Sustainability, Climate and Health Strategy 2026-2030

Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences

THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

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Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners

The Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the Traditional Owners of the unceded lands on which we work, learn and live. We pay respect to their cultures, knowledges and values that have sustainably cared for Country for millennia.

> *"[Aboriginal people] have survived the worst that the past had thrown at us, and we are here with our songs, our ceremonies, our land, our language and our people – our full identity. What a gift this is that we can give you, if you choose to accept us in a meaningful way."*
> – Yunupingu (2016)[1]

Image: My Country

Maker: Ada Pula Beasley (b.1959)

Date: 2024

Description: Ada Pula Beasley's sensitive impressionist painting of Alyawarr Country is rendered in her distinctive, impressionist dabbing technique - brief hazy strokes that coalesce to form trees, shrubs and flowers in a palette that draws from the local flowers of the region.

Beasley paints a desert in bloom, with dunes of red earth awash with green and blanketed by wildflowers, capturing the nuanced changes of the light and colour in Alyawarr Country throughout the day and across the seasons.

"I'm gonna tell story about my Country. After the bushfires, when the rain comes and brings back all the bush flowers and bush medicine back again and make it green, this [is] why I do this painting, reminds me when we go hunting after the bush fire and see just black, then it rains and brings flowers back and the trees and the blue skies, and the snappy gum trees up the hill."

1 Yunupingu, G. (2016, July). Rom Watangu. The Monthly. **https://www.themonthly.com.au/july-2016/essays/rom-watangu**

Preface

With profound pleasure, we introduce the first Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences Sustainability, Climate and Health Strategy 2026–2030. Human health is inextricably linked to the health of Earth's natural systems, which we rely on for safe and liveable environments. These natural systems are now under unprecedented strain, with the impacts of climate change and environmental degradation increasingly evident. At the same time, health systems themselves contribute a significant proportion of national and global greenhouse gas emissions. With these pressing challenges come moral responsibilities and opportunities for leadership.

Professor Forbes McGain
Associate Dean Healthcare Sustainability
Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences

In this context, the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences, and its six schools, are uniquely positioned to lead change through our education, research, operations and partnerships for health. Together, we are well-placed to shape future health professionals, generate evidence-based solutions and collaborate with health systems to drive environmental resilience. This Strategy articulates our shared ambition to creating world-leading health systems and communities that are equitable, environmentally sustainable and adaptive to a changing climate.

Written through wide consultation with key stakeholders, this Strategy is informed by Indigenous peoples' values and input, the University's Sustainability Plan 2030 as well as The Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences' Advancing Health 2030 Strategic Plan. This Sustainability, Climate and Health Strategy 2026–2030 reflects our shared commitment to embedding environmental sustainability and climate resilience across all facets of our work at local, national and global scales.

Through collective action, collaboration and leadership, the Faculty is committed to advancing the health of people and the planet now and for generations to come.

Doctor Jessica Abbonizio
Sustainable Healthcare Manager
Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences

Background

This Strategy outlines pathways to a future where the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences' (MDHS) students, educators, researchers, practitioners and partners are empowered in sustainability, climate resilience and health.[2] Through this Strategy, we envision our journey towards creating world-leading health sectors and communities that are equitable, environmentally sustainable and climate responsive.

The health and wellbeing of our communities are deeply interconnected with Earth's natural ecosystems, which are changing rapidly. Indeed, the World Health Organization recognises climate change as a fundamental threat to human health.[3] As highlighted by the University of Melbourne's Climate Collaborative Action for Transformative Change in Health and Healthcare (CATCH) Lab and Melbourne Climate Futures (MCF), direct health impacts of a changing climate include those from extreme weather events and related disasters, such as heatwaves, floods and bushfires.[4,5] The indirect climate-health impacts include changing patterns of vector-borne diseases, forced migration, water and food insecurity, heat stress and mental health impacts. Recently, the International Court of Justice has also ruled that the countries that do not act to prevent climate change and its human and environmental consequences could be breaching international law and impacted countries could be entitled to reparations.[6]

Colonisation has widespread impacts on the health of people and the planet. Indigenous peoples in Australia and globally bring rich, longstanding Traditional Knowledges, cultural practices and relational ways of being that are foundational to health and ecological sustainability.[7,8] Traditional Knowledges appreciate the deep interconnections between land, water, sky, plants, animals, human health and wellbeing.[7,8] Centring Indigenous leadership and advancing equity, sovereignty, land connection and rights are crucial for sustainability.[7,8]

> *Solutions to planetary health can be found in bringing together Indigenous knowledges and innovative science [...] This process needs to come with humility, true sharing of power and knowledge and a sense of urgency and deep commitment from humanity to understand the fragility of our existence. We do need to act – and act now (p. 128).*[7]

The Faculty of MDHS is uniquely positioned to lead and publicly advocate for sustainability across the University, diverse health sectors and broader community. The MDHS Advancing Health 2030[9] Strategic Plan sets out our purpose for our facilities, education and research to meet the challenges of a changing world. Indeed, humanity is now in the historic position of changing the global balance of human and natural environments with widespread consequences, as recognised by the University's Sustainability Charter.[10] In that context, this Sustainability, Climate and Health Strategy 2026—2030 ("Strategy") outlines the Faculty's commitment to integrate sustainability in our operations, research, education and community.

The purpose and vision of this Strategy is to continue to drive environmental sustainability and planetary health across the Faculty through the following Advancing Health 2030[9] strategic themes:

- Place: We will grow our physical spaces as world-renowned centres of best practice by addressing our emissions sources and enhancing resource efficiency, waste management and climate resilience.
- Community: We will empower a values-driven, inclusive and accountable community of faculty members, students, alumni and industry partners by raising awareness and supporting them to practice and advocate for environmental sustainability in their professional and personal lives.
- Education: We will cultivate exceptional students and graduates who are leaders in their field by integrating sustainability, planetary health and climate preparedness into our curricula and foster environmental responsibility among future health professionals.

2 Melbourne Medical School, University of Melbourne. (2025). Sustainability, climate and health strategy 2025–2030. **https://medicine.unimelb.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0006/5366301/Sustainability,-Climate-and-Health-Strategy-2025-2030.pdf**

3 World Health Organization. (2023, October 12). Climate change and health. **https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/climate-change-and-health**

4 Melbourne Climate Futures, University of Melbourne. (n.d.). Health, wellbeing and climate justice. **https://www.unimelb.edu.au/climate/collaboration/research-themes/health,-wellbeing-and-climate-justice**

5 Climate CATCH Lab, University of Melbourne. (n.d.). Health impacts. **https://www.unimelb.edu.au/climate/collaboration/climate-catch-lab/health-impacts**

6 International Court of Justice. (2025, July 23). Advisory opinion: Obligations of States in respect of climate change (Case No. 187). **https://www.icj-cij.org/sites/default/files/case-related/187/187-20250723-adv-01-00-en.pdf**

7 Andrews, S., Stanley, F., & Eades, S. (2024). Planetary health: Ancient wisdom for modern problems. In M. N. Neale, First knowledges: Health – Spirit, country and culture (pp. 126–133). Thames & Hudson Australia Pty Ltd.

8 Redvers, N., Celidwen, Y., Schultz, C., Horn, O., Githaiga, C., Vera, M., Perdrisat, M., Mad Plume, L., Kobei, D., Cunningham Kain, M., Poelina, A., Rojas, J. N., & Blondin, B. (2022). The determinants of planetary health: An Indigenous consensus perspective. The Lancet Planetary Health, 6(2), e156–e163. **https://doi.org/10.1016/S2542-5196(21)00354-5**

9 The Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences, University of Melbourne. (2022). Advancing Health 2030 strategy. **https://mdhs.unimelb.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0012/4193868/Advancing-Health-2030-Strategy.pdf**

10 University of Melbourne. (2018, February). Sustainability charter. **https://sustainablecampus.unimelb.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0011/1833266/UoM_Sustainability-Charter_Feb_18.pdf**

- Discovery: We will deepen the excellence and impact of our research from discovery to translation by implementing sustainable practices in our research, teaching spaces and labs. We will explore innovations for climate change mitigation and adaptation for health and for reducing the environmental footprint of health sectors while improving community outcomes.
- Global: We will transform local, Indigenous and global health outcomes through partnerships. We will focus on addressing complex sustainability, planetary health and climate challenges at the intersection of health, the natural environment and equity.

With numerous ambitions, we will focus our efforts on high impact actions at individual, faculty and university levels. As individuals, key priorities include addressing our food choices, especially the avoidance of meat, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions of our procurement and air-travel (noting tensions with the University's commitment to international engagement.) At a faculty and university level, critical actions involve transitioning away from fossil gas to achieve 100% electrification and collaborating closely with our partners in health and research institutes to move rapidly to a more sustainable footing.

The Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences' High-Level Priority Actions for Sustainability, Climate and Health

- Reducing our air travel emissions by at least 10% from 2019 levels
- Reducing our electricity and fossil gas consumption/ emissions by 10% by the end of 2026 and 20% by end of 2027 compared to 2024
- Transitioning away from fossil gas to achieve 100% electrification
- Reducing our procurement emissions
- Implementing principles-based catering as the default for our faculty and school events
- Enhancing and supporting communities of practice, events and communications for sustainability
- Expanding sustainability-related curriculum and educational offerings for our students
- Advancing research for sustainability, climate and health
- Enhancing environmental sustainability in our laboratories and research practices
- Supporting Indigenous leadership for sustainability in Australia and Indo-Pacific regions
- Empowering our partner health services in sustainability

As a faculty, we are committed to embracing the global and local realities of environmental change and its implications for health. There is a diversity of perspectives and understandings of sustainability that resonate differently across the variety of health professions and health-determining sectors. Like the University's Sustainability Plan 2030,[11] this Strategy takes a pluralist and interdisciplinary approach to sustainability (see Glossary, Appendices, Table 1). In addition to the commonly utilised Sustainable Development Goals,[12] understandings of sustainability in a health context include One Health, sustainable healthcare and planetary health. Indeed, planetary health:

> *has now become an emerging Western concept that at last acknowledges that human health is intricately connected to the health of natural systems within the Earth's biosphere and that the health of all species is deeply reliant on it (p. 128).*[7]

The carbon footprint attributed to health care is approximately 7% of Australia's total with hospitals and pharmaceuticals the major contributors.[13] As such, the Faculty's engagement with current and future health professionals is critical to accelerating change. Through our research, education, and partnerships, we are committed to advancing sustainability across the systems that shape health, including healthcare delivery, policy and governance, biodiversity, infrastructure, urban design, education, housing, food and water systems, transport, technology, and ecology. Embracing systems-based approaches aligned with pluralistic understandings of sustainability is essential to achieving meaningful and equitable outcomes.

This Strategy is closely aligned with the Faculty's Advancing Health 2030 Strategic Plan,[9] the Melbourne Medical School's Sustainability, Climate and Health Strategy 2025-2030,[2] The University of Melbourne's Sustainability Plan 2030,[12] Sustainability Charter,[10] and Advancing Research 2030 Strategy,[14] which identifies climate, sustainability and ecosystem health as key priorities. This Strategy has been written through wide engagement with a range of key stakeholders (Appendices, Table 2), including faculty leadership, members of its six schools, the University's Sustainability Strategy and Delivery Teams as well as faculty member responses to the 2024 campus-wide sustainability survey.[15] Building on the outstanding leadership and commitment of our staff and students, the Strategy aims to embed and scale up sustainability initiatives across the Faculty.

Like the University's Sustainability Plan 2030,[11] the success and impact of this Strategy relies on a deeply collaborative approach to embracing actions for sustainability and planetary health across the Faculty and beyond. The Faculty will continue to embed sustainability across all areas within our direct influence, including our resource allocation, education and training, research priorities and practices, operations, communications and data management. More broadly, as a faculty, we will continue to identify and pursue opportunities to advance sustainability through active engagement in cross-faculty and institution-led initiatives and processes. We will further amplify our voices through public advocacy, strategic communications, advancing evidence and translating research findings into solutions for a healthier, safer and more equitable future for all.

This Strategy is organised such that each theme (Place, Community, Education, Discovery and Global) begins with an introductory narrative followed by a table with Advancing Health 2030[9] strategies and our corresponding actions for sustainability, climate and health.

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11 University of Melbourne. (2022). Sustainability Plan 2030. **https://about.unimelb.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0020/346214/Sustainability-Plan-2030.pdf**

12 United Nations. (n.d.). Sustainable development goals. **https://sdgs.un.org/goals**

13 Malik, A., Lenzen, M., McAlister, S., & McGain, F. (2018). The carbon footprint of Australian health care. *The Lancet Planetary Health, 2*(1), e27–e35. **https://doi.org/10.1016/S2542-5196(17)30180-8**

14 University of Melbourne. (2025). *Advancing research 2030: Excellence for impact.* **https://research.unimelb.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0011/5347055/Advancing-Research-2030_Excellence-for-Impact.pdf**

15 University of Melbourne. (2024). *2024 Sustainability survey: Final report.* **https://sustainablecampus.unimelb.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0007/5174899/2024-Sustainability-Survey-final-report.pdf**

Place

As the University's biggest faculty, MDHS' footprint has a significant impact on realising the University's Sustainability Plan.[11] Addressing the environmental impacts of our activities, research and facilities is therefore a core priority. We will actively reduce greenhouse gas emissions across the sources we control, and supply chains as well as staff and student travel. In collaboration with key stakeholders including the Melbourne Biodiversity Institute, we will enhance greenspaces across our footprint and establish robust datasets to monitor electricity and fossil gas and water use, air travel emissions and waste generation. Building on the University's achievement of zero net emissions from electricity, we will improve the energy efficiency of new and existing infrastructure, support gas elimination and electrification projects, reduce air travel emissions and explore opportunities for divestment away from fossil fuels.

In parallel, we will support University-led waste audits, expansion of organic and cardboard collections and behaviour-change initiatives to minimise waste contamination. In alignment with the University's Procurement Policy, Social and Sustainable Procurement Framework[16] and Sustainable Events Guide,[17] we will strive to enhance the environmental sustainability of our procurement and events, with a particular focus on circularity, waste reduction and prioritising reusable over single-use items. We will further implement principles-based catering as the default for faculty and school events in recognition that the University of Melbourne's Student Union "are encouraging students, staff and university groups, clubs and societies to […] transition to plant-based food systems that will create a more sustainable future for us and our planet."[18] Recognising the emissions intensity of the construction sector,[19] we will prioritise sustainable practices and materials in new builds while preserving our existing infrastructure wherever feasible. Together, these actions will reduce the Faculty's ecological footprints to advance environmental sustainability and planetary health.

16 University of Melbourne. (n.d.). Social and sustainable procurement. **https://about.unimelb.edu.au/strategy/governance/regulatory-framework/supplying-to-the-university/social-procurement**

17 University of Melbourne. (n.d.). Sustainable events. Sustainable Campus. **https://sustainablecampus.unimelb.edu.au/get-involved/sustainable-events**

18 University of Melbourne Student Union. (n.d.). Plant-Based Treaty petition. **https://umsu.unimelb.edu.au/make-difference/environment/campaigns/petition/**

19 Yu, M., Wiedmann, T., Crawford, R., & Tait, C. (2016). The carbon footprint of Australia's construction sector. In Proceedings of the International High-Performance Built Environment Conference – A Sustainable Built Environment Conference 2016 Series (SBE16), iHBE 2016 (pp. 276–284). UNSW Sydney. **https://www.sbe16sydney.be.unsw.edu.au/Proceedings/34621.pdf**

What we plan to do

Advancing Health 2030	Actions for environmental sustainability (by 2030)
Develop world-leading facilities that foster innovation and integration (within the reality of an environmentally sustainable framework and planetary health)	Work with the Corporate Development Estate Planning team to co-develop a plan for enhancing biodiversity across the Faculty, encouraging natural environments and fit-for-climate native gardens wherever feasible. Biodiversity will be enhanced in partnership with Indigenous colleagues, communities and Indigenous-led organisations. Collaborate with students to enhance biodiversity and environmental sustainability across the MDHS Faculty, in alignment with the principles of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES).[20] We will do so through a range of initiatives, including creating and supporting student 'living labs' projects such as biodiversity audits and revegetation of faculty grounds. Partner with Campus Operations and Delivery to establish rigorous baseline datasets for the Faculty's electricity, gas, water, construction, air travel emissions and waste production to measure future performance and inform targets. In partnership with the Campus Operations and Delivery teams, explore and communicate where spaces are under/utilised across the Faculty and ensure heating, ventilation and air-conditioning systems are scheduled according to occupancy needs. Support University-led efforts to analyse climate-related risks and develop and implement climate adaptation plans to ensure a high climate change prepared and resilient MDHS faculty. Support realisation of the University's climate targets.[11] Reduce faculty-associated air travel emissions by at least 10% from 2019 levels as per the University's Sustainability Plan.[12] Our approach for doing so will be informed by the UoM Guidelines (Business Class may be approved if and only if the flight is longer than 7 hours and there are circumstances requiring a fare class other than economy) as well as insights from MDHS research and staff consultations on air travel emissions.[21] We aim to understand how our air travel can be better prioritised (e.g. privileging multi-purpose trips, taking long-haul business class flights only to a meeting, then returning in economy) and how to minimise low value air travel (e.g., business class flights) through behaviour-change communications, encouraging dialogue among staff, exploring quotas (e.g., number of conferences attended per year) and addressing policy barriers. Additionally, we will explore measures to reduce emissions from essential air travel including carbon offsetting and advocacy for cleaner aviation. Reduce waste to landfill to 10kg per person, per annum in line with the University's Sustainability Plan.[11] Our approach will include reducing food and associated waste (e.g. via composting, encouraging reusable crockery and minimising packaging) as well as addressing plastic waste. We will pay particular attention to the significant plastic waste generated in our laboratories, which, for example, could be reduced by introducing reusable linens. Integrate the University's Sustainable Events Guide[17] and a food and beverage sustainability guide for all faculty, school and department events and activities. Implement principles-based default catering for faculty and school events, such as promoting healthy eating, offering 50% plant-based options, reducing food waste and encouraging sustainable sourcing. Food sustainability initiatives will be developed in consultation with key faculty and chancellery stakeholders and with consideration of dietary requirements. Implement a sustainability standing item for the Faculty and School Operations and Governance Committee, and appropriate committee representation/expertise. Grow the number of designated staff roles to coordinate sustainability policy and activity at the Faculty level. For example, establish an appropriate FTE allocation based on the number of staff members within each school. Embed principles for ethical and sustainable consumption and service provision into operations and procurement practices in line with University Sustainability Plan.[11] Enhance collaboration across schools to coordinate sustainable procurement mechanisms for supplies (i.e., using ethical suppliers, purchase sustainable products, purchase in bulk to minimise cost, transportation and packaging.)

20 Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services. (n.d.). *IPBES.* **https://www.ipbes.net**

21 Quinn, P., Gallagher, H. C., Curato, N., Bowen, K., & Gibbs, L. (2025). What should we do about staff air travel emissions? Crowdsourcing consensus and understanding division within an Australian university. Transportation Research Part D: Transport and Environment, Article 104878. **https://doi.org/10.1016/j.trd.2025.104878**

Advancing Health 2030	Actions for environmental sustainability (by 2030)
	Commit to energy-efficient, all-electric (no fossil gas) and climate resilient design for all new capital builds as well as renewable electricity to all sites as per the University Sustainability Plan.[11]
	Partner with Estate Planning and/or the energy team in Campus Operations and Delivery to develop a refurbishment plan to transition existing faculty buildings to all electric (i.e., removing fossil gas where possible).
	Consult with key faculty and chancellery stakeholders on piloting electricity savings initiatives in our labs, offices and teaching spaces, such as optimising temperature settings of freezer farms and heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems. Further data on energy use, including specific data from freezers and other equipment will be forthcoming.
	Provide real-time and historical metrics of faculty resource use (e.g., electricity, gas and water) that is easily accessible to all staff.
	Decrease total and potable water consumption in alignment with the University Sustainability Plan.[11]
	Promote public transport, including local rail developments; cycling facilities; accessible greenspaces and flexible work locations to reduce travel emissions of faculty members and students. Investigate options for installing electric vehicle (EV) charging stations for cars and e-bikes along with incentive programs.
	Promote sustainable and responsible investments, divestments and sources of funding consistent with the University's Responsible Investment Guide.[22]
Strengthen connections in and across our precinct network to accelerate collaboration and impact **Encourage enablers of a world-class innovation, translation and commercialisation ecosystem**	Further develop and participate in the Faculty's networks and communities of practice across all sustainability stakeholders (Appendices, Table 2).
	Encourage participation of faculty members, honorary staff and affiliated health services in related community of practice networks across the entire university.
	Enhance collaboration for sustainability and planetary health across the Faculty, entire university, clinical and research partners, industry leaders and government bodies.
	Partner with Indigenous colleagues and communities to co-create Indigenous-led sustainability and planetary health initiatives.
	Partner with stakeholders (Appendices, Table 2), for the donation of unused items across affiliated sites and teaching labs to reduce unnecessary waste to landfill.
	Allocate dedicated funding for sustainability initiatives and introduce a faculty-level recognition program to celebrate those driving meaningful environmental change.
	Collaborate with innovation partners (e.g., Aikenhead Centre for Medical Discovery), to promote sustainable health devices and practice pathways.
Partner to digitally transform health	Support high quality video conferencing and immersive experience to facilitate remote connection and reduce transport emissions.
	Empower cross-faculty learning to understand the responsible use and metrics surrounding digital infrastructures and associated environmental impacts with university leaders.
	Encourage the most effective and efficient use of artificial intelligence (AI), avoiding excesses of energy and water use.
	Actively empower leaders and stakeholders in AI (i.e., the Centre for Digital Transformation of Health, the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology, School of Computing and Information Systems and the Melbourne eResearch Group and others within Appendices, Table 2), for novel means of advancing health and sustainability more broadly.
	Actively engage in discussions about both the benefits and risks particularly of general AI/ artificial general intelligence.

22 University of Melbourne. (2024). Responsible investment guide. **https://about.unimelb.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0031/428368/UoM-Responsible-Investment-Guide-RIG-Final-2024.pdf**

Community

Our faculty is committed to cultivating a values-driven, inclusive, and accountable community. Harnessing the breadth and depth of expertise across the Faculty's community of staff, student, honorary, alumni, industry partners and diversity of stakeholders for sustainability and planetary health is vital. A key priority is increasing the representation of Indigenous students and staff and actively involving Indigenous communities in shaping our curricula and research. Partnerships with Indigenous communities, and those living with the disproportionate health impacts of climate change, will be crucial to developing solutions for sustainability and planetary health. Ongoing collaboration with leaders across the University, including Onemda and the numerous sustainability stakeholders affiliated with MDHS will be critical for this work.

Our collaborations present opportunities for the Faculty to actively promote leadership and foster a culture of sustainability and planetary health across various initiatives. Growing new and existing communities of practice, and networks across the Faculty will be essential to sharing diverse solutions for sustainability and planetary health. Furthermore, the Faculty recognises the importance of collaborating with alumni for sustainability-related endeavours and celebrating their valuable contributions in driving sustainability and planetary health work forward. We will harness and amplify the efforts and progress of dedicated faculty sustainability champions to enhance staff capacity and engagement across our schools. By fostering a shared sense of responsibility, the Faculty will support the longevity of its sustainability and planetary health research, innovations and education.

What we plan to do

Advancing Health 2030	Actions for environmental sustainability (by 2030)
Enhance our culture and values and scale them consistently across our community **Create and celebrate the diversity of our people and be accountable for providing equal opportunities**	Nurture a community of students, educators, honorary staff, researchers and leaders to foster sustainable and climate-resilient health sectors. Facilitate and support new public events (e.g., workshops, symposiums and showcases) for sustainability and climate adaptation, inviting and celebrating the work of faculty members, alumni and students. Celebrate Indigenous leadership in and for sustainability, planetary health and climate resilience with events, exhibitions, and public seminars. Encourage faculty staff and students to engage with the University's sustainability advocacy and mentorship programs (i.e., Sustainability Advocates program, Green Impact teams and Wattle fellowships) as well as international student networks such as the Planetary Health Report Cards (PHRC), Doctors for the Environment Australia(DEA) and the Australian Medical Students Association (AMSA) Code Green (Appendices, Table 2). Explore embedding sustainability-related measures of success in professional development and promotions frameworks within the Faculty. For example, highlighting the importance of thinking globally, acting and travelling locally with lower carbon footprints. Expand and actively participate in cross-disciplinary and cross-institutional networks, stakeholders and communities of practice for sustainability, planetary health and climate change with a particular focus on those that are Indigenous-led. These include the Healthy Environments and Lives (HEAL) Network, Onemda, The Melbourne Poche Centre for Indigenous Health, the Wurru Wurru Health Unit, and the Mabo Centre (Appendices, Table 2). In collaboration with Indigenous colleagues and communities, award honorary doctorates to Indigenous Elders in recognition of their significant contributions to environmental sustainability, planetary health and climate change and health.
Engage our community in the design of our education offer and in all we do	Increase engagement with clinical and research partners, governments and community to advance individual, societal and planetary health, and climate preparedness. Strengthen partnerships with Indigenous communities to co-design research programs and curricula for sustainability, climate resilience and planetary health. Engage thoughtfully with health consumers, particularly populations facing disproportionate health risks of climate change, through listening, co-designing, and collaborating, to ensure the Faculty's research and education addresses their climate health risks. Explore establishing a dedicated advisory group of health consumers to provide ongoing input and guidance on climate-health priorities as well as cross-faculty collaborations for climate justice. Empower rural health communities (e.g., ongoing relationship with the University's Dookie campus and local community) to partner in the development of sustainability and planetary health initiatives for their needs.
Actively and thoughtfully engage with our community and alumni	Strengthen and expand sustainability-related international partnership networks with highly ranked faculties, institutions, industry leaders, governments and influential alumni. Engage in national and international climate policy discussions to contribute evidence-based insights and publicly advocate for sustainability in and for health and healthcare. Empower the communities that we and our partners serve, understanding their needs and co-design solutions to the sustainability and planetary health challenges they face. Enable stronger relationships with the Faculty's honorary staff in related areas to extend the impact of our work. Provide avenues and events to actively engage our alumni network. Draw on the talents, experience and leadership of our alumni to teach and inspire others within our community, including our students. Explore possibilities for developing a database of key alumni contributors and coordinating our work for sustainability with their roles and priorities. Continue our representation in the MACH Sustainability of Health Care and Research Community of Practice.

Education

We are committed to developing graduates who are leaders in their fields and drive meaningful change in health, research, and their communities. Guided by the University's Sustainability Plan[11] and Advancing Students and Education Strategy 2023-2030[23] we are embedding sustainability across our curricula to support students' understanding of the interplay between biodiversity, environmental and human systems.

Integrating climate and planetary health research into teaching is essential for developing sustainability leaders across health sectors. Drawing on the strengths of our faculty research and communities, we will expand education for sustainability through interprofessional and discipline-specific approaches. This includes embedding sustainability into the formal responsibilities of education staff and reducing reliance on voluntary contributions from students and staff.

We will further build on existing exemplars of sustainability and planetary health education across the Faculty. We will continue working with students across medicine, dentistry, audiology, physiotherapy and other programs to respond annually to Planetary Health Report Card findings. Educators are advancing this work through new learning outcomes, curriculum mapping, workshops, assessments, research projects, outreach and events. Through these efforts, we will equip future health professionals with the knowledge and skills to support both community and planetary health.

23 University of Melbourne. (2023). *Advancing students and education strategy: 2023–2030.* **https://about.unimelb.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0031/384367/Advancing-Students-and-Education-Strategy.pdf**

What we plan to do

Advancing Health 2030	Actions for environmental sustainability (by 2030)
Support our academics and staff to be exemplary teachers and innovators in education	Advance education for sustainability, planetary health and climate preparedness across faculty programs, prevocational and postgraduate teaching as well as clinical schools in consultation with faculty members, students and stakeholders (Appendices, Table 2). We will do so by mapping sustainability into our curricula, developing teaching and learning resources and training for educators and convening interprofessional communities of practice. Explore pathways for fostering, tracking and benchmarking core and elective education pathways for sustainability and planetary health, including supervisor support networks and databases. Map our curricula against sustainability and planetary health-related professional competencies and accreditation standards, ensuring our courses meet and exceed these requirements. Where such standards are lacking, we will actively advocate for their development and implementation via accreditation bodies. Develop interprofessional networks and resource repositories in education for sustainability and planetary health in collaboration with Indigenous and non-Indigenous colleagues and communities. Prioritise Indigenous-led education for sustainability and planetary health and cross-pollination with the MDHS Indigenous teaching and learning communities of practice. Educate our students on the ongoing impacts of colonisation and the consequences for planetary health, ecosystems and global environmental challenges. Create opportunities for students to learn from Indigenous communities and engage with Indigenous knowledges in the context of sustainability, planetary health, and climate change and health. For example, through experiential learning on Country as well as co-designing education via Community Participatory Action Research approaches and partnering with Elders. Curate a repository of Indigenous-led material and reading lists for sustainability curricula. Educate our students to lead bold advocacy for environmental action among decision-makers and the broader community. Embed sustainability-related staff training and onboarding. Encourage participation in sustainability, climate change and planetary health faculty working groups. Work with education experts, including those in the Collaborative Practice Centre, and a broad range of stakeholders (Appendices, Table 2). Through our collective leadership, we will enhance sustainability and planetary health content throughout our programs. Collaborate with other faculties to adopt effective education for sustainability initiatives they've implemented as well as sharing our own for broader impact. Invite and support proposals for new programs, electives, exchanges and other initiatives to offer inspiring sustainability and planetary health education and leadership opportunities for students. Support the establishment of sustainability-related standing agenda items for relevant faculty and school education committees. Co-develop planetary health modules for MDHS students with sustainability champions, health professionals and students. These modules will aim to cover content including climate science, sustainable behaviours, advocacy and First Nations perspectives.

Advancing Health 2030	Actions for environmental sustainability (by 2030)
Equip our graduates with the job-ready skills and attributes to make a positive societal impact	Prepare students to contribute professionally to meet the health and healthcare challenges of a rapidly changing climate and world, ensuring all MDHS programs have sustainability-related intended learning outcomes.
Deliver a leading education experience that enables students from all backgrounds, particularly our Indigenous students, to succeed	Educate all MDHS students about the principles of planetary health, Sustainable Development Goals, planetary boundaries and climate adaptation, including the need for early warning systems, climate-resilient infrastructure, understanding climate vulnerabilities, mental health support, and workforce preparedness to manage increasing health services demand.
Expose our students to the best of health, research and industry practice	Equip our students with the skills, knowledge and attributes to make a positive contribution in responding to the breaching of planetary boundaries, including climate change, and their impact on the health and wellbeing of the communities we serve.
	Support ways to measure graduate outcomes related to sustainability, including assessments. Partner across faculties, including Engineering and Information Technology; Science and; Education, to develop graduate sustainability competencies and learning outcomes aligned with accreditation standards and global frameworks, such as Green Comp[24] and the Sustainable Development Goals.[12]
	Build on links with our partner organisations and honorary staff to provide excellent educational experiences, providing our students with access to renowned sustainability leaders and organisations.
	Support our students and faculty members to coordinate student-led PHRCs and work towards integrating PHRC recommendations across the Faculty.
	Highlight regular education opportunities and symposia for faculty members, students and researchers, including those by MCF and the Climate CATCH Lab.
	Create new out-of-classroom opportunities (i.e. 'living labs') engaging students in sustainability, revegetation and ecological restoration, particularly those that support projects led by Traditional Owners.
	Continue support for the Faculty's student sustainability and planetary health champions and groups.

24 Bianchi, G., Pisiotis, U., & Cabrera Giraldez, M. (2022). GreenComp: The European sustainability competence framework (Y. Punie & M. Bacigalupo, Eds.). Publications Office of the European Union. **https://publications.jrc.ec.europa.eu/repository/handle/JRC128040**

Discovery

The Faculty is strongly committed to advancing interdisciplinary research, innovation and translation to support healthcare sustainability and planetary health. Our faculty is home to a diverse range of research bodies and partners focused on climate change and health, One Health and sustainable healthcare.

We will further prioritise understanding and reducing the environmental impacts of our research, including laboratory activities, practices and project designs. Alongside this, we will continue to evaluate and publish research on our education in sustainability, climate, and planetary health. Strengthening our education research will advance our teaching in this space and ways of delivering education that minimise environmental impact.

Leveraging our strengths in leading research on the health impacts of climate change, global environmental challenges, education, and life cycle assessments will be central to achieving these goals.

Image: Students working in the Healthcare Carbon Lab, University of Melbourne

What we plan to do

Advancing Health 2030	Actions for environmental sustainability (by 2030)
Harness the capability of our research community to build quality across the research pipeline	Foster the highest quality research by connecting researchers in interdisciplinary and contemporary collaborations for sustainability and planetary health, including the health effects of climate change and climate adaptation innovations. We will continue driving our world-leading research into the health impacts of climate change, including heat, risk of infectious disease outbreaks and weather-related disasters, digital health innovations, materials efficiency and circularity, workforce engagement, systems quality improvement and healthcare carbon foot-printing. Map our research in sustainability, climate change and health and planetary health. Promote Indigenous-led sustainability and planetary health research and ensure Indigenous governance in research involving specific Country and communities. Through national and international research collaborations, explore how Indigenous Elders can and do play central roles in shaping and implementing sustainability, climate change, and planetary health research, policies and initiatives. Highlight sustainability and planetary health research showcases and events, including those co-hosted by MCF, the Climate CATCH Lab and the Healthcare Carbon Lab. Support centralised databases to identify and track existing projects and opportunities, as well as communication channels and websites for sustainability, planetary health and climate adaptation research across the Faculty. Regularly present updates on sustainability, planetary health and climate related research findings at faculty, school and department research committee meetings. Pursue research collaborations with affiliated health institutions and international collaborators. Seek opportunities to scale up and leverage our innovative translational research through responsible pilot funding, incubator, and social venture schemes. Continue research in sustainability, planetary health and climate-related fields in which the Faculty excels, for example, carbon foot-printing, health equity, Pacific engagement, education design and implementation science.
Accelerate and grow our research translation and impact in priority areas	Collaborate across the Faculty to facilitate education pathways and tools for researchers to integrate sustainability, planetary health and climate preparedness principles into their projects. Co-develop modules for sustainability in research with academics and lab staff across MDHS.
Lead and actively participate in cross-cutting flagship programs that redefine local and global health problems	Advance research into how health professionals can leverage their trusted voices in society to advocate for urgent climate and environmental action for health. Mitigate the carbon footprint of research practices and funding proposals. Encourage research grant applications in sustainability, planetary health and climate adaptation. Support the development of sustainability and/or environmental impact assessment guidelines and tools for faculty research and innovation projects. Support researchers in integrating considerations of sustainability, climate change impacts and climate adaptation into their projects. Embed education for sustainability into the training of ethics committee members. Encourage sustainable lab certifications and accreditations across the Faculty through opportunities for seed funding and awards that can strengthen grant applications. Support research translation and advocacy to influence sustainability, planetary health and climate policy. Strengthen and translate our research to support the Faculty to prioritise decarbonisation, climate resilience, health promotion and equity. Increase our public advocacy and partnering activities with local, state and federal government for sustainability.

Advancing Health 2030	Actions for environmental sustainability (by 2030)
	Build and strengthen research partnerships between our healthcare partners and industry to integrate sustainability into the provision of health services. Explore research avenues and resources to identify and support sustainability and planetary health projects through inter- and multi- faculty, health service and industry collaborations. Foster opportunities and participation in student research projects related to sustainability and planetary health. Collaborate with government bodies to develop evidence-based policy briefs, strategies and guidelines to translate research for better clinical and community outcomes. Work with the University's Research, Innovation and Commercialisation team to advance sustainability, planetary health and climate resilience research and research translation.
Develop and train multi-skilled, diverse and inclusive research and innovation leaders	Create the opportunities to incorporate Indigenous knowledges and perspectives into sustainability, climate and planetary health research projects. Foster avenues for sustainability, climate and planetary health research to positively contribute to the lives and wellbeing of Indigenous communities. Foster collaborative research initiatives across the Faculty, University and our external communities for sustainability, planetary health and climate resilience. Enable stronger relationships with, and inclusive of, our honorary staff to support innovative, quality sustainability, planetary health and climate resilience research. Promote inter-faculty collaborations with clinical and research partners to co-design translational research for real world integration of sustainable models of care, practices and products. Secure and expand funding streams for PhD scholarships and research support for early career researchers and academics to maximise our high-impact research and leadership for sustainability, planetary health and climate change and health.

Global

Environmental sustainability, climate change and planetary health are critical global challenges that impact health worldwide. To meet these challenges, we must prioritise an inclusive, diverse, and equitable culture grounded in respect for Indigenous knowledges and the Traditional Owners of the Lands on and beyond which we work and study. By engaging in meaningful partnerships with Indigenous communities, the Faculty is dedicated to positively shaping climate-health outcomes and addressing inequities. Specifically, prioritising Indigenous-led understandings and solutions for sustainable healthcare and climate-health impacts are vital.

Further, we recognise Australia's ethical responsibility to address climate impacts in the Indo-Pacific region by continuing to grow partnerships, including secondments and hosting visiting fellows from the region. Drawing on our broad expertise across research, education, partnerships, peace and security, we will advance equitable, sustainable solutions to climate change and health challenges locally and globally.

In Focus

First Impacted, First Heard: Prioritizing First Nations People's Knowledge on Climate and Health in Research and Policy Action

Patrick R, Bowen K, Workman A, Taylor S, Bones J

The ongoing project is led by the Melbourne School of Population and Global Health (MSPGH) in partnership with Onemda: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health and Wellbeing (MSPGH), the Pacific Climate Change Centre (PCCC) and Australian Climate and Health Alliance (CAHA). This project explores ways of partnering with First Nations (or Indigenous) people of Australian and Pacific Island countries and territories to set and influence the climate and health research and policy agenda. One of the project's aims is to develop guidance to enhance future research and policy-making processes. Alongside other First Nations community-determined outcomes from the project, this guidance may also be helpful to other jurisdictions.[25]

25 Climate CATCH Lab, University of Melbourne. (2025). Climate CATCH Lab impact report 2024–2025. **https://www.unimelb.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0003/5365281/Climate-CATCH-Lab-Impact-Report-2024-2025_FINAL.pdf**

What we plan to do

Advancing Health 2030	Actions for environmental sustainability (by 2030)
Articulate and promote the leading role we play locally, in Asia Pacific, and globally **Grow the international mobility and presence of our people and their contribution to global challenges**	Empower local partners to create equitable, sustainable and climate-responsive health services, health-determining sectors and communities across Australia. Engage in collaborative global networks of selected esteemed partners to extend the impact and reach of our work. Prioritise and actively support direct Indo-Pacific leadership at local, national, and global scales in the Faculty's sustainability-related research and education. Demonstrate progress and impact for the relevant themes in the University's International Engagement Plans for India, Indonesia and China,[26] in alignment with MCF's work across the Indo-Pacific. Strengthen and expand our sustainability-focused relationships and partnerships with overseas universities and organisations. Expose more of our students to global perspectives on sustainability, planetary health, peace and security and climate resilience in their learning and research. Recognising the challenge of balancing international engagement and professional advancement with climate responsibilities, we aim to enhance our faculty's international mobility and contributions while minimising environmental impact. We will aim to do so through virtual collaboration, low-carbon travel and strategies to ensure professional advancement is not compromised by individuals' efforts to reduce air travel emissions.
Bring Indigenous health research and education to the fore, harnessing the power of our expertise	Address the University's and faculty's colonial history and ongoing impacts, and its consequences for sustainability, planetary health and climate change and health. Consult and work with Indigenous faculty members, communities and stakeholders (Appendices, Table 2), to incorporate Indigenous knowledges and values into sustainability and planetary health education and research initiatives. Highlight longstanding Indigenous-led advocacy for sustainability, climate action and planetary health in our teaching and research. Prioritise and actively support direct Indigenous leadership at local, national, and global scales in the Faculty's sustainability-related research and education. Centralise Indigenous-led 'Land'- and 'Country'-based understandings of sustainability, climate change and planetary health among staff and students through co-created or Indigenous-led reciprocal learning.

26 University of Melbourne. (n.d.). Global engagement. **https://about.unimelb.edu.au/priorities-and-partnerships/global/global-engagement**

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Appendices

Table 1. Glossary of terms for the purpose of this Strategy (in alphabetical order)

Term	Definition for the purposes of this Strategy
Adaptation	Changes to the fundamental attributes of a social-ecological system in anticipation of climate change and its impacts.[27]
Climate risk	The factors originating from the environment that impact access to health services, service delivery or health outcomes.[28]
Education for sustainability	Equipping learners with the knowledge of the helpful and harmful impacts their disciplines have for the environmental and human systems we depend on [as well as the] capabilities to shape, lead and succeed in careers, communities and industries of sustainable societies.[11]
Environmental impact	The factors that cause harm to the environment when not properly mitigated, including chemicals, medicines, healthcare waste and greenhouse gases (such as carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide and desflurane).[27]
Mitigation	Actions or activities that limit emissions of greenhouse gases from entering the atmosphere and/or reduce their levels in the atmosphere. Mitigation includes reducing the greenhouse gases emitted from energy production and use (e.g., that reduces use of fossil fuels), and land use, and methods to mitigate warming, for example, by carbon sinks which remove emissions from the atmosphere through land-use or other (including artificial) mechanism.[29]
One Health	A broad understanding of health that recognises the essential link between human, domestic animal and wildlife health. One Health appreciates that biodiversity is essential to maintaining the healthy environments and functioning ecosystems we all require.[30]
Planetary health	The achievement of the highest attainable standard of health, wellbeing and equity worldwide through judicious attention to the human systems – political, economic, and social – that shape the future of humanity and the Earth's natural systems that define the safe environmental limits within which humanity can flourish. Put simply, planetary health is the health of human civilization and the state of the natural systems on which it depends.[31]
Resilience	The ability to anticipate, prepare for, and respond to hazardous events, trends, or disturbances related to climate.[27]
Sustainability	Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.[32]
Sustainable healthcare	A healthcare system that provides high quality care today, without compromising the health or healthcare, of present and future generations.[2]

27 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. (2022). *Summary for Policymakers.* In H.-O. Pörtner, D.C. Roberts, E.S. Poloczanska, K. Mintenbeck, A. Alegría, M. Craig, S. Langsdorf, S. Löschke, V. Möller, A. Okem, & B. Rama (Eds.), *Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability. Contribution of Working Group II to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* (pp. 1–35). Cambridge University Press. **https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg2/downloads/report/IPCC_AR6_WGII_SummaryForPolicymakers.pdf**

28 Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care. (2025). *Healthcare sustainability a*nd resilience module (p. 12). **https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/sites/default/files/2025-08/healthcare-sustainability-and-resilience-module.pdf**

29 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. (2022). *Frequently Asked Questions: Chapter 1.* In P.R. Shukla, J. Skea, R. Slade, A. Al Khourdajie, R. van Diemen, D. McCollum, M. Pathak, S. Some, P. Vyas, R. Fradera, M. Belkacemi, A. Hasija, G. Lisboa, S. Luz, & J. Malley (Eds.), *Climate Change 2022: Mitigation of Climate Change. Contribution of Working Group III to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.* Cambridge University Press. **https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg3/downloads/faqs/IPCC_AR6_WGIII_FAQ_Chapter_01.pdf**

30 Cook, R. A., Karesh, W. B., & Osofsky, S. A. (2004, September 29). *Conference summary: One world, one health—Building interdisciplinary bridges to health in a globalized world.* One World, One Health. **https://oneworldonehealth.org/sept2004/owoh_sept04.html**

31 Whitmee, S., Haines, A., Beyrer, C., Boltz, F., Capon, A. G., de Souza Dias, B. F., ... & Yach, D. (2015). Safeguarding human health in the Anthropocene epoch: Report of The Rockefeller Foundation–Lancet Commission on planetary health. *The Lancet, 386*(10007), 1973–2028. **https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(15)60901-1**

32 World Commission on Environment and Development. (1987). *Our common future.* Oxford University Press. **https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/139811**

Table 2 Stakeholders affiliated with the Faculty and their areas of expertise and contributions for sustainability (in alphabetical order)

Stakeholders	Areas of expertise and contributions to sustainability
Associate Deans Sustainability Community of Practice	Community of Practice bringing together Associate Deans Sustainability across the University which enables cross-faculty collaboration.
Australian Medical Students' Association (AMSA)	AMSA Code Green is AMSA's climate change and health project to inspire, engage and educate Australian medical students on all things related to the environment and health.
Centre for Collaborative Practice (CPC)	Provides the MDHS and its numerous health partners with leadership, high-level implementation support, and research expertise into collaborative practice in health and social care. The CPC collaborates on education for sustainability within and across MDHS schools.
Centre for Digital Transformation of Health (CDTH)	Improves health services and patient self-management through digital innovation and is collaborating on a thought leadership piece on environmentally responsible use of digital technologies.
Centre for Research Excellence in Healthy Housing	This is a 5-year project funded by the NHMRC from 2020-2025 involving over 20 researchers from across Australia and the world. The Centre has a priority focus on the important relationship between climate and housing, including mental health outcomes.
Climate and Health Alliance (CAHA)	An alliance of organisations within the health sector working together to raise awareness about the health risks of climate change and the health.
Climate Collaborative Action for Transformative Change in Health and Healthcare (CATCH) Lab	Affiliated with the MDHS, MSPGH, MMS and MCF, it spans nine research streams, including the health impacts of climate change and sustainable healthcare. The Lab offers research placements and projects, internships, showcases and events. The Climate CATCH Lab hosted the World Health Organization's Collaborating Centre for Climate and Health Policy, Research and Action November 2025.
Disaster, Climate and Adversity Unit	Affiliated with the MSPGH, leading research on disaster resilience and recovery, climate change and health and adversity, trauma and resilience.
Doctors for the Environment Australia (DEA)	A non-government organisation of medical professionals and students in Australia solely focused on protecting health through care of the environment.
Environmentally Sustainable Surgery Network (ESSN)	MMS-affiliated Community of Practice for environmentally sustainable surgery.
Healthcare Carbon Lab (HCL)	Affiliated with the MMS and the Climate CATCH Lab, the HCL confronts the pressing challenge of healthcare's environmental footprint. With healthcare responsible for a significant portion of Australia's carbon emissions and waste, the HCL aims to revolutionise sustainability within the sector. By measuring waste, carbon emissions, and energy usage in hospitals, the lab pioneers innovative solutions to mitigate environmental harm while upholding patient care standards. HCL leads life cycle assessments and carbon foot-printing of healthcare and offers student projects and placements in these areas.
Healthy Environment Research and Action (HERA)	Affiliated with the MSPGH and MCF, HERA is a group of researchers committed to accelerating health-focused action by co-designing, generating, synthesising, and applying evidence on health and wellbeing in relation to environmental change and disasters. The group acts as a platform for research and policy recommendations, and as a portal for external stakeholders to engage with evidence.
Healthy Environments and Lives Research Network (HEAL)	Affiliated with the MSPGH and Centre for Health Policy, HEAL is coalition of 100 investigators and more than 30 organisations from across Australia that will develop the scientific evidence, and research capacity and capability, to mitigate the long-term health consequences of environmental and climate change and improve the health and wellbeing of communities.
Landcare Organisations	For example, Landcare Australia, which is actively engaging with First Nations communities to support and promote Indigenous-led conservation initiatives and sustainable land management practices.
Mabo Centre	Affiliated with the Faculty of Business and Economics and supports Traditional Owners and First Nations youth to become community leaders and drive economic change in their communities, including Indigenous Land holders.

Table 2 Stakeholders affiliated with the Faculty and their areas of expertise and contributions for sustainability (in alphabetical order) continued

Stakeholders	Areas of expertise and contributions to sustainability
MDHS Education for Sustainability Group/ Community of Practice	Interprofessional forum for sharing updates and collaborating on teaching and learning for sustainability across the MDHS.
MDHS Indigenous Learning and Teaching Community of Practice	Community of practice that supports the implementation of Indigenous knowledges and perspectives into MDHS courses.
Medical Pantry	A non-government organisation that redistributes essential healthcare supplies to underserved communities, protecting vulnerable populations and wildlife, while preventing significant waste.
Melbourne Academic Centre for Health (MACH)	Implements an integrative approach to deliver precision care, develop tomorrow's healthcare, and nurture the industry's future changemakers. Through collaboration, MACH seeks to translate medical research into practice, improve patient care, educate emerging leaders and facilitate economic development. The MACH Community of Practice in Sustainability of Health Care and Research brings together external sustainability leads from across health services and government.
Melbourne Biodiversity Institute (MBI)	A collective of researchers, innovators and problem-solvers from across the University of Melbourne dedicated to addressing Earth's biodiversity crisis. MBI's 'Healthy Country, Community and People Cluster' collaborates on interdisciplinary research projects open for all students, including those exploring biodiversity in healthcare and campus settings.
Melbourne Centre for Behaviour Change (MCBC)	Affiliated with the MSPS, it is one of the few Centres in the world that provides an integrated approach to all aspects of behaviour change. The MCBC develops research relating to human health, behaviour change and environmental sustainability.
Melbourne Centre for Cities (MCC)	As a unique cross-faculty, multidisciplinary, initiative at the University of Melbourne, MCC projects focus on collaborative strategies centred around its key themes of urban sustainability, connectivity, leadership, and equity. The MCC focuses on urban governance, aiming to amplify urban research with an international perspective. The MCC's 'Urban Biodiversity Cluster' is undertaking projects on urban biodiversity and therapeutic landscapes.
Melbourne Climate Futures (MCF)	Leads innovative, interdisciplinary projects on climate change, including health. MCF connects and amplifies the depth and breadth of University of Melbourne research, creates a portal to share ideas and collaborate on real action, and empowers the next generation of climate activists. MCF is committed to leading national, regional and global communities to a sustainable, safe, fair and equitable climate future.
Melbourne Dental School (MDS)	Shaping the future of oral healthcare, the MDS is renowned for its excellence in dental and oral health education, clinical training, and translational research, offering diverse programs and advancing knowledge in gum oral diseases, inflammation and wound healing, the oral microbiome, public health, and material science and implant surgery. The MDS is leading the incorporation of education for sustainability and planetary health across their teaching and learning programs.
Melbourne Energy Institute (MEI)	Explores the systems, technologies and materials needed for the transition to cleaner energy and transport. The MEI brings together world-leading energy research from more than 300 experts across the University of Melbourne. The MEI works in partnership with industry, the community and government on some of the world's most pressing energy challenges.
Melbourne Medical School (MMS)	The MMS is the oldest medical School in Australia and internationally renowned for global leadership in teaching and training, health research, policy and practice. The School encompasses all major fields of medicine and rural health. The MMS Sustainable Healthcare Team leads and collaborates on sustainable healthcare and climate change and health education, research and implementation. The MMS also deliver a dedicated course on critical care and disaster management.
Melbourne Poche Centre for Indigenous Health (The Poche)	Has set a strong foundation toward establishing a new generation of Indigenous health leaders and researchers. The Poche is a global leader in higher education, offering Indigenous-led programs that build Indigenous health leadership capital and create academic pathways for PhD and post-doctoral achievement and research impact.

Table 2 Stakeholders affiliated with the Faculty and their areas of expertise and contributions for sustainability (in alphabetical order) continued

Stakeholders	Areas of expertise and contributions to sustainability
Melbourne School of Health Sciences (MSHS)	The MSHS provides qualifying and postgraduate courses in the disciplines of Nursing, Physiotherapy, Social Work, Audiology, Speech Pathology, and Optometry and Vision Sciences. The MSHS is enhancing sustainability across its educational programs and operations.
Melbourne School of Population and Global Health (MSPGH)	MSPGH is committed to building a healthier, more equitable world. With a focus on improving Indigenous health outcomes and public health globally, the School strives to develop innovative leaders and conduct impactful research to address current real-world challenges. MSPGH leads education and research for sustainability, One Health and climate change and health, research and consultancy on climate and health in the Asia-Pacific region.
Melbourne School of Psychological Sciences (MSPS)	The MSPS is a leader in psychology research, teaching and mental health innovation. The School studies the mind, brain and behaviour, and turns discoveries into real-world solutions that improve lives. Through world-class research and education, the School is shaping the future of psychology in Australia and beyond. The MSPS is advancing education for sustainability, research on climate misinformation and mental wellbeing.
Nossal Institute for Global Health	A leading centre of multidisciplinary research and practice dedicated to improving health outcomes across diverse global settings. Affiliated with the MSPGH, it develops research and education on sustainability, One Health and interconnected well-being of humans, animals and the environment.
Onemda	An Indigenous group specialising in public health with a focus on research and teaching aimed at improving health and wellbeing outcomes. Affiliated with the MSPGH and conducting the 'First Impacted First Heard' project in partnership with the Climate and Health Alliance and the Pacific Climate Change Centre.
Planetary Health Report Card (PHRC)	A student-led, metric-based tool for evaluating and improving planetary health content in health professional schools internationally.
School of Biomedical Sciences (SBS)	One of the University's largest and fastest growing Schools, the SBS is home to the next generation of biomedical scientists, doctors and health professionals. The SBS is enhancing its education for sustainability and sustainable lab practices.
School of Computing and Information Systems, Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology (FEIT) and the Melbourne eResearch Group	Supports the development, support and delivery of research-oriented information technology systems to a wide range of research communities at the University of Melbourne. The School and eResearch Group is collaborating on projects to advance healthcare sustainability.
Sustainability and Planetary Health Action Network (SPHAN)	Affiliated with the MMS, SPHAN aims to promote research, learning and teaching, and engagement in sustainable healthcare across the areas of anaesthesia, perioperative and pain medicine, intensive care medicine and emergency medicine through engagement with the University, affiliated hospitals, the critical care community and the broader community.
Wurru Wurru Health Unit (WWH)	A First Nations health teaching and research team dedicated to high-quality, community-led and culturally informed work. The Unit is affiliated with the MMS and develops Indigenous-led education for sustainability and planetary health in the medical curriculum.

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