

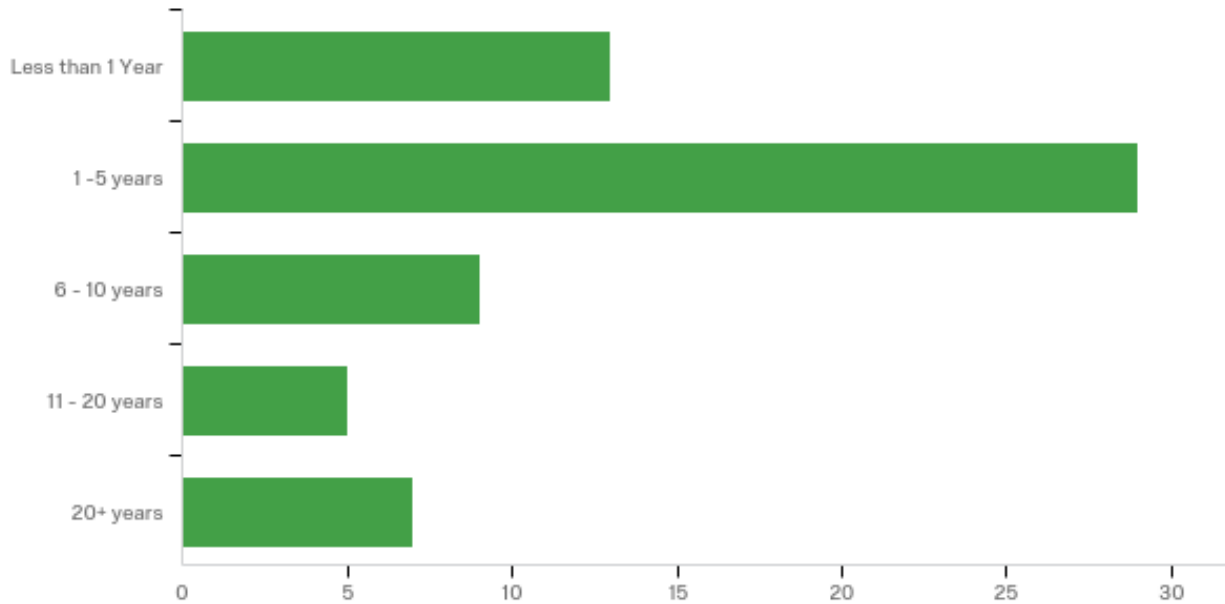
Cluster Report

BE Research Cluster Review Questionnaire

Q1 - Which discipline or centre are you most closely associated with (ie administrative unit/reporting line)

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Architecture	25%	16
2	City Planning	8%	5
3	Computational Design	8%	5
4	Construction Management and Property	6%	4
5	Industrial Design	6%	4
6	Interior Architecture	5%	3
7	Landscape Architecture	11%	7
8	Sustainable Built Environment	5%	3
9	Urban Development and Design	3%	2
10	Urban Policy and Strategy	0%	0
11	Urban Renewal and Housing	2%	1
12	City Analytics	5%	3
13	City Futures (Centre)	6%	4
14	I am not directly associated with a discipline or centre	2%	1
15	I am split across multiple disciplines	8%	5
	Total	100%	63

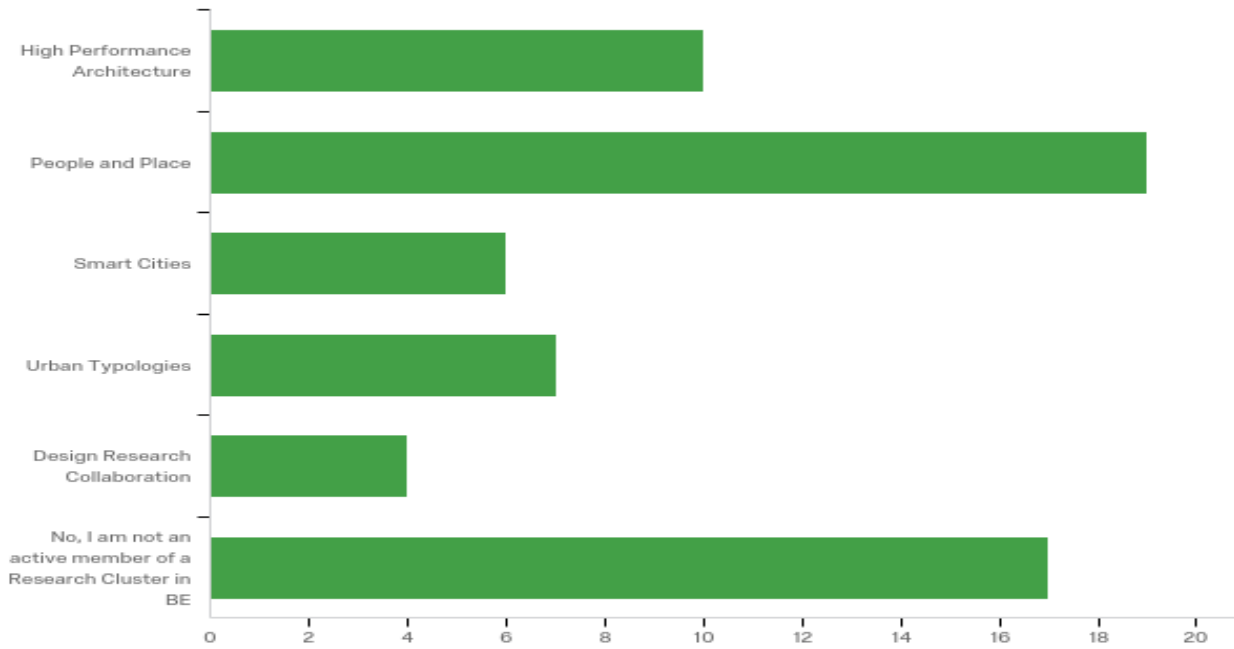
Q2 - How long have you been a member of the academic staff at UNSW Built Environment



Answer	%	Count
Less than 1 Year	21%	13
1 - 5 years	46%	29
6 - 10 years	14%	9
11 - 20 years	8%	5
20+ years	11%	7
Total	100%	63

	Less than 1 Year	1 - 5 years	6 - 10 years	11 - 20 years	20+ years	Total
Design Research Collaboration		2		1	1	4
High Performance Architecture	1	7	2			10
People and Place	3	8	2	2	4	19
Smart Cities	2	3	1			6
Urban Typologies	3		1	2	1	7
No, I am not an active member of a Research Cluster in BE	4	9	3		1	17
Total	13	29	9	5	7	63

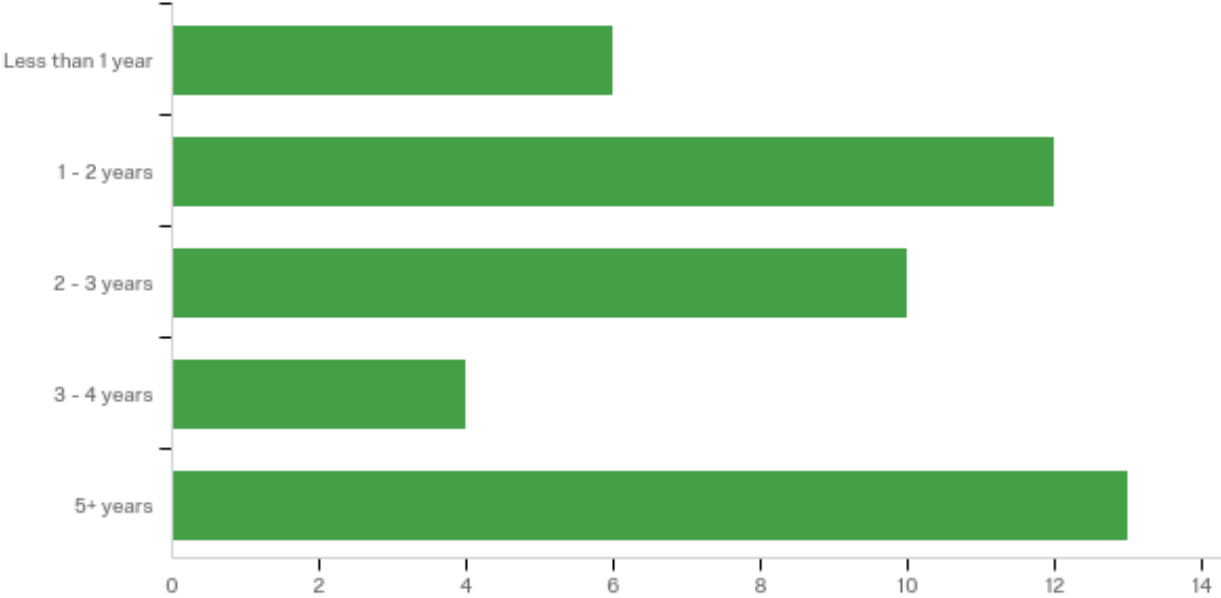
Q3 - Are you an active member of one of the following faculty research clusters? (Choose the cluster you are most closely associated with)



#	Answer	%	Count
1	High Performance Architecture	16%	10
2	People and Place	30%	19
3	Smart Cities	10%	6
4	Urban Typologies	11%	7
5	Design Research Collaboration	6%	4
6	No, I am not an active member of a Research Cluster in BE	27%	17
	Total	100%	63

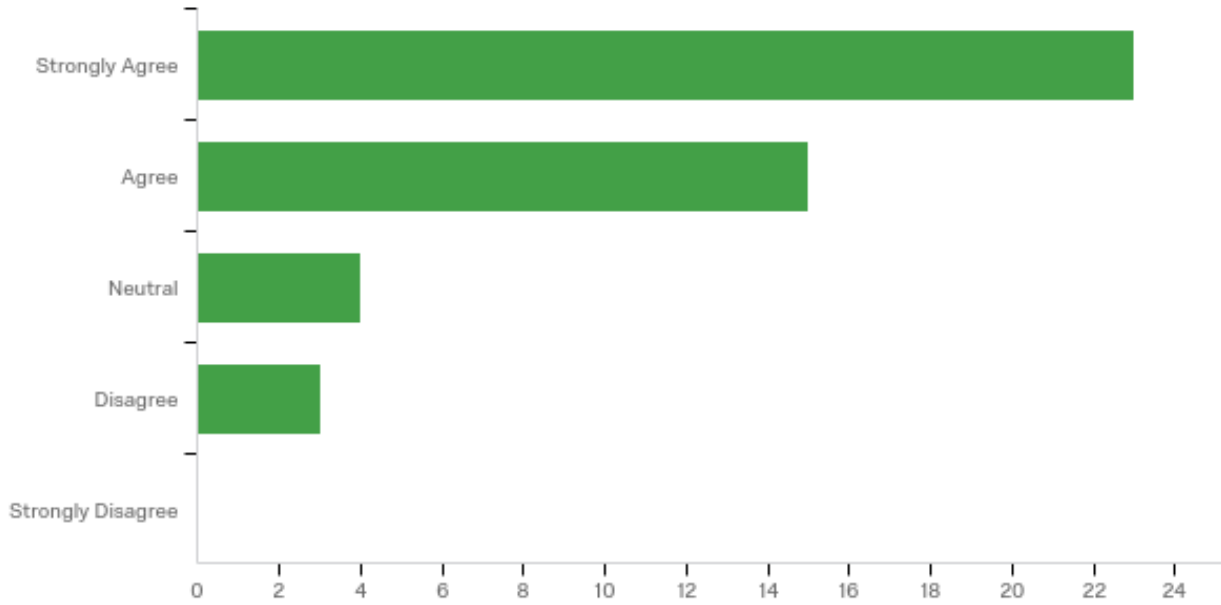
Composition of Clusters	Design Research Collaboration	High Performance Architecture	People and Place	Smart Cities	Urban Typologies	I am not an active member of a Research Cluster in BE	Total
Architecture		7	2		3	4	16
City Analytics	1		1			1	3
City Futures (Centre)			3			1	4
City Planning			1	2	2		5
Computational Design				2		3	5
Construction Management and Property				1		3	4
Industrial Design	2		2				4
Interior Architecture					1	2	3
Landscape Architecture			6			1	7
Sustainable Built Environment		2	1				3
Urban Development and Design			1		1		2
Urban Renewal and Housing			1				1
I am not directly associated with a discipline or centre						1	1
I am split across multiple disciplines	1	1	1	1		1	5
Total	4	10	19	6	7	17	63

Q4 - How long have you been involved in the research cluster?



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Less than 1 year	13%	6
2	1 - 2 years	27%	12
3	2 - 3 years	22%	10
4	3 - 4 years	9%	4
5	5+ years	29%	13
	Total	100%	45

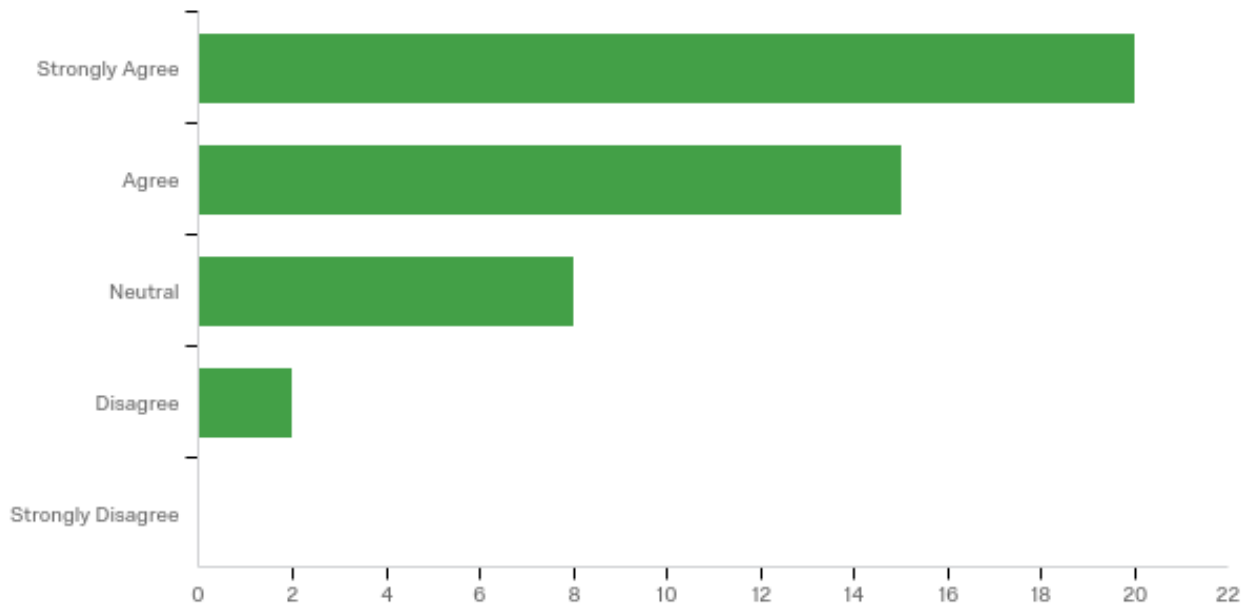
Q5 - I am aware of the cluster's scope and direction for supporting research



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly Agree	51%	23
2	Agree	33%	15
3	Neutral	9%	4
4	Disagree	7%	3
5	Strongly Disagree	0%	0
	Total	100%	45

Q5	Agree	Strongly Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Grand Total
Design Research Collaboration	2	1	1			4
High Performance Architecture	4	5	1			10
People and Place	2	15	1	1		19
Smart Cities	2		1	2		5
Urban Typologies	5	2				7
Grand Total	15	23	4	3	0	45

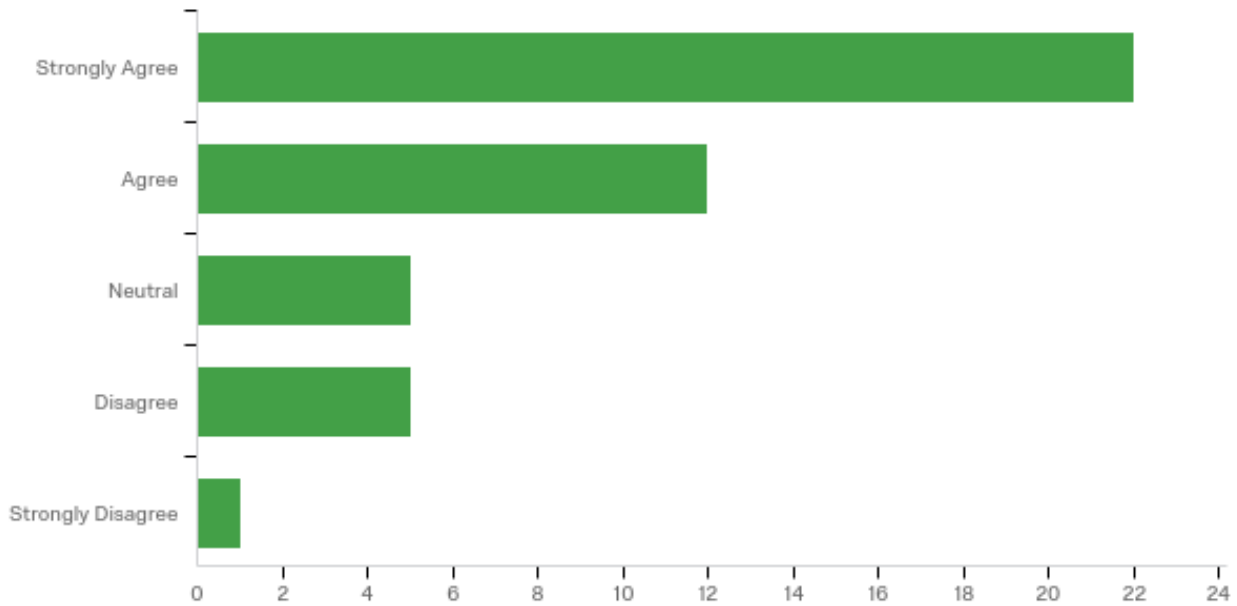
Q6 - My research skills and interest are closely aligned with the cluster's scope and direction



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly Agree	44%	20
2	Agree	33%	15
3	Neutral	18%	8
4	Disagree	4%	2
5	Strongly Disagree	0%	0
	Total	100%	45

Q6	Agree	Strongly Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Grand Total
Design Research Collaboration	3		1			4
High Performance Architecture	4	6				10
People and Place	4	12	1	2		19
Smart Cities	2		3			5
Urban Typologies	2	2	3			7
Grand Total	15	20	8	2	0	45

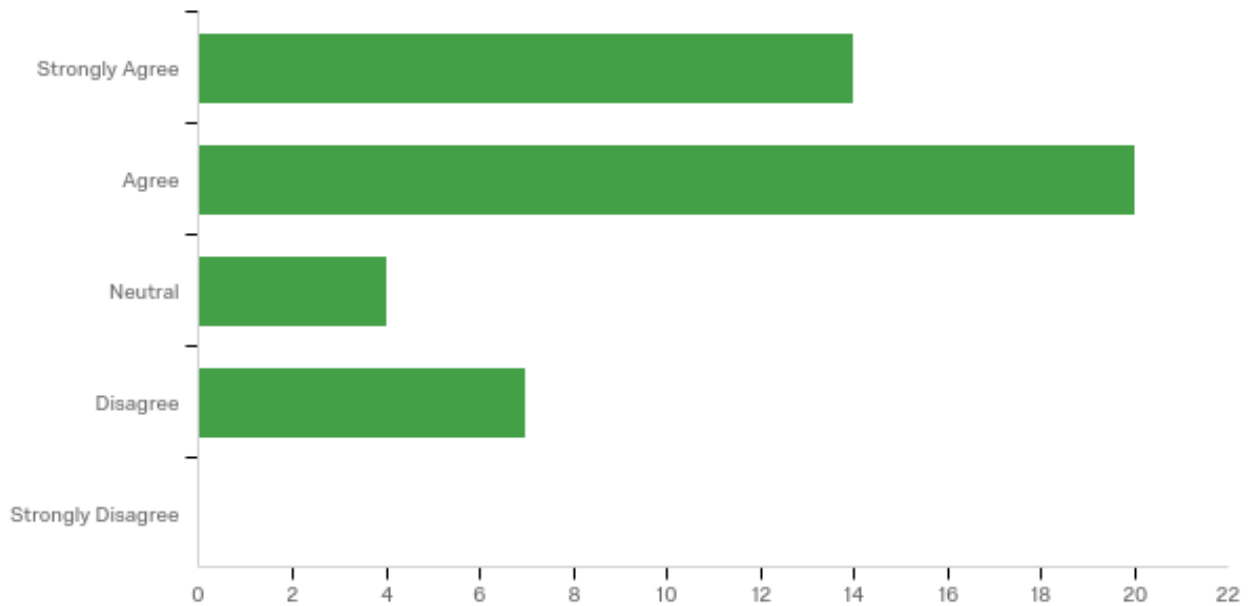
Q7 - The research cluster has provided me with opportunities to engage in research activities (publications, grants, seminars, presentations)



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly Agree	49%	22
2	Agree	27%	12
3	Neutral	11%	5
4	Disagree	11%	5
5	Strongly Disagree	2%	1
	Total	100%	45

Q7	Agree	Strongly Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Grand Total
Design Research Collaboration	2			2		4
High Performance Architecture	6	3			1	10
People and Place	1	13	3	2		19
Smart Cities	2	1	1	1		5
Urban Typologies	1	5	1			7
Grand Total	12	22	5	5	1	45

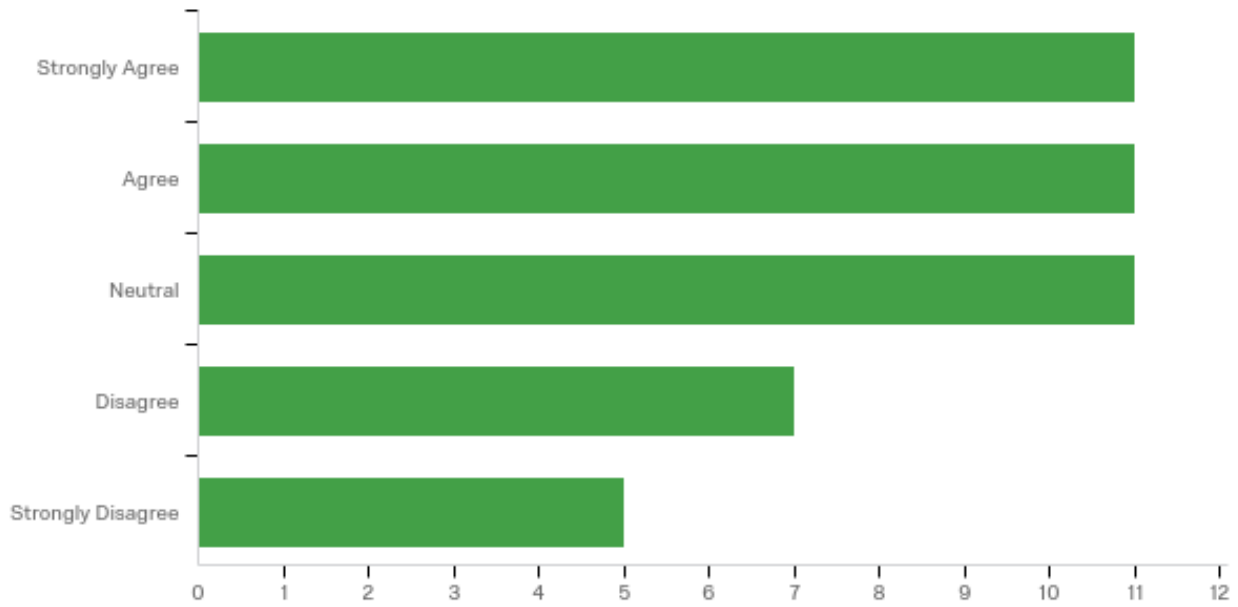
Q8 - The research cluster has provided me with opportunities for networking, mentoring or training



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly Agree	31%	14
2	Agree	44%	20
3	Neutral	9%	4
4	Disagree	16%	7
5	Strongly Disagree	0%	0
	Total	100%	45

Q8	Agree	Strongly Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Grand Total
Design Research Collaboration	1		1	2		4
High Performance Architecture	7	2	1			10
People and Place	6	11	1	1		19
Smart Cities	4			1		5
Urban Typologies	2	1	1	3		7
Grand Total	20	14	4	7	0	45

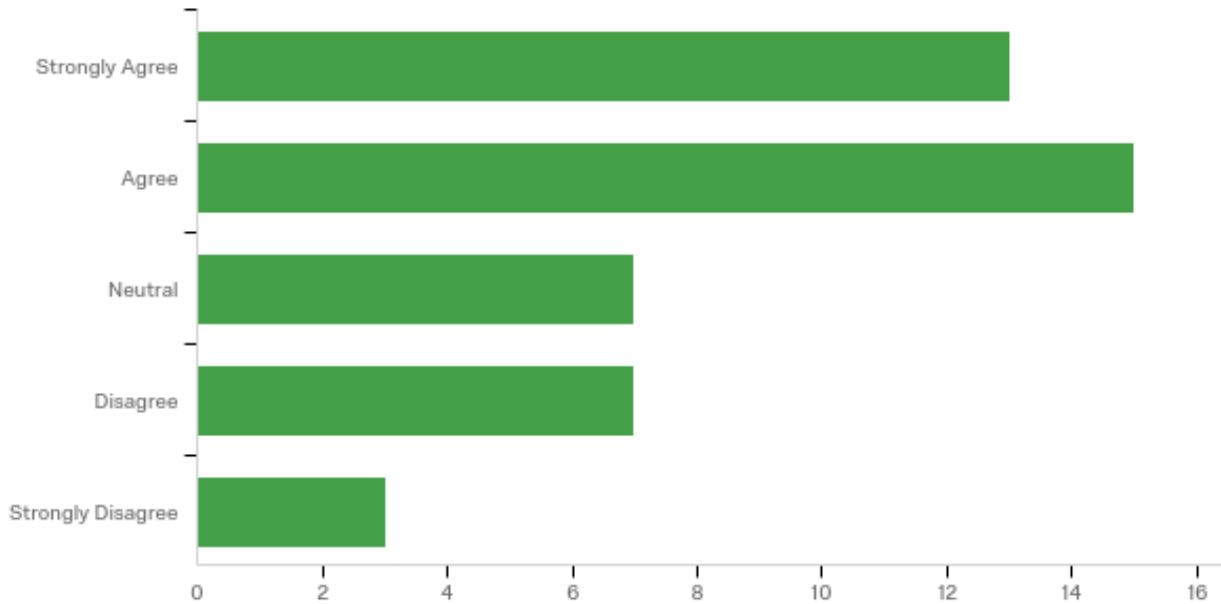
Q9 - I have benefited from financial support provided by the research cluster



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly Agree	24%	11
2	Agree	24%	11
3	Neutral	24%	11
4	Disagree	16%	7
5	Strongly Disagree	11%	5
	Total	100%	45

Q9	Agree	Strongly Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Grand Total
Design Research Collaboration	2			2		4
High Performance Architecture	3	4	2		1	10
People and Place	3	4	7	2	3	19
Smart Cities	1		1	2	1	5
Urban Typologies	2	3	1	1		7
Grand Total	11	11	11	7	5	45

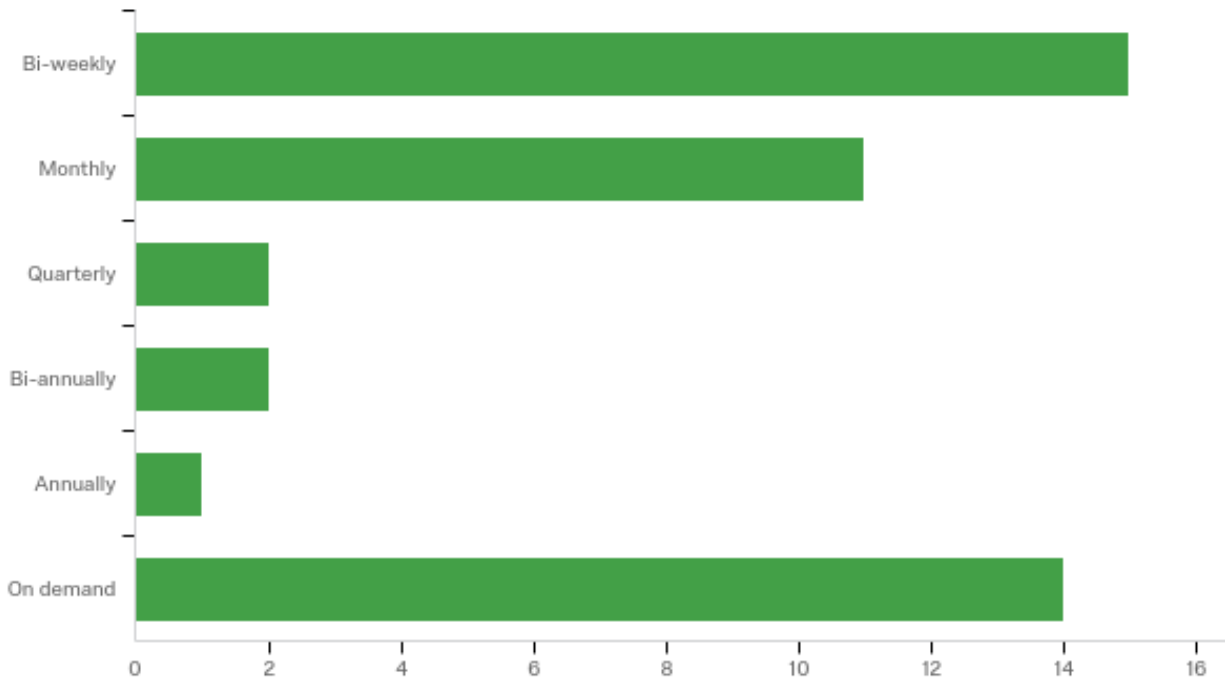
Q10 - The research cluster keeps me informed about developments in the faculty and in my field of research



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly Agree	29%	13
2	Agree	33%	15
3	Neutral	16%	7
4	Disagree	16%	7
5	Strongly Disagree	7%	3
	Total	100%	45

Q10	Agree	Strongly Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Grand Total
Design Research Collaboration	2		1	1		4
High Performance Architecture	5	3	1	1		10
People and Place	5	9	2	1	2	19
Smart Cities	2			2	1	5
Urban Typologies	1	1	3	2		7
Grand Total	15	13	7	7	3	45

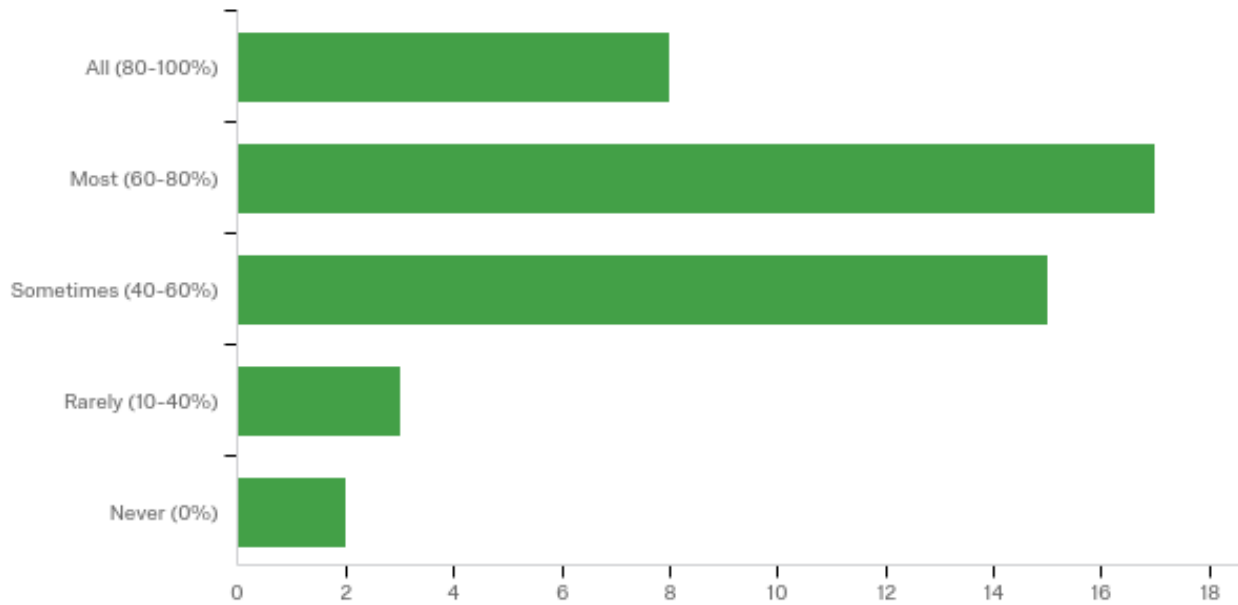
Q11 - How often does the research cluster meet?



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Bi-weekly	33%	15
2	Monthly	24%	11
3	Quarterly	4%	2
4	Bi-annually	4%	2
5	Annually	2%	1
6	On demand	31%	14
	Total	100%	45

Q11	Annually	Bi-annually	Quarterly	Monthly	Bi-weekly	On demand	Grand Total
Design Research Collaboration		1	1	1		1	4
High Performance Architecture			1	1		8	10
People and Place		1		7	11		19
Smart Cities	1			1	1	2	5
Urban Typologies				1	3	3	7
Grand Total	1	2	2	11	15	14	45

Q12 - What proportion of cluster events or meetings do you attend each year?



#	Answer	%	Count
1	All (80-100%)	18%	8
2	Most (60-80%)	38%	17
3	Sometimes (40-60%)	33%	15
4	Rarely (10-40%)	7%	3
5	Never (0%)	4%	2
	Total	100%	45

Q12	All (80-100%)	Most (60-80%)	Sometimes (40-60%)	Rarely (10-40%)	Never (0%)	Grand Total
Design Research Collaboration		2	2			4
High Performance Architecture	2	5	3			10
People and Place	5	5	6	2	1	19
Smart Cities		2	2		1	5
Urban Typologies	1	3	2	1		7
Grand Total	8	17	15	3	2	45

Q13 - Should your primary cluster's focus change to better accommodate the challenges or opportunities of the next 3-5 years (broaden, narrow, shift, merge)? If yes, what should change?

Design Research Collaboration

- no, yet more support would help
- The cluster needs more active members to make it more effective
- yes as they do not produce enough research outcomes - outcomes are produced by members without the clusters doing

High Performance Architecture

- NOT REALLY, THE FOCUS IS QUITE LARGE TO ACCOMODATE FUTURE CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES
- No, the scope is flexible enough to adapt to the changes.
- No - but it needs to more clearly identify it's thematic focus. High Performance Architecture is a somewhat generic term
- OK
- is fine
- Its working quite well
- Broaden to wider sustainable urban development narratives.
- Should probably be the same, but more organised as there is a broad range of topics in different scales.

People and Place

- No, People and Place's current model strikes a right balance in offering staff and HDRs the opportunities to discuss their research (including as testing ground for new/emerging research interests), gain constructive feedback, mentoring (for ECRs and HDRs), and external engagement (through guest presentations and open activities)
- No, I don't think a change in focus is needed. The title is broad enough to 'narrow' and 'shift' when needed. The cluster naturally shifts over time with the member's and new members' interests
- No, because the actual focus of the cluster is strong and coherent. My research subjects are not represented by any clusters
- Only in that there should be a clearer expectation that PhD students participate in the clusters - they can serve a very valuable function in introducing HDR students and their work to the faculty, but some clusters do this better than others
- No. The current scope is appropriate
- The People and Place Research cluster is well aligned with a continuing and embedded interdisciplinary research focus present in the faculty. It offers an inclusive focus which spans all BE disciplines and its relevance is ongoing
- There is always room for improvement, but it works very well currently
- Its just at a difficult time to attend. Plus its not like there's online copies of the presentation or papers that you can refer to if you miss the meeting
- No. People and Place cluster is terrific
- The P&P Cluster has a broad remit which can accommodate emerging issues and challenges. This does not need to change
- No. The cluster has workshopped this effectively with members
- People & Place has, by nature, a fairly broad range of interests represented
- No/Nothing

Smart Cities

- Merge with another cluster
- Shift

- Broaden & shift
- no

Urban Typologies

- It needs renaming and resuscitation. We hardly hear anything about clusters now, They have either turned inward or died. This was is regrettably not the force it was, partly due to lack of faculty support, and needs help
- Broaden including digital humanities and construction history
- Focus to apply as a group to a research grant
- I think the cluster should retain a history and theory of the built environment focus
- No, the focus is sufficiently broad to encompass the topics of interest to the researchers and the leadership and members are flexible enough to adjust to evolving needs
- no

Q14 - Should the roles or responsibilities of the research clusters change? If so, how?

Design Research Collaboration

- No - they are one of the only opportunities to talk to like minded staff across the faculty about research opportunities
- Better strengthen research of FOR codes then clusters that sit in between
- No

High Performance Architecture

- Not Really
- No. Cluster are made of researchers. It's up to us
- No. Leadership and running of the group is exemplary
- Perhaps a standard 'charter' of roles/responsibilities applicable to all clusters
- Many non active members
- The HP cluster is working quite well
- Yes, a senior Prof could handle the leadership of the cluster
- Yes. The cluster should engage PhD students more actively in opportunities for research collaboration, grants, publications, etc.
- The name is sometimes not representative of the climate work that we do.

People and Place

- Clusters should be more widely promoted to HDRs if mentoring is to continue as a strong feature. HDRs would benefit more from contributing to existing clusters than separate HDR clusters as part of their professional training.
- There is a lot of history to the Clusters in the BE.... different models have been tried with mixed results. We can't really force F-T academics to be involved, but it is always great when our HDR students become regular members. It would be a shame to lose the Clusters - they offer a vehicle for HDRs and F-T academics to mix. Also, it is just another way for interdisciplinary research to be enabled. The Clusters should always be accountable for the use of funds.
- I think the P&P cluster plays an important role, which is well documented. So no in that case.
- The People and Place cluster works well for staff and students as a model of a cluster type. It has key projects and events when it is given a budget as well as managing a continuous ongoing research conversation for the Staff and HDR students' benefit. It began in 2011 with a membership of 8 and it now has a membership of approx 35. Many of whom attend the fortnightly meetings regularly. Every cluster has defined itself differently so it is hard to address this question more broadly. This cluster has been a success in the format it has chosen to maintain. It needs the return of a budget though
- If anything, I feel the people and place cluster works well from a qualitative style focus, distinct from only people and place. Maybe highlighting research style more than just topic could assist
- The P&P Cluster covers off on a range of supportive activities already - involving staff and HDR students. It has been instrumental in developing a supportive and inclusive research culture as well as providing opportunities for publications. Great seminars regularly convened to bring a range of new learning to Cluster attendees.
- The P&P research cluster has, from the beginning had a well defined series of 'roles and responsibilities' that we collectively subscribe to, including having HDR students associated with the group as active participants in our meetings and events. It is a successful model that benefits from the goodwill and generosity of its members.
- Nothing to suggest
- Not that I can think of
- No (8)

Smart Cities

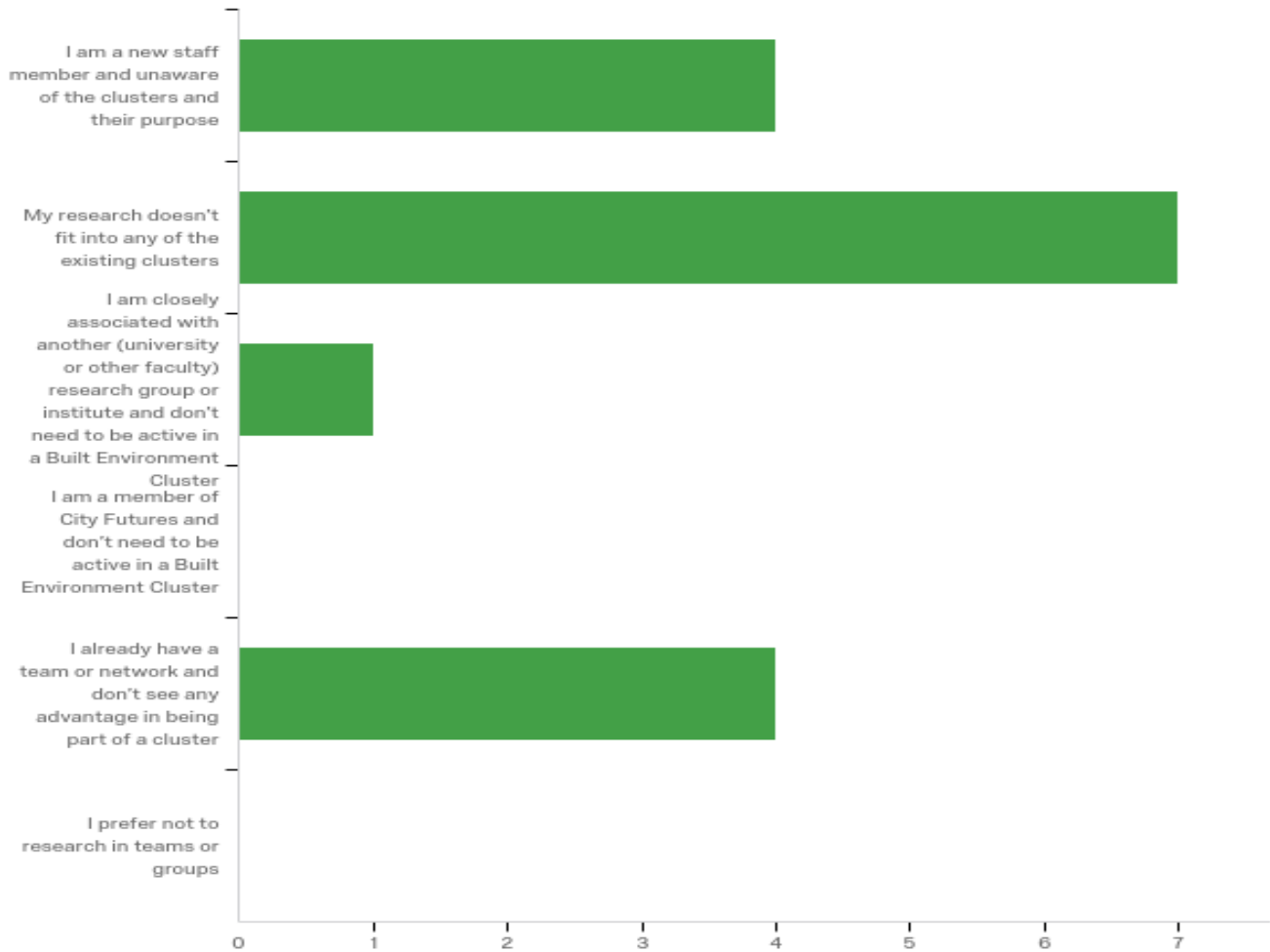
- KPIs needed to keep clusters accountable
- More networking opportunities

- To actually produce something – a measurable output
- Clusters could play an increased role in facilitating/building teams for research grant proposals. Clusters should set clear short term and long term goals, be well managed, active, and set out expectations for cluster members as well, such as attending meetings as a minimum req, incentivising members - counting participation for service load. Cluster convenors could be given an amount of 'x' hours of P&T staff (in kind) assistance with organising the cluster. Clusters could be better incentivised to be active with future increased funding rewards.
- No

Urban Typologies

- Yes. Be much more about being a vehicle through which new metric expectations can be realised.
- My research cluster is extremely successful as a research group. The members have managed to accommodate recent changes and still support each other to achieve their personal goals. It has a very quietly collegiate environment which has demonstrated successes.
- My research is not well aligned with this cluster. People and place would be better but i haven't attended any meetings.
- Role and responsibility aligned with the UNSW research Matrix
- They should have a more outward facing role into the faculty. They seem a top secret business, or have they just lapsed or exist effectively in name only?
- No

Q15 - I am not a member of a research cluster because (select all that apply)



#	Answer	%	Count
1	I am a new staff member and unaware of the clusters and their purpose	25%	4
2	My research doesn't fit into any of the existing clusters	44%	7
3	I am closely associated with another (university or other faculty) research group or institute and don't need to be active in a Built Environment Cluster	6%	1
4	I am a member of City Futures and don't need to be active in a Built Environment Cluster	0%	0
5	I already have a team or network and don't see any advantage in being part of a cluster	25%	4
6	I prefer not to research in teams or groups	0%	0
	Total	100%	16

Q16 - Should the faculty develop any new research clusters? If so, what would they be?

Design Research Collaboration

- No
- Not to my knowledge
- No abandon Cluster

High Performance Architecture

- NOT SURE
- I don't know. I am happy where I am. However, it's easy to collaborate with colleagues from other clusters. I don't feel 'caged'.
- Yes - They should be aligned with the challenges we face in the 21st century
- If/when there is demand, Faculty should respond to it.
- i dont think so.. has to merge clusters
- No comment
- On demand
- Some areas within the faculty have no cluster associated, such as construction, project management, etc.
- The focus on climate-resilient cities can be emphasized in existing groups or new clusters

People and Places

- no
- Don't know
- Probably not - if so, this would have to be driven by the staff themselves.
- Yes. A cluster about theory of architecture, in relation to the arts and techniques
- Probably only if some existing clusters are going to fold - otherwise might be starting to spread people a little thin
- Clusters supporting cross-disciplinary collaborations should be welcomed. Proposals should come from collaborations of staff members.
- My research interests are covered by what is in existence now
- Not sure
- I am not in a position to recommend more
- No
- No. Just encourage hdr students more for involvement
- Probably yes but I dont know what
- not sure.
- Not that I am aware of. Possibly architectural history
- No. Not for my needs.
- Yes, Interdisciplinary clusters
- A cluster aligned with climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- Possibly...but they need to emerge from a committed and focused group of individuals who have a thematic area they commit to establishing.

Smart Cities

- Cross-disciplinary clusters
- Transport research cluster. We have a good number of academics who could be involved in transport research
- no--just rename some
- no

Urban Typologies

- No
- Don't Know
- No Comment
- A cluster that crosses urban planning and architecture. But people and place might be it
- Probably a Cross-Faculty research cluster
- A research cluster pursuing interdisciplinarity or multi disciplinary within the same research area
- There seem to be some vibrant new research groupings that are doing the job of clusters, indeed much better. Urban design, maybe? Contemporary architecture?

I am not an active member of a cluster

- Construction or the current clusters should have a construction stream
- Yes. Some possibilities (i) History and Theory of the Built Environment, (ii) Design Computing and Automation, (iii) Disaster Resilience and Preparedness
- I am not sure of the advantages of research cluster- it would be good to clarify this.
- There are already too many research clusters
- Emerging Technologies
- please note this addition to Q15: The first half of the statement selected is true to me the second half not. Q16/ A model from Neura that seems beneficial is a group called 'journal club'. This involves 1-3 senior researchers and their PhD candidates, they review articles together (strengths and weaknesses) and have turns at sharing abstracts with one another.
- Yes. Research clusters prove an impetus for academics to keep their research interests alive and develop with others with similar interests.
- History is desperately lacking
- no but give up on them
- No Q15 answer applied - I don't know the details of the research clusters.
- Design Computing (ii) 'Design Theory and History' or 'Design and Culture'
- i am not a new staff member but i am still unaware of the clusters and their purpose (had to make a selection in Q15)
- Automation in Construction

Q17 - Are there any other comments or suggestions you would like to make about research clusters?

Design Research Collaboration

- they should be better supported and made more accountable
- I feel that since the faculty has initiated research clusters it has been a very positive initiative. In the area of design which is often overlooked in discussion it gives us legitimacy and identity, and helps bring us together.
- I do not see value of them

High Performance Architecture

- THEY SHOULD ORGANIZE EVENT DO DISCUSS POTENTIAL COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE DIFFERENT RESEARCH CLUSTER BY SHARING TARGETS, RESEARCH DIRECTIONS AND POTENTIAL COMMOM ACTIONS
- rules have to be applied. As it is everyone declare he/she is member but never participates
- It should be made sure that the research clusters are active and supported with relevant funding. Some of the clusters are dormant despite of the potential great value they can add.
- As previously mentioned, Yes. clusters should engage PhD students more actively in opportunities for research collaboration, grants, publications, etc. Some do, but most don't.
- No Comment
- No

People and Place

- E-Focussed staff seem to be supported externally to the BE and L+T seems to be the focus of our faculty right now. The Clusters offer an inexpensive place for researchers to come together to learn, support each other and ideally, work together. I really hope they are kept - the faculty needs to get more serious about research and support for that research.
- I have a virtual research cluster in my mind I m working with. Managed to find a balance with this situation in the last 4 years
- They serve a valuable function in fostering cross-disciplinary research, and opportunities for more junior staff to network and share their work.
- I think they provide an excellent network for both academic staff and postgraduate students to share their research and develop their research skills in a collaborative and cross-disciplinary manner.
- Research Clusters need budgets to do their work. Including hosting internal meetings and external events and visiting academics. Having no budget is a problem.
- the one I am involved in works very well for me
- I have found the people and place research cluster really valuable
- Make an online resource so you can refer back to past presentations and papers
- I think it is absolutely vital as PhD candidate to be part of a cluster.
- This cluster has been immensely helpful as a Phd student
- I think the P&P Cluster exemplifies what a supportive cluster should be - combining opportunities for research and publications, networking and the distribution of new knowledge. There should be consistent and ongoing funding for the Cluster.
- The People and Place Research Cluster provided a very important connection to colleagues and research activities while I was undertaking my PhD as a part-time program. At times I felt very isolated from the academia and the cluster offered a supportive, interested, engaging and welcoming environment - as well as opportunities to write and publish.
- The P&P research cluster is a long-running, successful group and that is because of the people who've led it and been leaders within it. I'm fortunate to be part of it!

Smart Cities

- more funding required

- must have a deliverable output

Urban Typologies

- They should be headed by a professor and have a mandate a quota of grant applications to come out of them a year
- In the current highly-pressured academic environment the clusters are essential for staff support. Any change would need to be positive and supportive rather than further undermining the goodwill of the staff and removing their support network.
- Urban Typologies cluster needs to change its name
- Allow each research cluster to maintain its own identity according to the the academics involved,
- New members of staff should present their research to a wider group of academics from different cluster. This will clarify the research environment of BE and give the opportunity to present yourself what you do. Without such as event the onboard process was very difficult in my experience.
- Their slow withering has happened in parallel with a greater centralization of research (stage) management, e.g. Utzon Lectures. What has dried up almost completely is any discourse of seminars and visitors as we used to have.

I am not an active member of a cluster

- The design collaboration cluster is really a creative works cluster, with no traditional research into design accommodated in it. This isn't ideal.
- Make the clusters more visible with their work
- I personally do not think they are value for money
- It would be nice to have a strong emphasis on mentorship & building research skills (have experienced this at the P&P cluster). Many of the email alerts from the clusters seem to focus on seminars from visiting experts - important but less appealing to ECR + HDR. The model used in the sciences, small teams of 5 - 10 led by senior researchers and their immediate network of Post-doc & PhD is appealing (understand the limitations of grant \$ / r.projects to fund these). The downside to these is that they can become silos within one faculty, so the BE clusters do challenge this.
- I am very interested to be part of a reproach cluster focusing on the Pacific.
- I am not a member of staff - clusters are for research students too
- no
- I simply don't have knowledge about the ones that exist.
- A few of the clusters (Design Collaboration and Urban Typologies) are very niche and I don't know why 'Smart Cities' isn't merged into city futures.
- not clear what each cluster is working on or what is the purpose of each (in research terms)