**OERC Sub-Theme Funding 2018**

A sub-theme is a topic of cross disciplinary research within energy research. The OERC has identified six emerging ‘sub-themes’ of research that could benefit from greater interaction between disciplines: (1) Smart grids; (2) Home heating, fuel poverty, housing quality and health; (3) Green computing and related design; (4) Sustainable transport and biofuels; (5) Green business, including entrepreneurship, supply chains and innovation diffusion; (6) Photosynthesis and the science of photocells. Funding applications do not however need to be restricted to these areas.

Sub-theme funding is aimed at strengthening collaboration in new or existing sub-themes at Otago. Note that sub-theme funding is not designed to fund research projects (instead see seed funding grants). An example of a successful sub-theme funding proposal is provided below.

Funding criteria include:

* Will initiate a new sub-theme or will materially develop one of the existing sub-themes above
* Will either
  + lead to a large funding application or
  + raise the profile of UoO cross-disciplinary energy related research in a particular area (sub-theme) nationally and internationally through events (e.g. conference, workshops) or
  + establish a new energy-related cross disciplinary network, collaboration or project that develops a particular sub-theme at the university (such projects may be related to engagement, commercialisation or postgraduate supervision)
* Will be collaborative in nature (investigators from more than one UoO department and/or prominent external collaborators).

We encourage sub-theme applications from any area of energy-related research throughout the university. We also welcome UoO faculty and departments not currently engaged with OERC to apply.

Sub-theme funding per annum is budgeted at $8,000, to be awarded through an annual contestable round to a maximum $4000 per project per year.

Applications (max 1 page) should be submitted to Jane Khan ([oercadmin@otago.ac.nz](mailto:oercadmin@otago.ac.nz)) **by 30th April 2018 using the application form below. The Participating staff table can be on a separate page.**

Grant requirements:

* Money can be used for expendables or salaries, but staff salaries must be managed by the department of the primary applicant.
* Primary applicant must be a University of Otago Staff member.
* Grant funding must be claimed by **31st March 2019.**
* A one page report outlining the outcomes of the project must be sent to the OERC steering committee by **10th December 2018.**

Please contact Jane Khan [oercadmin@otago.ac.nz](mailto:oercadmin@otago.ac.nz) if you have any questions or require any further information.

**An example of a successful sub-theme funding proposal.**

Dr Sandra Mandic was provided sub-theme funding in 2016 to assist with the organization of an International Symposium on “Active Living and Environment: Towards a Healthier and More Sustainable Future” (28-30 August 2017). The main objectives being “To establish a new interdisciplinary energy-related network across the University of Otago connecting researchers interested the fields of Health, Transportation and Environment. And to raise the profile of the University of Otago energy-related research nationally and internationally through an organization of the international symposium.”

**See next page below for Sub-theme form**

## **OERC Sub-Theme Funding Application 2017**

**Project title:**

**Overall research objectives**

**Intended use for the sub-Theme funding – including outline budget and timings**

**Future intentions, including funding applications, commercialisation etc.**

**Participating staff:**

*(Please note that all staff listed here must have consented to being named on this application)*

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name & Title** | **Department** | **Email** | **Phone** |
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