The Demise of eRSA
eRSA Structure

• Joint venture between three universities

• U of A – smallest of Go8

• Flinders - middle range with history of research

• UniSA – ex Institute of Technology, little research
2007 – The Beginning

• SAPAC morphs into eRSA

• ARCS funding

• Led by U of A physics
2010 – End of ARCS

• ARCS funding finishes

• Appointment of first full-time CEO

• Looking to build commercial capability

• Prospect of large capital funding for infrastructure
2012 – RDSI and NeCTAR

• Full RDSI node

• Nearly full NeCTAR funding

• Each University puts in approx $ 0.5 million

• $0.5 million State Government
2012 - State of Research

• NCRIS Research
  • Some TERN
  • Plant Accelerator (Photonics)
  • Larif – National Imaging Facility

• Medical

• Agriculture – Soil Science

• Physics
2015 - Incorporation

• Support RDS and NeCTAR – equipment replacement with help from DELL

• Commercial opportunities on the horizon

• Reduces perception of unfairness

• Encourages State Government Involvement
2014 / 2017 Universities

• U of A purchases HPC

• Other members want re-assurances that eRSA will continue to provide HPC

• Beginning of 2017 U of A mandates that all their researchers will stop using eRSA for HPC
2018 – Decision Time

- Transfer to ARDC
- Commercial opportunities increase - capitalization
- DVC (R)s change – New board of CIOs only
- Decision to close made with no plan
- Proposed merger of U of A and UniSA
2019 - Closure

• Infrastructure role taken over by ITSs

• No provision for research support

• No eRSA people taken on by Universities

• Capital costs to each university

• ARDC ?
Why? They say

• Too expensive

• Commercial work is too risky

• No ARDC funding for SA

• Mary is retiring

• ITSs can do the same
Why? - I say

• Don't understand what we do

• Not willing to fund eResearch appropriately

• Co-operation is too difficult

• Little direction for NCRIS future

• Money is an issue – therefore use funding internally
Future of eResearch in South Australia

• Commercial demand

• Research demand will not easily be satisfied

• Costs too much to do it individually

• eRSA II in three years?