**Fionn MacKillop, PhD, MA, BA, PGCAP**

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# ABOUT ME

I am a sustainability, urban planning, policy and governance lecturer, consultant, and policy adviser. I am a social sciences researcher, educated to doctorate (tertiary) level, with a number of high-proﬁle and highly-cited publications. I have designed and led ambitious, multi-disciplinary research projects. I have a distinguished teaching and engagement record and extensive experience of international work in France, the UK, the USA, Turkey, Australia, and South Africa. My experience of working as a consultant and engagement specialist with industry, business, government and other organisations has provided me with a range of transferrable skills that I am keen to apply in the fields of sustainability/resilience, governance, project management, and social engagement, participation and inclusion.

I am an expert in urban planning, policy and governance, and the assessment of policies and governance. I possess a unique combination of specialisms, at the junction of the fields of sustainability and resilience; social engagement, inclusion and participation, especially of vulnerable, minority and discriminated groups, including indigenous people; planning and design; natural resource and waste management; urban networks, infrastructure and systems (water, energy, transport, waste etc.), and urban climate science/climatic change management.

I am also a multicultural, multilingual professional translator, interpreter and localisation specialist, with 20 years' experience in a range of specialised ﬁelds, including the social and natural sciences, planning and design, environment and sustainability, and business, marketing and strategy, as well as other fields including tourism, food and the entertainment industry. This gives me unique, professional, project management, language, editing, publishing and information processing skills.

**Key skills**: advanced project management skills; team management and feedback skills; community and stakeholder identification and engagement; communication in written and oral forms, including modern communication methods (social media etc.); advanced language, multicultural and writing skills in 4 languages, including knowledge of a range of translation, subtitling and interpreting software and systems, and advanced document editing and publishing (e.g. Adobe Premiere, Photoshop); advanced knowledge of society, planning/design and the environment (sustainability, resilience and human-nature interactions); capacity to organize and present information for a wide variety of audiences, including very large audiences; capacity to effectively organize, lead and moderate conferences, seminars, engagement and other outreach and diffusion forums; ability to work with a range of partners from government, business, third sector and academia; flexibility and adaptability with a high capacity to learn new skills and fit into environments; dedicated to constructive and respectful consultation, transparency and feedback processes; advanced Office, statistical, lexical, transcribing, and GIS software skills in Mac and PC environments; resilient and dependable, with a desire to progress and collaborate; agile and remote working-experienced.

# WORK EXPERIENCE

## Linguist, translator and content creator

***Freelance*** [ Since February 2020]

-I offer a full translation, edition, proof-reading, content creation and audio-visual subtitling and related services to a range of international clients. This includes commercial, industrial, pharmaceutical and medical, entertainment industry, patents and legal and other translations.

## Lecturer, Sustainable and resilient planning and design

***Heriot-Watt University*** [ 01/12/2014 – 10/02/2020]

**City**: Edinburgh

**Country**: United Kingdom

-Designed, administered and delivered, in-person and online, a range of undergraduate and postgraduate courses in the fields of sustainable urban design and planning; urban governance; transportation planning; urban finance and job markets; the social sciences (concepts, tools and methods, e.g. interviews, focus groups, panels and surveys etc.); statistics, modelling and Geographical Information Systems.

-Mentored, assessed and supported students through a range of initiatives, in-person and remotely.

-Obtained ultra-competitive funding for international, multi-disciplinary research projects in the social sciences, planning, and social inclusion/participation mechanisms and policies.

-Designed, led and administered complex research projects in the fields of urban sustainability and resilience; public participation and inclusion; utility (water, energy, waste etc.) and natural resource management, and the assessment of public policy effectiveness and reach.

-Published work in highly-ranked, selective professional journals, as well as online, and presented at a range of selective international and local conferences.

-Produced reports, memoranda and other outputs which fed into local/national policies and other impacts.

-Designed, administered and carried out a range of stakeholder engagement initiatives, in-person and online, including surveys, focus groups, community meetings, etc., with a particular focus on under-represented/vulnerable segments of the community (older, disabled, lower-income and indigenous).

-Participated actively in department and university-wide administration and governance tasks, in close collaboration with a range of colleagues and supervisors, in order to ensure good management and governance, including budget and HR matters relevant to my research, engagement and teaching.

-Active in ventures to increase student recruitment and retention, especially among lower-income and/or under-represented ethnic groups in the local community and internationally, via a range of symposia, engagement forums and use of social media etc.

## Lecturer, architecture and planning

***Bilkent University*** [ 01/06/2013 – 01/12/2014]

**City**: Ankara

**Country**: Turkey

-Successfully engaged with students and colleagues from highly diverse linguistic, cultural and disciplinary backgrounds, within the context of a non-English speaking country. Successfully initiated the teaching of planning and design in a university where these courses were not offered.

-Successfully engaged with a wide range of stakeholders (local and national government, funding agencies, local communities, businesses etc.) despite a high language barrier and complex cultural aspects, as well as logistical matters.

-Designed, administered and delivered, in-person and online, a range of undergraduate and postgraduate courses in the fields of sustainable urban design and planning; urban governance; transportation planning; urban finance and job markets; the social sciences (concepts, tools and methods, e.g. interviews, focus groups, panels and surveys etc.); statistics, modelling and Geographical Information Systems.

-Mentored, assessed and supported students through a range of initiatives, in-person and remotely.

-Designed, led and administered complex research projects in the fields of urban sustainability and resilience; public participation and inclusion; utility (water, energy, waste etc.) and natural resource management.

-Published work in highly-ranked, selective professional journals, as well as online, and presented at a range of selective international and local conferences.

-Designed, administered and carried out a range of stakeholder engagement initiatives, in-person and online, including surveys, focus groups, community meetings, etc., with a particular focus on under-represented/vulnerable segments of the community.

-Participated actively in department and university-wide administration and governance tasks, in close collaboration with a range of colleagues and supervisors, in order to ensure good management and governance, including budget and HR matters relevant to my work.

## Research Fellow in sustainable and resilient urban design

***University of Southern Queensland*** [ 01/03/2011 – 01/05/2013]

**City**: Springﬁeld, QLD

**Country**: Australia

-Designed, led and administered complex research projects in the fields of urban sustainability and resilience; public participation and inclusion; utility (water, energy, waste etc.) and natural resource management.

-Published work in highly-ranked, selective professional journals, as well as online, and presented at a range of selective international and local conferences.

-Designed, administered and carried out a range of stakeholder engagement initiatives, in-person and online, including surveys, focus groups, community meetings, etc., with a particular focus on under-represented/vulnerable segments of the community (including indigenous).

-Participated actively in department and university-wide administration and governance tasks, in close collaboration with a range of colleagues and supervisors, in order to ensure good management and governance, including budget and HR matters relevant to my work.

-Successfully engaged with a wide range of stakeholders (local and national government, funding agencies, local communities, businesses etc.), including indigenous communities, in developing research around sustainable and resilient communities, access, and public participation and inclusion.

## Research fellow in urban climate science

***Manchester University*** [ 01/01/2010 – 01/03/2011]

**City**: Manchester

**Country**: United Kingdom

-Designed, led and administered complex research projects in the fields of urban climate science and adaptation/mitigation of climate change and climatic events. The research was international in scope (Manchester, Tokyo, Stuttgart, NYC), and based on a historical understanding of the fields of meteorology, climate science and planning.

- Within a wider framework of urban sustainability and resilience; public participation and inclusion; utility (water, energy, waste etc.) and natural resource management.

-Published work in highly-ranked, selective professional journals, as well as online, and presented at a range of selective international and local conferences.

-Designed, administered and carried out a range of stakeholder engagement initiatives, in-person and online, including surveys, focus groups, community meetings, etc., with a particular focus on under-represented/vulnerable segments of the community (e.g. elderly and disabled).

-Participated actively in department and university-wide administration and governance tasks, in close collaboration with a range of colleagues and supervisors, in order to ensure good management and governance, including budget and HR matters relevant to my work.

-Successfully engaged with a wide range of stakeholders (local and national government, funding agencies, local communities, businesses etc.)

## Senior Research fellow in industrial waste management and recycling

***Durham University*** [ 09/09/2007 – 11/11/2009]

**City**: Durham

**Country**: United Kingdom

-Designed, led and administered complex research projects in the fields of industrial waste management and recycling, from a social sciences and business management perspective, in order to deliver more effective approaches to waste.

-Successfully designed and carried out complex fieldwork within steel plants and waste recycling industry, in the UK, the Netherlands, Bangladesh, and China, including on-site observation work and engagement of workers at all levels of the industries.

-Published work in highly-ranked, selective professional journals, as well as online, and presented at a range of selective international and local conferences.

-Designed, administered and carried out a range of stakeholder engagement initiatives, in-person and online, including surveys, focus groups, community meetings, etc., with a particular focus on under-represented/vulnerable segments of the community, e.g. lower-income communities disproportionately affected by waste impacts.

-Participated actively in department and university-wide administration and governance tasks, in close collaboration with a range of colleagues and supervisors, in order to ensure good management and governance, including budget and HR matters relevant to my work.

-Successfully engaged with a wide range of stakeholders (local and national government, funding agencies, local communities, businesses etc.), including industrial stakeholders at very high corporate levels, with successful buy-in in terms of impacting operational processes and governance.

## PhD candidate and teaching assistant

***University of Paris/ ENPC/ ENS (France) and University of California, Los Angeles, USA*** [ 09/09/2004 – 11/11/2007]

**City**: Paris/ Los Angeles

**Country**: France/ USA

-Successfully designed and carried out a 3-year research project on sustainable and participatory water management in Southern California (Los Angeles metro area).

-Published work in highly-ranked, selective professional journals, as well as online, and presented at a range of selective international and local conferences.

-Succeeded in publishing PhD dissertation in book form to encourage knowledge diffusion and engagement.

-Designed, administered and carried out a range of stakeholder engagement initiatives, in-person and online, including surveys, focus groups, community meetings, etc., with a particular focus on under-represented/vulnerable segments of the community (including indigenous and ethnic communities in a very diverse region of the USA).

-Participated actively in department and university-wide administration and governance tasks, in close collaboration with a range of colleagues and supervisors, in order to ensure good management and governance, including budget and HR matters relevant to my work.

-Successfully engaged with a wide range of stakeholders (local and national government, funding agencies, local communities, businesses, water and energy utility companies etc.)

# EDUCATION AND TRAINING

## Post-graduate certiﬁcate in academic practice (PGCAP)

***Heriot-Watt University/Scottish Higher Education Academy*** [ 01/01/2015 – 01/01/2017]

## Doctorate (PhD) in urban planning and sustainable design

***University Paris Marne-la-Vallee/ ENPC/ University of California Los Angeles*** [ 01/09/2004 – 01/08/2007]

## Master's in urban planning and governance

***IFU/UPMLV/ENPC*** [ 01/09/2003 – 01/09/2004]

## BA (Honours) in the history of science and technology

***University Paris X-Nanterre*** [ 01/09/2002 – 01/09/2003]

## Double BA in Economics and Sociology

***University Paris X-Nanterre*** [ 01/09/2000 – 01/09/2002]

# LANGUAGE SKILLS

Mother tongue(s):

### English, French

**Spanish (fluent, degree-educated)**

**LISTENING:** C1 **READING:** C1 **UNDERSTANDING:** C1

**SPOKEN PRODUCTION:** C1

**SPOKEN INTERACTION:** C1

**Italian (fluent, degree-educated)**

**LISTENING:** C1 **READING:** C1 **UNDERSTANDING:** C1

**SPOKEN PRODUCTION:** C1

**SPOKEN INTERACTION:** C1

# COMMUNICATION AND INTERPERSONAL SKILLS

Highly developed communication and interpersonal skills due to a track record of advanced, highly selective education in elite institutions globally (French 'grandes ecoles', University of California etc.), complemented by a demanding research and teaching career internationally, as well as consulting and engagement work with a range of stakeholders.

I have presented at a large number of international conferences, symposia, events and stakeholder engagement forums, requiring advanced presentation, speaking and engagement skills and the capacity to be understood by a large section of the public. This includes non-English speaking countries, and with linguistically diverse social groups, including indigenous and lower-income populations.

I have taught, mentored and supported, online and in-person, hundreds of students at various levels of the curriculum in several countries, and have also led teams of colleagues over several times zones and diﬀerent countries, including with language, cultural and political barriers.

Furthermore, I have also pursued a freelance career as a translator and interpreter, with a specialisation in a range of scientiﬁc, business, industrial and other ﬁelds, requiring advanced time-management and customer satisfaction skills, as well as innovative project management approaches. This is also a great asset in terms of working with cultural and linguistic complexity and expectations, as well as working remotely through video-conferencing and other tools.

**MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP SKILLS**

I have acquired advanced skills in these key areas through a combination of:

-competitively bidding for ultra-selective research and engagement funding from a range of highly demanding public and private funding organisms (industry, government, charities etc.)

-designing and leading complex, multi-year scientiﬁc research projects and teams, involving a range of collaborators from diﬀerent educational, professional and linguistic backgrounds. This includes detailed budget and project deliverables planning over several years. It also includes hiring, onboarding and mentoring colleagues on these projects.

-producing and delivering a range of outputs for stakeholders in business, government, charities, academia, in a range of formats (oral, written, online, reports, memoranda, planning notes etc.).

-designing, leading and delivering a range of courses and learning and teaching programmes for undergraduate and postgraduate students in several countries, including in-person and online delivery, assessment and mentoring/support.

-skills acquired through 20 years of freelance translation and interpreting, including project management, invoicing, workload management, customer retention and engagement, etc.

# DIGITAL SKILLS

### Microsoft Word / Microsoft Excel / Outlook / Power Point / Google Drive / Google Docs / Microsoft Oﬃce / Twitter / Microsoft PowerPoint / Social Media / Computer Assisted Translation tools (MemoQ8 Certiﬁed Project Manager) / SDL Trados Studio / Subtitling software / Transcription / Localisation project management / Project Management tools / Project Management, Budget forecasting and control

Skilled in the use of social media and other online and in-person stakeholder engagement and knowledge diffusion tools, to ensure maximum impact of research ventures.

**SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**

**Selected publications in peer-reviewed journals**

<https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=cqpCnxZSKIoC&hl=en> **\*\*\*\*See Google Scholar Proﬁle above for up-to-date publications details and citations\*\*\***\*\*

Building redevelopment as a catalyst for urban and community sustainability? The case of the Pier Arts Centre, Orkney, Scotland (**with Liu, Wang, Shanagan and Sashwat**), 2018, *Sustainable Cities and Society*.

Society, materiality, resilience and sustainability: inquiries from the ﬁelds of industrial waste management, urban climate science and eco-urbanism, 2018, *Materiaux et Techniques*, 105 (5-6), 506, (article received prize for best paper at SAM 11 conference, Trondheim, Norway).

Urban Climatology Applied to Urban Planning: A Post-war Knowledge Circulation Failure, *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, 37 (5), 1542-1558, 2013

Sustainable as a basis of aﬀordable? Understanding the Australian housing aﬀordability ‘crisis’, *Australian Planner*, Volume 50, Issue 1, 2013.

Steel, Material Flows, and Globalization: by-Product Optimization and Waste Management in Today’s Steel Industry, *International Review of Metallurgy* 109, 139–147 (2012).

Climatic City: two centuries of urban climate science in Manchester, UK, *Cities*, Volume 29, Issue 4, August 2012, Pages 244–251.

Balancing the need for aﬀordable housing with the challenges of sustainable development in South East Queensland and beyond, *Proceedings of the 18th Annual Paciﬁc Rim Real Estate Society Conference*, pages 15-18, January 2012.

The construction of ‘waste’ in the UK steel industry, *Journal of Environmental Planning and Management*, Volume 52, Number 2, March 2009.

Water and Power Networks and Urban Fragmentation in Los Angeles: Rethinking Assumed Mechanisms, *Geoforum,* Volume 39, Issue 6, November 2008

The Los Angeles Oligarchy and the Governance of Water and Power Networks: the Making of a Municipal Utility Based on Market Principles (1902-1930), *Flux, International Scientiﬁc Quarterly on Networks and Territories*, n°60-61, April-September 2005.

**SELECTED CONFERENCES AND OTHER ENGAGEMENT EVENTS**

**Selected conference and seminar presentations**

-**Co-organiser/chair and moderator of seminar ‘Lithium extraction and processing and the emerging digital economy’**, Santiago, Chile, 17 April 2018.

* **‘Promises and challenges of the networked, smart city and society’**, Yunnan University, Kunming (China), 20 October 2017
* ‘**Society, materiality and resilience/sustainability: inquiries from the ﬁelds of industrial waste management, urban climate science and housing studies’**, Trondheim, Norway, 16-17 May 2017. Recipient of prize for best paper (euro 2,000).

-‘**An actor-network perspective on waste in the steel industry: following recycling controversies’**, Paper delivered at ‘Opening the Bin: trans-disciplinary perspectives on waste, society and technology’ Sweden, 27-29 March 2017.

-Heriot-Watt University delegate, **‘Smart Cities science collaboration symposium’**, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, 26-27 March 2017.

* Poster presentation, **“Croucher Advanced Study Institute 2015-2016: Changing Urban Climate & the Impact on Urban Thermal Environment and Urban Living**”, Chinese University of Hong Kong, 7-11 December 2015.

-**Climatic City: Two Centuries of Urban Climate Science Research in Manchester, UK**, Dublin, Ireland, 5-10 August 2012.

-**Balancing the need for aﬀordable housing with the challenges of sustainable development in South East Queensland**, Adelaide, 15-18 January 2012

-**Urban Climatology and Urban Design: The Back Story**, Istanbul, July 2010

-‘**Conﬂicting approaches to expertise in the steel industry’**, and ‘**The shift of the steel industry towards the East’**, Manchester, August 2009.

-‘**Problem Wastes in the UK steel industry’**, paper presented at the **ArcelorMittal conference** Nantes (France), May 2008.

-Member of a panel at the **Annual Meeting of the Business History Conference** (June 17-19, 2004, Le Creusot, France), presentation on “The Los Angeles municipal Bureau of Water Works and Supply (1900-1940): reconciling the goals of a municipal utility and the rules of corporate governance”.

**SELECTED RESEARCH PROJECTS AND FUNDING OBTAINED**

**Competitive research projects that have received funding**

### 2018: ESRC, Co-Investigator, ‘Developing community-based approaches to weather event mitigation in Mexico City, combining small-scale technology and municipal smart city approaches’, GBP 300,000 (submitted 12/6/2018, obtained September 2019)

**2018: Newton Fund, ‘Institutional links’ grants, ‘Community-based approaches to sustainability and resilience in Mexico City’, Co-Investigator, GBP 100,000 (submitted 17/6/2018, obtained September 2019)**

**2018: EPSRC ‘innovation acceleration funds’, Co-investigator, ‘Combining large-scale smart city approaches with community-based interventions to prevent/mitigate landslides and improve wellbeing and accessibility in Medellin, Columbia and Rio, Brazil’, GBP 60,000.**

**2017: University of Edinburgh and Heriot-Watt University ‘Kick-start grants’, Principal investigator, ‘Circuits of Lithium extraction and their socio-spatial, political and environmental impacts: preliminary investigation in Chile’, GBP 3,500.**

**2016: Principal investigator, Kyle of Sutherland ‘Cozy Homes and Fuel Poverty Assessment’, Interface/ SFC Funding, GBP 5,000.**

**2013-2014: Principal investigator, Turkish Ministry of Research Funding, ‘Public space in Ankara: accessibility and sustainability’, TL 20,000.**

**2011-2013: Principal Investigator, Australian Centre for Sustainable Business and Development research facilitation funds for ECRs, ‘Housing aﬀordability and sustainability in regional and rural Australia’, AUD 5,000.**

**2010-2011, Researcher, Manchester Architecture Research Centre, ‘Climate Science and Urban Design’, total project budget GBP 500,000.**

**2008-2010, Researcher, Durham University, ‘The waste of the world’, research on waste management in the global steel industry, total project budget GBP 5,000,000.**

**2007, Co-investigator, LATTS-ENPC (Paris, France), ‘Sustainable river-basin management’, EUR 5,000.**

**2006, Researcher, LATTS-ENPC, ‘socio-spatial urban fragmentation and technical networks in Cape Town and Los Angeles’, Euro 3,000.**

**TEACHING/ENGAGEMENT MATERIALS AND METHODS (SELECTED)**

**Overview of teaching/mentoring achievements**

**December 2014-April 2020**: course leader and course creator, ‘technical networks and urban resilience’, (UG & PG course); course leader, ‘property, development and planning/ The built environment in perspective’ (UG course); course leader ‘comparative planning and real-estate markets’ (PG course); course leader ‘statistics and GIS’ (UG course for geography students).

Supervisor of 2 doctoral candidates (‘Community, sustainability and technical assessment of eco-cities in China and its challenges’ and ‘Smart cities and ageing in China: the case of Chongqing’).

Supervisor/marker of 50+ Master’s students and 50+ undergraduate dissertations since September 2013. Mentor for 15+ undergraduate and post-graduate students on weekly/monthly basis.

Year 2 student coordinator.

**September 2013-December 2014**: course leader/creator for 3 undergraduate courses on the history, theory and contemporary challenges of urban planning/sustainability in the developed and developing worlds, including technological/networked systems aspects (Bilkent University, Ankara, Turkey).