

Propose the next profiling theme and measures for the University of Oulu

The Academy of Finland will open the next [call supporting the profiling of universities](#) (Profi 6 call) in January 2020. The aim of the funding is to support and speed up the strategic profiling of Finnish universities in order to improve their capacity for enhancing the quality of research. The University of Oulu will submit one application for this call. The application will describe a profiling area connected to the university's strategy and an action plan for reaching the desired objective. Each profiling theme will be evaluated and scored individually. The evaluation will assess what is added value of research in the proposed profiling themes at national level. In this call the university of Oulu will apply funding only for a few themes that are connected to the current profiling themes.

We are now inviting researchers to propose **themes and measures** for which

- utilise the 6G Flagship and connect new application areas to the current research of the Flagship and therefore strengthen digital transformation; the main focus is to develop knowledge in application areas (verticals) in collaboration with the Flagship, or
- strengthen and deepen or refocus the current profiling area(s) or link the current profiling areas to each other.

The proposals should address [the global challenges of the UN's 2030 agenda for sustainable development](#).

The profiling themes can be

- existing high-quality research themes
- emerging themes with potential to reach the top level
- new themes with high potential.

The profiling areas of the University of Oulu are the following (see figure below):

PROFI 2:

- [Ubiquitous wireless sensor systems \(Leader: Jukka Riekk\)](#)
- [Earth and near-space system and environmental change \(Leader: Anita Aikio\)](#)

PROFI 3:

- [Fibrosis disease \(Leader: Johanna Uusimaa\)](#)
- [Genome of steel \(Leader: Jukka Kömi\)](#)

PROFI 4:

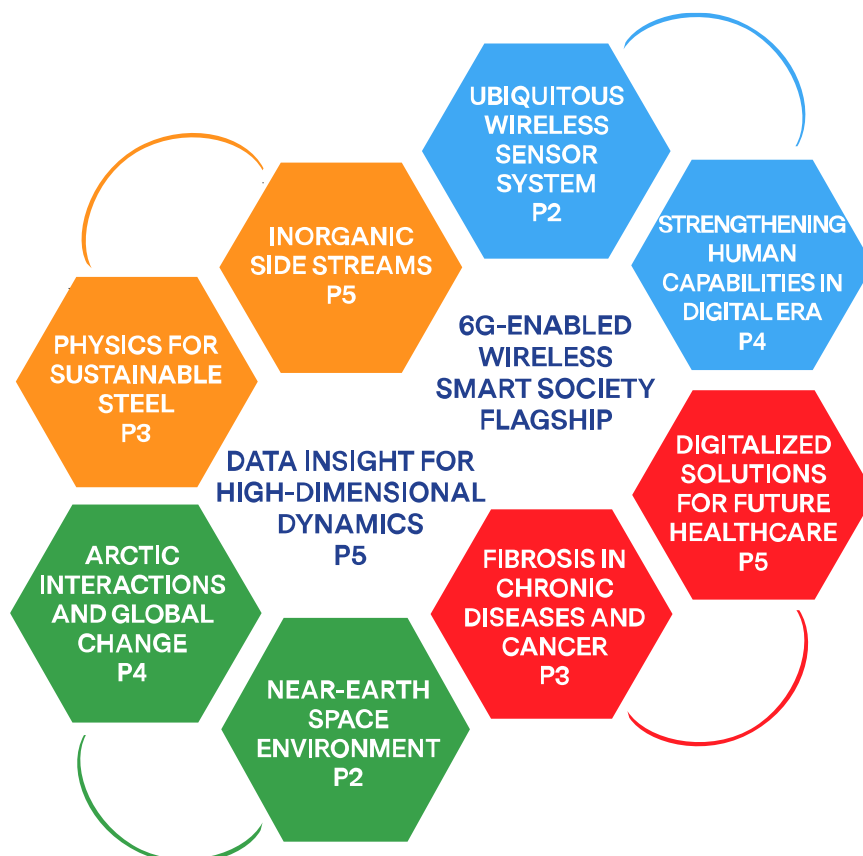
- Generation Z and beyond: Co-evolution of human capabilities and intelligent technologies in the 21st century (Leader: Pentti Haddington)
- Arctic interactions: Coupling of nature and human responses to understand and mitigate global change (Leader: Bjørn Kløve)

PROFI 5:

- Digitalized solutions for future healthcare (Leader: Simo Saarakkala)
- Inorganic side streams: From basic research and technology development to sustainable value chains (Leader: Harri Haapasalo)
- Mathematics and AI: Data Insight for High-Dimensional Dynamics (Leader: Mikko Sillanpää)

FLAGSHIP:

- 6G-Enabled Wireless Smart Society & Ecosystem (Leader: Matti Latva-aho, Contact: Marja Matinmikko)



Leave your proposal and the following information through [the linked Webropol query](https://www.webropolsurveys.com/S/980B8E0CE0BBB50E.par) (https://www.webropolsurveys.com/S/980B8E0CE0BBB50E.par) **by 18 October 2019:**

- A short description of the profiling theme and preliminary measures, including the renewal of science and expected scientific breakthroughs, as well as justification for the selection of the theme in question (max. 2000 characters).
- A description of the cooperation and potential division of work with other universities and organisations, and added value of research in the proposed profiling themes at national level (max. 750 characters).
- The proposed leader and his or her contact information, as well as 5–10 senior researchers related to the theme.
- Has the proposed leader committed him- or herself to preparing an application/proposal in January-May 2020?

Preparation schedule:

- Deadline for replying to the Webropol query: 18 October 2019.
- The proposals will be grouped, and a number of proposals will be selected for future processing by the research council, research management group and rectors meeting on October-November 2019.
- The proposals will be presented in a meeting of the university's Board of Directors on December 2019. The Board will confirm the themes for the Profi 6 application.
- One application will be prepared for the selected themes in January-May 2020.

Additional information:

Teija Kekonen
Director, Research Support Services
teija.kekonen@oulu.fi
tel. +358 294 482 053

Taina Pihlajaniemi
Vice Rector for Research
taina.pihlajaniemi@oulu.fi
tel. +358 294 485 800