



PHD STUDENTS, LEADERSHIP FOR THE ECOZOIC, UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT

The University of Vermont (UVM) in Burlington, Vermont and McGill University in Montreal, Quebec seek up to 6 PhD students for Fall 2022 to comprise the third cohort of Leadership for the Ecozoic ([L4E](#)) fellows. This third cohort will join the current L4E community of 18 PhD fellows.

Leadership for the Ecozoic (L4E) offers exceptional graduate students the opportunity to collaborate in enabling a socially just transition to a mutually enhancing human-Earth relationship. The UVM node of the L4E focuses on [Ecological Economics](#). We particularly seek applicants to the UVM program in Sustainable Development Policy, Economics and Governance (SDPEG), but will also accept applicants to other programs on the condition that candidates identify an advisor aligned with the principles of the ecozoic and of ecological economics and willing to actively contribute to the L4E initiative. Successful candidates will receive four years of funding to pursue their PhD while actively engaging in the L4E inter-university initiative via coursework, workshops, lectures, retreats, and other collaborative activities. We have already arranged tuition waivers for candidates accepted to the SDPEG program, and will request waivers in other programs as needed, but they are not guaranteed. Regardless of the department, UVM L4E students will receive broad, transdisciplinary education in the biophysical, institutional, behavioral and ethical foundations of the human economy, and training in the policies, practices and theories required to promote a socially just sustainability transition. Students will have the opportunity to collaborate with L4E counterparts in McGill University's Anthropology for the Ecozoic (A4E) node and we encourage students with a particular interest in anthropology to apply directly to the [A4E](#).

About Leadership for the Ecozoic:

The Ecozoic represents a vision for the future founded on mutually enhancing relationships between human societies and the planetary community of life, which in turn will require socially just and mutually enhancing relationships among humans. L4E, based at McGill University and the University of Vermont, works toward that vision by: (1) advancing transdisciplinary scholarship in select doctoral programs to educate and empower new leaders for the Ecozoic; (2) co-creating a global research-to-action network to heal and restore Earth's life support systems and to define and foster a different mode of inhabiting the Earth, respectful of life's myriad ways of knowing and being; and (3) mobilizing and focusing higher education resources and communication on mitigating multi-faceted, human-induced, planetary declines in life support capacity. See the [L4E Strategic Plan](#) for more information.

L4E aims to establish a "global campus" that brings together an expanded community to envision, disseminate, and implement socially just pathways towards the Ecozoic. To realize this vision, L4E has begun to establish a set of Network Strategy Centers (NSCs) in partnership with universities, NGOs and existing global networks. We focus on implementing, communicating,



and advocating for paradigm shift outcomes through internships, action-research projects, long-term partnerships and strategic communications. The two NSCs already established are Anthropology for the Ecozoic at McGill and Ecological Economics at UVM.

As a transdiscipline, Ecological Economics has no departmental home at UVM, but students will have access to a wealth of world-class scholars across the university studying the interactions among ecological, social, and economic systems. Applicants for the L4E fellowships will automatically be considered for Graduate Fellowships at the Gund Institute for Environment. The Gund Institute brings scholars and leaders together to accelerate research, uncover solutions and tackle the world's most pressing environmental issues.

Funding provides 4 years of support, subject to student's satisfactory progress. PhD students will receive a 12-month stipend to support their field research, the L4E shared coursework, and other partnership-related activities and responsibilities.

Diversity Statement: Justice, equity, diversity and inclusion are core values for L4E. We believe diversity of lifeways and of lifeforms leads to resiliency and we celebrate the power in our community of diversity relating to gender, race, socioeconomic status, culture, language, nationality, religion and other ways of being, knowing and expression.

Qualifications: Acceptance to a UVM PhD program and dedication to the goals of the L4E initiative.

Application: Interested students should apply to the PhD program of their choice and apply for a [Gund graduate fellowship](#). In your statement of interest for the Gund Fellowship, indicate that you are interested in L4E. You must also fill out the L4E student [Recruitment Questionnaire](#) and submit it to Joshua Farley jfarley@uvm.edu (copy to dina.spigelski@mcgill.ca).

Students interested in **McGill University A4E** should contact Colin Scott colin.scott@mcgill.ca (copy to dina.spigelski@mcgill.ca). Applicants to McGill must identify an advisor in the Department of Anthropology and apply by December 15, 2021.