



Department of Environmental Management Staff Profiles



Jillian FRATER

Jillian Frater teaches Professional Practice to third year students at Lincoln University. She completed her undergraduate degree in Biology and Zoology at Auckland University, with a focus on marine biology. After a year of teacher training, Jillian taught at a high school in Auckland but then left to travel overseas for a few years. She returned to undertake a Masters of Applied Science in Resource Management at what was then CRM (Centre for Resource Management) at Lincoln. At the time, Roy Montgomery was a fellow student of hers and Geoff Kerr was a fresh-faced PhD student. She then worked for many years as a planner for central and local government, and as a planning consultant. After having children and working part-time, she recently completed her PhD in Geography at the University of Canterbury. Her PhD focused on behavioural change and adolescent cycling. Since her PhD she has published several papers including two in conjunction with colleagues at the School of Physical Education, Sport and Exercise Sciences at the University of Otago. She is currently finalising two more papers in relation to her PhD. Her main research interests are creating cities for people, the regeneration of Christchurch and transport planning.



Sylvia NISSEN

Sylvia is teaching third-year Environmental Policy and has previously taught introductory New Zealand Policy and Governance.

Sylvia is a Postdoctoral Fellow in the in the Department of Political Science and International Relations at the University of Canterbury and the Centre for the Understanding of Sustainable Prosperity (CUSP) at the University of Surrey, UK, led by Professor Tim Jackson. In this position, she is the Co-Ordinator of the project, CYCLES (Children and Youth in Cities, Lifestyles Evaluation and Sustainability), a study that seeks to understand the conditions that enable young people to live more sustainable, fulfilling lives in cities. The study examines the lifestyles of young people living in seven cities: Christchurch (New Zealand), Dhaka (Bangladesh), São Paulo (Brazil), New Delhi (India), Yokohama (Japan), Grahamstown (South Africa) and London (UK).

Sylvia received her doctorate in Political Science at the University of Canterbury earlier in 2017. For her research, she reconsidered the political action and agency of contemporary university students in Aotearoa, drawing on 70 in-depth interviews she collected with students at all eight of New Zealand's

universities. For this research, she was awarded the Kate Sheppard Memorial Trust Scholarship, as well as two national graduate essay prizes in political science and sociology.

Prior to her doctorate, Sylvia received a Master of Environmental Science in 2013 from Monash University, Australia, where she examined the issue of representation in Canterbury's water governance. She was also awarded First Class Honours in Political Science at the University of Canterbury in 2011, having spent the year being taught out of tents following the earthquakes. She has published widely in local and international journals and edited volumes, and is currently revising her doctoral research for publication as a book.