

RESEARCH CLINIC

General information

Supervisor:	David Ehrhardt
Title of clinic:	Long-term leaders and the governance of sustainability
Number of students:	1-2
Major (<i>if applicable and approved by the Major Convener</i>):	GED
(Pre)requisites (<i>if applicable</i>):	

Research context

There are good theoretical reasons to believe that long-term leaders – e.g. religious leaders, traditional chiefs or certain types of bureaucrats - face incentives to promote sustainable governance. And in some cases, indeed, these leaders appear to act on their ‘encompassing interest’ with the long-term flourishing of their people: take, for example, the interest of royal families in promoting environmental protection, or the promotion of responsible environmental ‘stewardship’ policies promoted by religious organisations.

Engaging long-term leaders in sustainability governance might thus be a promising strategy to address environmental degradation. Yet the connection between long-term leadership and effective sustainability governance has not been studied systematically.

This clinic aims to assess the contribution of long-term leaders to sustainability governance around the world through a systematic review of the literature. The findings will then be disseminated as a review paper and, if relevant, through online channels (e.g. a website). In the longer term, the research will contribute to a research proposal to be submitted in 2020.

Students’ tasks and activities

Students will engage in the following activities:

- 1. Systematically searching for and synthesizing scholarly evidence on the connection between long-term leaders and sustainability governance;*
- 2. Writing annotated bibliographies and short review papers;*
- 3. Contributing to writing a review paper to be submitted for publication;*
- 4. Designing, if applicable, other creative ways of disseminating the research findings, e.g. through a website.*