

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

According to preliminary information the Academy of Finland is planning to open the next [call supporting the profiling of universities](#) (Profi 7 call) in Spring 2022. The Academy of Finland has not made a final decision on opening the call yet, but the University of Oulu has decided to start the Profi 7 process.

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 profiling areas connected to the university's strategy and an action plan for reaching the desired objective. Each profiling theme (a total of two or three in previous applications) will be evaluated and scored individually. The evaluation will assess what is the added value of the research in the proposed profiling themes at national and international 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** which

- strengthen and deepen or refocus the current profiling area(s) (PROFI2-6 and the Flagships) or/and link the current profiling areas to each other.
- It is possible to use the results of the RAE 2020 assessment in the proposal (will be published on 2 November 2021)

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 Riekkö)
- Earth and near-space system and environmental change (Leader: Anita Aikio)

### PROFI 3:

- Fibrosis diseasome (Leader: Johannes Kettunen)
- 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:

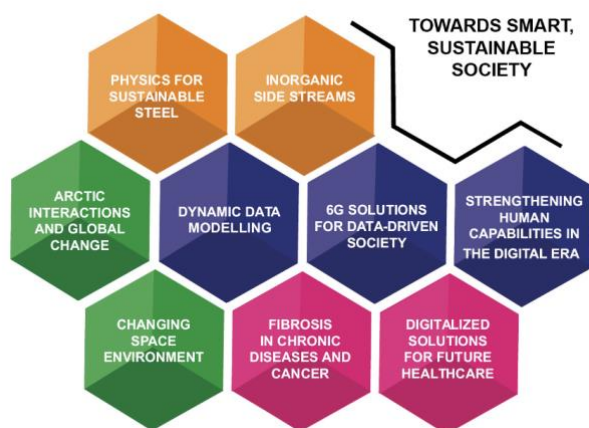
- Digitalized solutions for future healthcare (Leader: Simo Saarakkala)
- Inorganic side streams: From basic research and technology development to sustainable value chains (Leader: Harri Haapasalo)
- Mathematics and AI: Data Insight for High-Dimensional Dynamics (Leader: Mikko Sillanpää)

### PROFI 6:

- Biodiversity dynamics and community co-existence in the Anthropocene Arctic: Responsibilities and futures (Leader: Marko Mutanen)
- Preventing fibrosis related to obesity (Leader: Olavi Ukkola)
- 6G Future sustainable society (Leader: Johanna Uusimaa)

### Flagship:

- 6G-Enabled Wireless Smart Society & Ecosystem (Leader: Matti Latva-aho, Contact: Marja Matinmikko-Blue)
- Gene Cell and Nano Therapy Competence Cluster for the Treatment of Chronic Diseases (Vice-leader and contact: Seppo Vainio)



Leave your proposal and the following information through the linked [Webropol query](https://link.webropol-surveys.com/S/25C44527ED7BC65D) (<https://link.webropol-surveys.com/S/25C44527ED7BC65D>)

**by 30 November 2021:**

- 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).
- How is the proposed profiling theme connected to the RAE 2020 assessment and the development measures of the RAE 2020?
- 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).
- A description of the international collaboration and networks (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 Spring 2022?
- Your name and contact information

Preparation schedule:

- Deadline for replying to the Webropol query: 30 November 2021.
- The proposals will be grouped, and a few proposals will be selected for future processing by the research council, research management group and rectors meeting in December 2021.
- The proposals will be presented in a meeting of the university's Board of Directors in January 2022. The Board will confirm the themes for the Profi 7 application.
- One application will be prepared for the selected themes in Spring 2022. The Profi 7 themes will be further focused and developed during the preparation.

Additional information:

Teija Kekonen

Director, Research and Project Services

[teija.kekonen@oulu.fi](mailto:teija.kekonen@oulu.fi)

tel. +358 294 482 053

Taina Pihlajaniemi

Vice Rector for Research

[taina.pihlajaniemi@oulu.fi](mailto:taina.pihlajaniemi@oulu.fi)

tel. +358 294 485 800