

# Sustainability Research Theme – Undergraduate Sustainability Research Opportunities Programme (USROP)

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## *Funding scheme for UG students to complete a Sustainability research placement*

We are pleased to announce the Undergraduate Sustainability Research Opportunities Programme (USROP) for 2018-19. The programme provides financial awards of up to a maximum of £2000 each to support Surrey undergraduate students to gain experience in sustainability-related research between June and September 2019.

Applications can be submitted by either an academic, a researcher or a UG student but must confirm the agreement of the supervisor(s) and UG student (PGR students can be named as co-supervisors). Submissions involving Early Career Researchers/Lecturers are encouraged.

It would be preferable for the research to be carried out on campus at the University of Surrey and research projects which focus on campus-orientated sustainability processes/applications will be viewed favourably. A weekly bursary of £225 will be offered for placements of a maximum of 8 weeks duration between 03 June and 20 September 2019 in addition to a maximum of £200 towards consumables, research travel costs and materials.

Applications must be **submitted by 4pm on Tuesday 07 May 2019**. They will be considered by an internal panel with **successful applications announced by Monday 20 May 2019**.

A short report is required at the conclusion of the research placement in order to share the outcomes achieved and a poster should be produced to accompany this. The report and poster will be used to promote the University Research Theme of Sustainability.

Applications must be submitted online using the link [here](#).

### **The 2018-19 scheme will be considered on the criteria below:**

- The application can be submitted by either an academic, research or UG student but must confirm the agreement of the supervisor(s) and UG student
- The research placement/internship must take place during the dates provided above
- Clear demonstration of the link to the Sustainability Research Theme must be indicated in the proposed activity
- Explain how the project could lead to further research, for instance third-year dissertation plans/postgraduate research/full research bid application
- Detail how the project will enhance the potential for Sustainability-related research at the University and/or externally
- A week-to-week work plan should be included with the application
- Details of any consumable/travel/materials funds requested (up to a max. £200)

Professor Richard Murphy, Theme Champion, is available to meet potential applicants to discuss their application and eligibility prior to submission – please contact via email at [rj.murphy@surrey.ac.uk](mailto:rj.murphy@surrey.ac.uk)  
Any general enquiries should be directed to Susie Cornick-Willis, Research Theme Coordinator, Research Strategy  
[themes@surrey.ac.uk](mailto:themes@surrey.ac.uk) / 01483 683742

## *The Sustainability theme*

The University has chosen to help develop activity in a set of thematic research areas, as part of delivering on its ambitious research strategy, which seeks significant increase in the level of research income, in the quality of outputs, and in research reputation over the next five years to 2022.

At the core of the Sustainability theme is research that enables society to undertake activities and developments, such that they meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Our Sustainability research includes: developing a better understanding of the world's resources; understanding environmental phenomena and how they impact on society; developing an understanding of the behaviours and attitudes that shape the way people interact with their environment; and the development of technologies, processes and models that seek to improve our ability to live sustainably and well.