environment, and the Arts in Education (SEAE) Research Centre - Southern Cross University
- Australian Association for Environmental Education (AAEE)
- Drama Victoria and Drama Australia
- RESET (UK)
- Uni Manitoba

If you have suggestions for additional partnerships - or are an allied member and would like to partner - please be in touch.

### **The value of our partnerships....**

#### **Post Doc opportunity with CRF and CUHRE**

The GAIA program has just opened for applications (December 1 – deadline February 28).

The requirements are:

1. A relevant PhD.
2. Not having resided in Denmark for one year or more within the past three years.
3. Interest in developing a CUHRE-relevant project in Denmark under the GAIA theme "*Education, Relationship and Ecoliteracy*", and willingness to relocate here for two years.

You can find all details on GAIA here: <https://www.thegaiaproject.eu/>

Around September another opportunity will appear through the Marie Curie fellowships, which share similar criteria but require a more extensive application.

### **Outcome of our work with Dr Alex Maisey - Friends of Sassafras Creek**

During our On Country day #4 - at Sherbrooke Forest - our friendly ecologist Dr Alex Maisey from Friends of Sassafras Creek came along and, as a thank you, the CRF supports an on-ground project. The latest project is an interpretive sign for which Friends of Sassafras Creek (with our donation) will pay a local artist to create some art to go on it along with some content by the group. It will be placed at the top of the trail in Sassafras.

### **Additional Opportunities**

Read on for 3 x international conferences, related publication opportunities and the culmination of two fabulous arts and climate initiatives.

### **Twenty-Second International Conference on Environmental, Cultural, Economic & Social Sustainability – 2026 Special Focus—Unseen Unsustainability: Addressing Hidden Risks to Long-Term Wellbeing for All**

University of the Aegean, Rhodes, Greece. 20-22 April 2026

Conference website [here](#). Submit a Proposal by 20 January 2026

Founded in 2005, the On Sustainability Research Network is brought together by a common concern for sustainability from a holistic perspective, where environmental, cultural, economic, and social interests intersect. We seek to build an epistemic community where we can make linkages across disciplinary, geographic, and cultural boundaries. Conference features research addressing the following annual themes and special focus:

2026 Special Focus—Unseen Unsustainability: Addressing Hidden Risks to Long-Term Wellbeing for All

Theme 1: Ecological Realities

Theme 2: Participatory Process

Theme 3: Economic, Social and Cultural Context

Theme 4: Education, Assessment, and Policy

We are interested in the following questions:

How do Ecological Realities Necessarily Frame Our Planetary Existence?

Whose Sustainable Future?

What are the Pressing Demands of Our Time?

Framing Responsibility to Act?

The On Sustainability Research Network also supports a book imprint and a series of journals.



#### **Fourth Transatlantic Symposium on Sustainable Development: Global Partnerships for Sustainability: Bridging Continents Through Education and Research**

University of Murcia, Murcia, Spain. 18th-19th June 2026

To facilitate a broad discussion on the contributions of higher education institutions from both sides of the Atlantic towards a more sustainable future, the "Transatlantic Symposium on Sustainable Development" series was launched. The first event, under the title "North American and European Perspectives on Sustainability in Higher Education", was held at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA, United States, on 2-4 October 2023. The second one was held in Hasselt, Belgium, on 10-11 October 2024. The third event was held in Toronto, Canada, on 26-27 June 2025. This event, the "4th Transatlantic Symposium on Sustainable Development in Higher Education", will be held in Murcia, Spain, under the theme "Global Partnerships for Sustainability: Bridging Continents Through Education and Research", with a focus on strengthening transatlantic collaborations to address the SDGs through joint programmes, research, and student exchanges.

#### **HOW TO PARTICIPATE**

1. By only attending the symposium (without a presentation): please register on the following form [here](#).
2. By delivering an oral presentation: Researchers may submit any complete, original, and unpublished research papers, either conceptual or empirical. To participate, participants need to submit an abstract of 200 to 300 words, along with the authors' names and full contact details, before 15th February 2026. Abstracts should be submitted by using the following form: <https://forms.office.com/e/W1uHuXu6UQ>

For those who submitted an abstract: The authors will receive an email with the registration and payment details. In case you already want to proceed with it, please register [here](#)

#### **DEADLINES**

Abstract Submission: 15th February 2026

Registration Deadline: 30th March 2026

Full Paper Submission: 30th June 2026

## PUBLICATION OPPORTUNITY

As the title suggests, the Symposium will provide an opportunity for North American and European sustainability experts to meet, present their work, interact and network. As a long-lasting documentation of their works, the experiences from the presenters will be documented and promoted in the Book "Global Partnerships for Sustainability: Bridging Continents Through Education and Research", to be published by Springer Nature within the World Sustainability Series, a leading peer reviewed series on sustainability in higher education [here](#).

Submission is optional, it is a suggestion rather than a requirement.

## FURTHER DETAILS

More details can be seen on our website [here](#).

If you have any questions or need further details, please contact the organising committee [here](#).

## **Symposium on Education for Sustainable Development and the Core Curriculum - Rewriting Learning for an Interconnected World,**

London, UK. 10th-11th September 2026

Meeting in London in 2026 and hosted by the University of Westminster, this Symposium is based on the premise that we need to modernise and accelerate sustainability efforts.

The Symposium therefore seeks to be a catalyst for change, calling on educators, policy makers and innovators to join together in fundamentally reimagining the central feature of the curriculum by focusing it around interdependence, justice and resilience so that education becomes the principal vehicle through which we students for a more sustainable and equitable future.

The Symposium pursues five main objectives:

- a) To catalyse a paradigm shift in curriculum design
- b) To bridge critical implementation gaps
- c) To foster a collaborative ecosystem for change
- d) To define and champion a new profile of the graduate
- e) To articulate and gain consensus on the knowledge, skills, and values needed for a complex, interconnected world.

Some of the key themes to be discussed during the Symposium are:

- Designing Interdisciplinary Curriculum Frameworks
- New Metrics for Evaluating Systems Thinking, Ethics, and Action Competence
- The Pedagogies of Connection: Experiential and Place-Based Learning for a Global World
- Leveraging AI and EdTech for Sustainable Futures
- Embedding Climate Justice, Equity, and Anti-Opressive Practices in ESD
- The Regenerative School: Modelling Sustainability through Campus Operations and Culture
- Professional Development for the ESD Transition
- Futures Literacy and Adaptive Resilience: Educating for Uncertainty and Complexity
- From Policy to Practice: Building Coherent National and Local Implementation Pathways
- Community engagement to create a supportive ecosystem for an ESD-integrated curriculum

Publishing opportunity: In order to enable the publication of best practices and possible recommendations, the Book "Education for Sustainable Development and the Core Curriculum - Rewriting Learning for an Interconnected World" will be produced. It will be part of the World Sustainability Series published by Springer Nature. This is, with over 90 books published to date, the world's leading peer-reviewed book series on matters related to sustainable development [here](#).

Submission Guidelines: There are two possibilities for attending the symposium:

1. By only attending the symposium (without a paper presentation): please register on the following form [here](#).
2. By delivering an oral presentation: Researchers may submit any complete, original, and unpublished research papers, either conceptual or empirical. To participate, participants need to submit an abstract of 200 to 300 words, along with the authors' names and full contact details, before 15th May 2026. Abstracts should be submitted by using the following form [here](#).

Deadlines:

Abstract Submission: 15th May 2026

Registration Deadline: 30th June 2026

Full Paper Submission: 30th August 2026

Contact information: Enquiries regarding submissions of abstracts and registration should be sent to the Organising Team [here](#).

**The Herds International public art and climate initiative**

What is [THE HERDS](#)? A groundbreaking public art and climate initiative designed to inspire action and renew our bond with the natural world. From April to August 2025, life-size puppet animals stormed through city centers on a 20,000km journey from Kinshasa in the Congo Basin to Nordkapp in the Arctic Circle, fleeing climate disaster.

Events and performances by world-class artists responded as the herds moved, bringing together the worlds of arts and science in an urgent call for climate action.

As we close out an unforgettable year of The Herds project, we'd love for you to join our end of year Town Hall. We'll reflect on the journey of The Herds so far and share a first look at what's ahead for 2026.

You can attend this sharing of the project via Zoom (if you love a very early morning), or check out the excellent Herds [website](#) and resources at your own convenience.

 **Date: Wednesday 17 December 2025**

 **Time: 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM GMT (London time) - 2.00-3.00AM (Melbourne time).**

 **Location: Zoom. The session is open to all. Register [here](#)**



### Climate Change Theatre Action Concludes for 2025

[Climate Change Theatre Action](#) is a worldwide festival of short plays about the climate crisis that brings communities together and encourages them to take local and global action on climate. The CRF participated with 2 [play readings](#) at our last On Country day in Sherbrooke Forest..

Climate Change Theatre Action 2025 has been going strong since September with events in [Turkey](#), [Canada](#), [Mexico](#), [Peru](#), [UK](#), [Italy](#), [Austria](#), [Netherlands](#), [Germany](#), [Egypt](#), [Norway](#), [Australia](#), [Portugal](#), [Spain](#), [Austria](#), [Kenya](#), [New Zealand](#), [Brazil](#), and dozens of states in the US, including [Arizona](#), [Alaska](#), [Florida](#), and [New York](#)! It culminates this Saturday, December 20. Here's what some of CCTA participants said about their experience:

*"It was wonderful to see so many people engaged in positive climate action in such a creative, vibrant and generous way."*

*"Folks were surprised that a performance centering climate justice could feel hopeful – rather than feeling depressed, or overwhelmed, people felt that there was still hope and wanted to do something to contribute to change."*

*"The atmosphere felt charged with purpose and joy, and the conversations afterward were thoughtful and inspiring."*

Thank you to everyone who has participated so far. We're inspired by the variety and reach of the events that have taken place!

**Give someone the gift of hope** with our [anthologies](#) of short climate-themed plays written for Climate Change Theatre Action! Use the plays for teaching, read them with your friends and family, perform them for each other or your community... They're creative ways to explore the complex issue of climate change with curiosity, an open heart, and a spirit of collaboration. Available worldwide as paperbacks and ebooks from your favorite online bookstore.

Co-Directors: Peta White and Jo Raphael



# Centre for Regenerating Futures