Australian Government

Department of Education, Science and Training

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Progress on Implementation:
PMSEIC Data for Science Recommendations

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Australian Government Statistical Forum (AGSF)

The PMSEIC Data for Science Working Group: related DEST initiatives

- Research Quality Framework

- e-Research Coordinating Committee

- Accessibility Framework

- NCRIS Platforms for Collaboration

- New AARNet Charging Model

- Australian Access Federation

The PMSEIC Data for Science Working Group: some relevant Whole of Government activity

- National Data Network

- Open Content Licensing for Government Datasets; possible use of Creative Commons

- Whole of Government IP Management Principles – led by Attorney-General's Department, DCITA, IP Australia and DoFA

The PMSEIC Data for Science Working Group

- Suggested a cooperative, Whole of Government approach **within a National strategic framework**

- Key Recommendations included:
  - National network of data repositories
  - Improve sharing and collaboration
  - Increase skilled workforce for best practice in data management

The Research Quality Framework

- Systemic Infrastructure Initiative funding supported the development and deployment of digital repository technology.

- The RQF will require universities to make their research available through digital repositories wherever possible.

- The Australian Scheme for Higher Education Repositories (ASHER) will provide $25.5 million for
    - purchase of hardware and software to establish or update a repository, and
    - support to meet the workload involved with populating the institution's repository.

The e-Research Coordinating Committee

- Reported to Ministers (DCITA and DEST) in mid-2006
- Key Findings:
  - an ad hoc approach to e-Research in Australia
  - Intervention required to accelerate uptake and promote a consistent approach by research communities
- Recommendations included:
  - the need for leadership to drive cultural change;
  - fostering engagement, participation and cooperation;
  - data management and accessible databases; and
  - coordination.

The Accessibility Framework

- The Accessibility Framework is about ensuring that publicly funded research is accessible by the public, by government, by business.

- It includes elements of:

    - Technology
    - Policy
    - Regulatory framework
    - Innovative approaches to solving problems of access to data/ research

NCRIS Platforms for Collaboration

- Collaborative, cooperative and coordinated approach to managing future data and e-research infrastructure needs

- Building on SII investments – moving from research and development to deployment and production
  - Initial focus on needs of 11 NCRIS Capabilities

- Aims to provide a national data management and infrastructure system
  - Australian National Data Service
  - Integration with Australian Access Federation

- Reported to NCRIS Committee in mid-April

A new AARNet Charging Model

- AARNet previously charged by volume and has moved to a combination of subscription and volume

- Discussions currently underway to shift towards a more realistic, sustainable subscription charge for research and education traffic.

- The challenge once that is resolved – in the context of both NCRIS and AEDN - is how to include a range of non-members in AREN.

- AARNet is currently reviewing its pricing policies / business model. Aim is to extend the reach of the network and reduce dependence on volume based charging.

The Australian Access Federation

- The Minister approved up to $4.8 million to establish the Australian Access Federation (AAF).

- The AAF
  - aims to provide a national authentication and authorisation framework for higher education and research.

  - will play a critical role in ensuring that research infrastructure and data are accessible.

  - builds on SII investment in MAMS and e-Security.

  - will also be developed so that it can be extended to the schools and vocational education and training sectors over time.

Where is it all leading?

- Research infrastructure and data that are accessible
  - To a range of users – higher education, government, states and territories
  - Under controlled, authenticated but simple access regimes

- Data that is discoverable, accessible, managed and long-lived

- The effect of the government's investments in research and education should be maximised

More information

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