## 1. Outline how the candidate has made a significant contribution to EfS (300 words)

Lisa co-founded the not-for-profit, registered charity group CEL (Centre for Ecological Learning). Lisa has always maintained a strong focus on youth-led activism. Whether it was facilitating a meeting between the teens and their hero Bob Brown, arranging for them to take part in youth-led climate action in Sydney, or supporting their campaign fundraising to make Bellingen a plastic-free town. Hundreds of local young people who attended the Youth Experience and CEL's weekend bush camps continue to reach out and keep in contact with Lisa, years and decades later. Many have written attesting to the critical influence of EYE or CEL's camps as the force behind their decision to study environmental tertiary degrees or dedicate themselves as activist campaigners on climate and social justice.

Lisa Siegel is now an Associate Lecturer and Doctoral Candidate at SCU. She has been instrumental in the move to make environmental education a core subject for all education students at the university, not just an elective. Lisa has been part of the organising committee for two national AAEE Research Symposiums. She also co-facilitated a workshop at the 20th AAEE Research Symposium in 2018, which resulted in a published article in the Australian Journal of Environmental Education. Lisa is in the leadership team of the Sustainability, Environment, and Arts Education (SEAE) Research cluster at SCU, and has presented her academic work nationally and internationally. She was the recipient of the Higher Degree Research award for Best Publication in both 2018 & 2019 for her publications relating to waste education and pro-environmental behaviour.

## 2. Exhibited leadership or mentorship that has influenced others (300 words)

Lisa is an enabler in the community of environmental educators and works to elevate the voices of others. She was instrumental in helping a group of students establish Bellingen Environmental Youth Experience (EYE) in 2007, which was a youth-led environmental education and nature connection group based around wilderness camp experiences. Lisa has mentored hundreds of young people and helped facilitate local action groups, such as Plastic-Free Bellingen and Youth Against Plastic, Bellingen Shire Learning Alliance, Coffs Coast Regional Science Hub, Eco Outings, Eco Workshops, NatureConnect camps, Nature Play Mentor Training, Waste not Bellingen, Composting Workshops, Wild Camps and Young Naturalists Club.

## 3. Led by example and walked the sustainability talk in private life (300 words)

Lisa is a skilled environmental educator with over 20 years experience in developing and facilitating educational experiences for children, young people, and adults. Lisa was instrumental in helping a group of students establish Bellingen EYE in 2007 and helped facilitate EYE camps over the years until it morphed into YAP... which she continues to mentor with great enjoyment. Lisa has had multiple roles in CEL over the years, including founding board member, chairperson, treasurer, programming, facilitation, publicity, administration, and, well, just whatever needs to be done.

Lisa has a Masters in Education from Columbia University and a Masters in Social Ecology from the University of Western Sydney. She is currently undertaking PhD research in Environmental Education at Southern Cross University where she is part of the Sustainability, Environmental, and Arts Education(SEAE) Research Cluster and works as a tutor for the School of Education. Lisa's academic work is balanced by her heart work–she has trained in Deep Ecology/The Work That Reconnects with JohnSeed and Joanna Macy, and has been a student of Insight Buddhism and a member of Tallowwood Sangha for ten years .That all sounds very serious–but Lisa gets great enjoyment out of all her work! She also loves being a mother and an auntie, a member of Bellingen Playback Theatre and Bellingen Write Club, and hanging out with her family and her chickens.

## 4. Outline the connections of the applicants work to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, please select one Major goal and one Minor goal. (300words)

Through Lisa's work with the Centre for Ecological Learning <u>www.cel.org.au/</u> Lisa is providing Earthbased, immersive, educational experiences for all ages that deepen our relationship with ourselves and the natural world, towards more sustainable lifestyles and communities. This is very much the intent of Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all. As can be seen in 4.7 Target-By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship, and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development. In a Minor way Lisa's work at CEL is contributing to Goal 12 Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns. With the target 12.2 and 12.8 By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources and 12.8 By 2030, ensure that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature. Lisa fosters ecological wellbeing for ourselves and the planet, by supporting people of all ages to experience Earth-based, immersive, educational experiences that deepen our relationship with ourselves and the natural world. These experiences nourish, inspire and equip participants with the knowledge and skills to go forth and adopt more ecologically sustainable ways of living in their personal lives and local community.