

2025 AUA Postgraduate Academic Forum on Planetary Health Early Career Researchers (AUA-PHECRs)

CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

Introduction

Welcome to the 2025 AUA Postgraduate Academic Forum on Planetary Health Early Career Researchers (AUA-PHECRs) organised by Institute for Advanced Studies, Universiti Malaya. The conference will be held **hybrid** from **23rd to 27th February 2025**.

The theme of the forum is on planetary health focusing on research and innovation, policy and practice, and future-proofing ECRs through a series of keynote talk sessions, group discussions, oral and poster presentations, and workshops in a 4-day event. There will also be social and networking events to help ECRs expand their networking and collaboration circle and establish connections. Selected outstanding academic papers will be published in peer-reviewed academic journals as an outcome of the meeting.

Call for Papers

We invite submissions of ECRs from diverse academic backgrounds and research areas to submit abstracts for oral presentations on topics related to planetary health based on any topic relevant to the list of themes provided below.

Presentations will consist of a 20-minute talk followed by 10 minutes for questions and discussion. Submissions should present either complete research, or research in progress where at least some substantial results have been achieved.

Submission Guidelines:

- Submission must be from outstanding doctoral students from an AUA member university who have research work relevant to the theme or focus.
- Student should submit their curriculum vitae and research abstract UM via email to Dr. Fong Chng Saun, Co-chair AUA-PHECRs (fongcs92@um.edu.my).
- Abstracts should be no more than 300 words in length.
- Submissions must include a title, author(s) name(s), affiliation(s), and contact information.
- Abstracts should clearly state the research objectives, methods, results, and implications.
- Deadline for student submission: **15th January 2025**

Key Themes

The conference topics include, but are not limited to, the following areas:

1. Environmental Sustainability:

- Sustainable land use and resource management
- Conservation biology and biodiversity protection
- Ecosystem restoration and resilience

2. Public Health and Planetary Health:

- Climate change impacts on human health
- Infectious diseases and zoonotic disease transmission
- Access to clean water and sanitation

3. Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation:

- Mitigation strategies and policies for greenhouse gas emissions
- Adaptation measures for vulnerable communities and ecosystems
- Renewable energy and sustainable transportation solutions

4. Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems:

- Agroecology and regenerative farming practices
- Food security and nutrition in a changing climate
- Sustainable food production and consumption patterns

5. Urbanization and Sustainable Cities:

- Urban planning for resilience and sustainability
- Green infrastructure and urban biodiversity conservation
- Sustainable transportation and waste management in cities

6. Policy and Governance for Planetary Health:

- Policy frameworks for sustainable development
- International cooperation and agreements on environmental issues
- Governance mechanisms for addressing planetary health challenges

7. Technology and Innovation for Planetary Health:

- Remote sensing and GIS applications for environmental monitoring
- Emerging technologies for climate change mitigation and adaptation
- Digital platforms for citizen science and environmental education

8. Social Equity and Environmental Justice:

- Intersectionality of environmental issues with social and economic factors
- Indigenous knowledge and community-based approaches to sustainability
- Environmental justice movements and advocacy for marginalized communities

9. Education and Capacity Building:

- Curriculum development for planetary health education
- Capacity building initiatives for ECRs in planetary health research
- Engaging youth and students in environmental activism and advocacy

Publication Opportunities

Nominated students will be required to submit their full paper after the confirmation of participation in the AUA-PHECRs. Selected outstanding academic papers will be published in peer-reviewed academic journals. All submissions must be in English. Manuscript submissions should follow the prescribed forum paper template which will be provided.

Important Dates

- Student Submission Deadline: **15th January 2025**
- Notification of Acceptance: **20th January 2025**
- Forum Dates: **23rd to 27th February 2025**

Academic Forum Registration Fees

Postgraduate students from universities under the AUA: **Free**

Join us at this exciting academic forum to explore the forefront of planetary health focusing on research and innovation, policy and practice, and future-proofing ECRs.

We look forward to receiving your submission and welcoming you to AUA-PHECRs 2025. All necessary documents such as the student's curriculum vitae, research abstract, and recommendation letter should be submitted to UM via email to Dr. Fong Chng Saun, Co-chair AUA-PHECRs (fongcs92@um.edu.my).

For more information and updates, please contact the Conference Chair: Professor Dr Abrizah Abdullah (abrizah@um.edu.my) or Co-Chair, Dr Fong Chng Saun (fongcs92@um.edu.my).

Appendix 1 Programme Schedule (Tentative)

2025 AUA Postgraduate Academic Forum on Planetary Health Early Career Researchers Programme outline (23 - 27 February 2025)

Day 1 (23rd February 2025)

Whole day:

Arrival and check-in

Day 2 (24th February 2025)

9:00am - 9:15am

Welcoming Remarks by the Chair of AUA-PHECRs

9:15am - 10:15am

Keynote Address on the Concept of Planetary Health and Its Relevance to Global Health, Sustainability, and Future Habitat

10:15am - 10:30am

Tea Break

10:30am - 11:30am

Plenary Speech 1

11:30am - 12:30pm

Plenary Speech 2

12:30pm - 2:00pm

Lunch

2:00pm - 3:30pm

Workshop 1: Introducing Hands-on Activities for Planetary Health Solutions

3:30pm - 4:30pm

Oral Presentations Session 1

4:30pm - 5:00pm

Networking Session

Day 3 (25th February 2025)

9:00am - 10:30am

Forum Discussion 1: Policy and Practice Implications of Planetary Health, Including the Role of Governments, NGOs, and the Private Sector

10:30am - 11:00am

Tea Break

11:00am - 12:30pm

Roundtable Discussions: Practical Steps for Advancing Planetary Health Research and Practice

12:30pm - 2:00pm

Lunch

2:00pm - 4:00pm

Oral Presentations Session 2

4:00pm - 5:00pm

Poster Exhibition Sessions

Day 4 (26th February 2025)

9:00am - 10:30am

Professional Development Session 1: Career Pathways in Planetary Health, Scholarly Communication, Outreach, and Engagement

10:30am - 11:00am

Tea Break

11:00am - 12:00pm

Presentation of Forum Outcomes and Recommendations

12:00pm - 12:15pm

Closing Remarks and Reflection on the Forum Outcomes and Next Steps

12:15pm - 12:30pm

Planetary Health Pledge

12:30pm - 2:00pm

Lunch

2:00pm - 5:00pm

Social Events and Cultural Activities

Day 5 (27th February 2025)

Whole day:

Check-out and Departure