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Implementing Climate Change Research at Universities: Barriers, Potential and Actions

Walter Leal Filho¹, Edward A. Morgan^{2,3*}, Eric S. Godoy⁴, Ulisses M Azeiteiro⁵, Paula Bacelar-Nicolau⁷, Lucas Veiga Ávila⁷, Claudia Mac-Lean⁸, Jean Hugé⁹

¹ School of Science and the Environment, Manchester Metropolitan University, Chester Street, Manchester M1 5GD, UK w.leal@mmu.ac.uk

² Cities Research Institute, Griffith University, 170 Kessels Road, Brisbane, Queensland 4111, Australia ed.morgan@griffith.edu.au

³ Climate Change Response Program, Griffith University, Parklands Drive, Southport Queensland 4222, Australia

⁴ Department of Philosophy, Illinois State University, Stevenson Hall 412, Normal, IL NY, 61790, USA esgodoy@ilstu.edu

⁵ Department of Biology & CESAM Centre for Environmental and Marine Studies, University of Aveiro, 3810-193 Aveiro, Portugal ulisses@ua.pt

⁶ Unversidade Aberta, Portugal & Centre for Functional Ecology, Universidade de Coimbra, Portugal pnicolau@uab.pt

⁷ Federal University Of Santa Maria - UFSM, Brazil. admlucasveiga@gmail.com

⁸ Office of Engineering for Sustainable Development, University of Chile, Beauchef 850, Santiago 837048, Chile cmaclean@ing.uchile.cl

⁹ Systems Ecology & Resource Management Unit, Université Libre de Bruxelles. Avenue Franklin Roosevelt 50, 1050 Brussels, Belgium.

¹⁰ Plant Biology & Nature Management Unit, Vrije Universiteit Brussel. Pleinlaan 2, 1050 Brussels, Belgium.

¹¹ KLIMOS-ACROPOLIS Policy Support Platform. Brussels, Belgium Jean.Huge@ulb.ac.be

Abstract

Many universities around the world have been active centres of climate change research. However, there are a number of barriers to climate change research, stemming both from the nature of the research and the structure of institutions. This paper offers an overview of the barriers which hinder the handling of matters related to climate change at institutions of higher education (IHEs), and reports on an empirical study to investigate these barriers using a global survey of higher education institutions. It concludes by proposing some steps which could be followed with a view to making climate change more present and effective in university research and teaching. These include changing approaches to research, outreach and teaching to better support action on climate change.

(9000 words, including references)

1. Introduction

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