

Consortium on Law and Values in Health, Environment & the Life Sciences

2010-11 Student Proposal Cover Page

Applicant Information

Applicant Name: **Philip Claude-Dziuk Vaughter** Email: vaugh071@umn.edu

Project Title: Mapping Climate Change Policy in New Zealand's Emissions Trading Scheme

Department: Conservation Biology College: College of Food, Agriculture, & Natural Resource Sciences
City &

Home address: 1525 LaSalle Ave #309 State: **Minneapolis, MN** Zip: 55403

Faculty advisor name: Dr. Jeffrey Broadbent Email: broad001@umn.edu Not applicable

Dept. Head's name: Dr. Karen Oberhauser Dept. Head's email: oberh001@umn.edu

Dean's name: Dr. Allen Levine Dean's email: aslevine@umn.edu

How did you hear about this funding opportunity? Department Head

Funding

Total amount of funding requested: **\$4,060.00** Is funding available within your center or dept for this project? No

Executive summary (maximum 200 words)

This project proposal seeks to examine how the collective action of stakeholders within a polity were able to pass a piece of legislation relating to climate change mitigation, and contrast this to national cases where such collective action within the state has not occurred. Furthermore, this project seeks to examine how effective this scheme has been in reducing green house gas emissions within the nation, and what policy debates exist as to the policy's implementation and effectiveness.

Because much of the preparation work for this project has been implemented, the only funding I am seeking is an eight-week salary so I may support myself while abroad, in addition to return airfare from New Zealand. I have a number of on the ground contacts within New Zealand's climate science and climate policy groups, and seek only a way in which to enter the field and to support myself for the eight weeks it should take to complete my research and analyze my data.

Approvals

Check all appropriate approvals required for your proposal. Approvals must be obtained prior to receipt of funding. If you have applied for approval but have not yet received it, indicate that below.

IRB Yes No Application pending I have a letter from the IRB stating I do not need approval as I will be looking at civil institutions and not individuals.

IACUC Yes No Application pending

Other Yes No Application pending

Checklist

The proposal is 1000 words or less excluding budget, biographies, references and citations.

The proposal includes a work plan with a specific timeline using months or quarters to identify work to be done

and completion dates.

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- The proposal includes a 1-2 paragraph biography of the applicant and all co-investigators.

 - The budget form is complete including the funds sought for this project, other pending applications for this project, and the amount/source of matching or other funds.

 - The applicant's faculty advisor is copied on the application email. Professional students w/o advisors check NA.

 - All necessary approvals are pending or received.
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Mapping Climate Change Policy in New Zealand's Emissions Trading Scheme

Project Summary

While scientific consensus remains high in regards to the nature and drivers of global climate change, the issue of climate change policy formation has become increasingly controversial within national and international policy arenas. While there is wide spread support from within the scientific community for governments to address climate change, government responses have varied widely in both approach to and implementation of comprehensive policies regarding climate change (Schneider et al 2002; Helm 2005). This project will seek to identify how institutional actors in New Zealand were able to pass a domestic emissions trading scheme, and examine how effective this scheme has been in reducing green house gas emissions within the country.

Project Objective

The objective of this project will be to determine how different institutional stakeholders interact to create and implement climate change policy in the form of an emissions trading scheme (ETS), and to what degree climate science does (or does not) factors into policy implementation. It will focus on what factors were necessary within the socio-political fabric of New Zealand society to create a national climate change policy, how effective that policy is at reducing green house gas emissions, and whether lessons from the New Zealand case can be applied to other polities.

Background

COMPON Project Background

COMPON is an acronym, standing for COMparing climate change POLicy Networks.

The aim of the COMPON project is to examine how advocacy coalitions within different nations contribute to blocking or implementing climate change policies on the national stage. By using media analysis, the investigators are able to glean what issues under the umbrella topic of climate change have lead to political debate about the implementation of climate change policy within the nation. The use of the semi-structured interviews and the quantitative survey serve to test propositions about the structure of existing patterns of relationships within a society. By mapping out these relationships, the project illuminates what influence actors have on one another relating to the topic of climate change policy within a nation. This leads to the main proposition of the COMPON project:

We propose that the relative strength and influence of advocacy coalitions will strongly affect national outcomes reflected in climate change policy content and practices

Project Outcomes

The outcomes of this project will include:

- The mapping of advocacy coalition networks and describing how they influence New Zealand climate change policy processes

- Examination of how barriers were overcome to create a domestic trading scheme with the aim to combat climate change.
- Presentation of how stakeholders with different objectives can be brought into a coalition to create a climate change policy
- Identification of what stimulated and/or inhibited consensus on the passage of New Zealand's ETS

Project Aims

The aims of this project will include:

- Identification of key stakeholders, debates, and paradigms within New Zealand's climate change policy sphere
- Examine how effective New Zealand's ETS is in its current incarnation
- Identifying what factors led a diverse group of stakeholders to create an ETS
- Insight into how accurate media are in anticipating political strategies used in creating climate change policy on the national level

Significance of this project

While the nations in attendance at the 2009 Copenhagen Accord (COP15) were able to agree on very little, two sentiments met with universal agreement. One, that climate change was a huge challenge, and secondly, that action should be taken to prevent the worst of climate change scenarios. The question now remains what actions will be taken, and how these undertakings will or will not proceed.

Climate change clearly represents one of the largest common pool resource problems in human history, a tragedy of the commons on a planetary scale. The problem with implementing solutions to problems caused by climate change seems to be a lack of political will on all political levels, local, national, and international (Brunner and Lynch 2010). The Copenhagen Accord has spotlighted the weaknesses of current international regimes in creating a consensus on how best to approach climate change policy on the global scale. Because collective action is required within a nation to address climate change between nations, Copenhagen illustrates a classic example of putting the cart before the horse. Many nations, including the US and India, struggle to agree upon a collective action plan on the national level for addressing climate change, let alone an international policy approach (Boykoff and Boykoff 2004). Because collective action on climate change is required both within the state and between states themselves, the problem becomes a super wicked problem (Lazarus 2008).

It is because of this super wicked problem that the New Zealand case holds special significance to the COMPON project. Because New Zealand society had the political will and social capital to push for collective action on climate change, it stands in contrast to polities that have not. There are lessons to be learned within this case study, on how existing advocacy coalitions and social networks within New Zealand society were able to use collective action to create a domestic emissions trading scheme. More can be learned on looking at what actors mobilized to block this collective action, and how these obstacles were overcome to create an ETS. This project will provide an example of how

one nation was able to overcome collective action on the national front to move onto the international negotiating table.

Timeline

Week 1: Begin confirmation of interview times and identify stakeholder representatives.

Week 2: Begin interview process with stakeholders and begin transcribing interviews

Week 3: Continue interview process with stakeholders, continue transcribing interviews

Week 4: Continue interview process with stakeholders, continue transcribing interviews

Week 5: Finalize interviews; finalize transcription of interviews; input quantitative data

Week 6: Analyze quantitative data from survey; preliminary report on survey results

Week 7: Resolve any outstanding issues surrounding interview data; comparison of survey data to other national cases

Week 8: Finalize findings; input survey data into project database

References

- Boykoff, M.T. & Boykoff, J.M, 2004, "Balance as bias: global warming and the US prestige press", *Global Environmental Change*, vol. 14, pp. 125-136.
- Brunner, R.D. & Lynch, A.H. 2010, *Adaptive Governance and Climate Change*. Boston, MA. American Meteorological Society
- Entman, R.M. 1991, "Framing US coverage of international news: contrasts in narrative of the KAL and Iran Air incidents.", *Journal of Communication*, vol. 41, pp.6-27.
- Helm, Dieter. 2005, *Climate-Change Policy*. New York [etc.]: Oxford University Press.
- Lazarus, R.J. 2008, "Super wicked problems and climate change: Restraining the present to liberate the future", *Cornell L. Rev.*, vol. 94, p. 1153.
- McCombs, M. & Shaw, D. 1972, "The Agenda-Setting Function of Mass Media", *Public Opinion Quarterly*, vol. 36, no. 2, pp. 176-187.
- Schneider, Volker, Achim Lang, Philip Leifeld, and Birte Gundelach. 2007. "Political Networks - A Structured Bibliography." Retrieved 8 September, 2010 (<http://www.uni-konstanz.de/FuF/Verwiss/Schneider/epapers/PolNetw_StructBibliography.pdf>).
- Schreurs, Miranda A. 2002. *Environmental Politics in Japan, Germany, and the United States*. Cambridge, UK New York: Cambridge University Press.

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Budget for Student Proposals

Project Title: Mapping Climate Change Policy in New Zealand's Emissions Trading Scheme

Instructions provided below.		Requested funding	Matching/other funding		
	Personnel costs	Description & justification Salary = ___hrs x ___ hrly wage	Amount	Amount	Source
1	Your salary (stipend)	20 hrs per wk for 8 wks @ \$16/hr	\$2,560.00		
2	Other personnel				
3	Other personnel				
4	Other personnel				
5	Personnel Subtotal		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
6	Speaker Honoraria	None	\$0.00		
7	Supplies & Services	None	\$0.00		
8	Equipment	None	\$0.00		
9	Travel	Airfare to and from New Zealand	\$1,500.00		
10	Subtotal research supplies, equipment, travel, other		\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
11	TOTAL BUDGET		\$4,060.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

1. Stipend justification. You must justify the amount of stipend you are requesting by identifying the number of hours you plan to work on the project and the hourly wage used for research assistants in your department. Include fringe benefits.
- 2-4. Identify all other personnel to be paid from this grant including interpreters, travel guides, etc. and justify their salary by identifying the number of hours they will work and the hourly wage. What is the hourly wage based on?
6. For colloquia, identify the number of speakers and the amount of honoraria you will provide.
7. Supplies and services. List out all supplies and their estimated costs. Explain in line 7 or in the body of your proposal what the supplies will be used for.
8. Equipment costs are allowable only if the justification clearly shows that the equipment is necessary for the project. Include explanation of what will happen to equipment at completion of project.
9. Travel costs must include a description of the purpose of the travel, start and stop dates of travel, transportation costs, housing costs, and allowable per diem (use University rates found at [http:// travel/umn.edu](http://travel/umn.edu)).