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AeRO Forum

2016 Roadmap

National research infrastructure comprises the nationally significant assets, facilities and services to support leading-edge research and innovation.

It is accessible to publicly and privately funded users across Australia, and internationally.

National Research Data Cloud

- Review commissioned by the Department of Education to establish a new NRDC by redesigning the existing NCRIS projects:
 - Australian National Data Service (ANDS)
 - Research Data Services (RDS)
 - National eResearch Collaboration Tools and Resources (NeCTAR)
- The redesign will enable convergence towards a coherent eResearch system including the NRDC and the following National Research Infrastructure eResearch investments:
 - High performance computing and integrated services
 - Australian Research and Education Network
 - Australian Access Federation.

Vision

- Underpin all research areas
- Provide the opportunity for researchers to ask bigger questions
- Align with, and where appropriate lead, international research
- Interface with the private sector
- Provide trusted advice to Government

Project deliverables

- Advice on the future of the NRDC, including the incorporation of existing services provided by ANDS, RDS and Nectar (Last quarter of 2017)
- A transition plan to an NRDC, including consultation with impacted stakeholders (First quarter of 2018).

Process

- We were provided with all consultations relevant to eResearch during the Roadmap construction
- Also had numerous meetings across Australia with universities, research domains and researchers, refining ideas
- Commissioned a report on governance of national facilities.
- Reference Group met monthly

Reference Group Principles for the NRDC

- **Vision** – The NRDC program will be designed to provide stakeholders with a clear unified vision for coherent best practice systems that enable open collaborative data-intensive research.
- **Inclusiveness** – NRDC will engage and act in coordination with all NCRIS capabilities, research groups, disciplines and institutions, the systems being introduced by other nations, and with the public and private sectors.
- **Independence** – NRDC will be governed and managed separately from any host organisation
- **International positioning** - the new organisation will engage with leading nations in developing open and comprehensive data platforms to advance knowledge gain for societal benefit
- **Trusted advisor** - the new organisation will have clear authority from stakeholders to provide sound advice to Government and research organisations about the future needs and behaviours for Australia to fully participate in data intensive research.
- **Resetting the goals** – the NRDC will set a reconsidered unified direction for the delivery of digital infrastructure to the research sector
- **Digital Data and eResearch platforms** - NRDC will seek a coordinated approach with the HPC, networking and access capabilities

Reference Group Principles for Transitioning to the NRDC

- **Continuity** – stakeholders continue to receive existing RAN services across the transition without disruption
- **Program flexibility** – management are able to easily introduce aspects of the Future Design projected for 2018-19
- **Expertise retention** – existing staff move from the RAN to NRDC informed about the NRDC direction and ongoing roles
- **Stakeholder confidence** – forming NRDC retains and increases stakeholder confidence and engagement
- **Governance** – the NRDC entity and its Board adopt the AICD not-for-profit principles for governance as its charter

Reference Group

Robyn Owens (Chair)

Tim Kane

Clare McLaughlin

Chris Pigram

Rob Fitzpatrick

Liz Sonenberg (representing the existing projects)

Supported by Rob Cook and staff from the Department of Education