

## Urban Futures Symposium | 21 – 25 August 2023

**Candidate:** Temiti Lehartel

**School:** School of Global, Urban and Social Studies

**Presentation:** Confirmation of Candidature

**Title:** Rethinking Remoteness: Relationality between the Human and the Environment in Indigenous Oceanian Literature (1970-2020)

**Abstract:**

This study will investigate the representations of relationships to land in a corpus of 16 Oceanian novels. It will explore how Oceanian understandings of identity and relationality—as they are represented in Indigenous novels emerging from the region could allow for a reconsideration of sustainability and ecology and question the modern Western erected distances between the human, non-human and “symbioment” (Albrecht 2019) primarily from an Indigenous standpoint. Reflecting on the activist dimension of Indigenous novels relating and enacting Indigenous relationality to land it will ponder on the power of storytelling may have on readers’ ethical repositioning in a time of anthropogenic climate crisis.

