Tom Hawxwell joined the Research Training Group “Urban future-making: Professional agency across time and scale” as a PHD candidate in April 2022. He holds a Bachelor of International Studies and a Bachelor of Arts (Major: Geography, Environmental and Population) from the University of Adelaide (Australia), as well as a Master of Science in Environmental Governance from the Albert-Ludwig University of Freiburg (Germany). Prior to his time at the HCU, he worked for the Fraunhofer Institute for Industrial Engineering (IAO) in Stuttgart (Germany) on applied research at the interface between urban governance, climate change adaptation and nature-based solutions.

His research can be located in academic discussions around sustainability transitions, which aim to develop a deeper understanding of how and why fundamental reorganisations of socio-technical systems to address diverse societal challenges play out and how they can be supported. The research explores the dynamics that inhibit desirable change with a specific focus on anticipatory practices - as the ways in which humans interact with and anticipate the future - and the consequences of these for stability and change in urban systems.