AeRO

Australasian eResearch Organisations

Membership Prospectus

2017

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www.aero.edu.au

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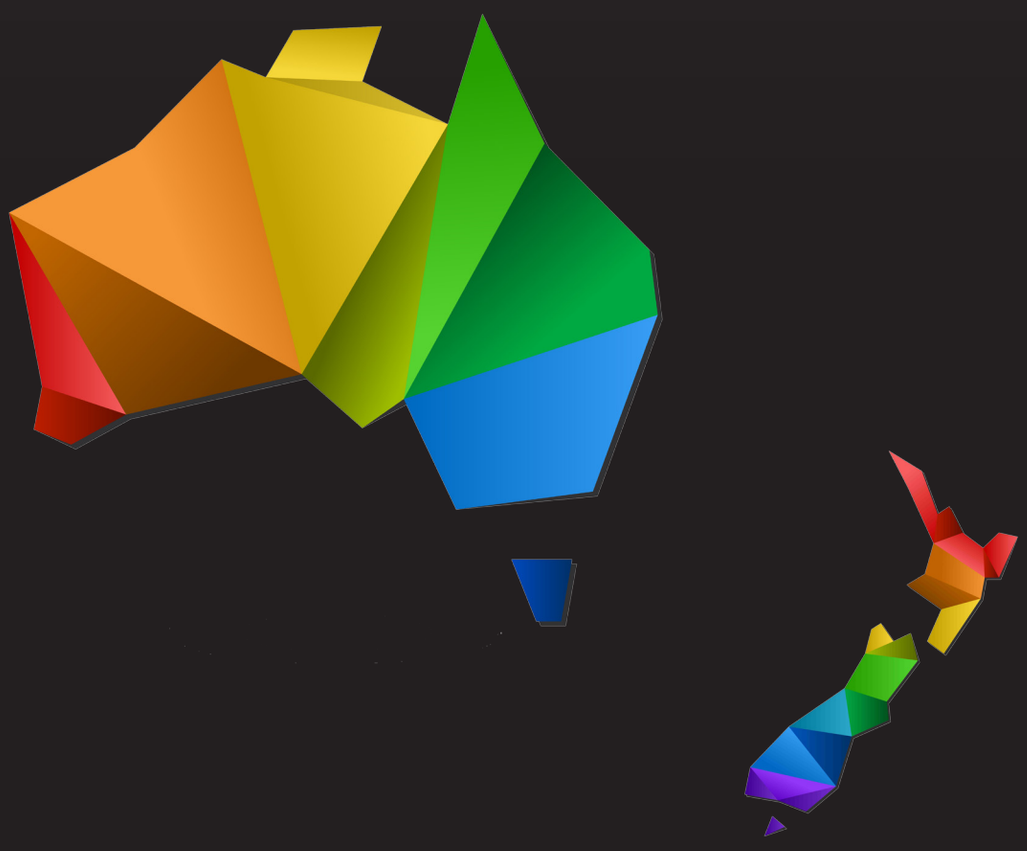

AeRO

Australasian eResearch Organisations

AeRO is the industry association focused on eResearch in Australasia

We play a critical coordination role for our members, who are actively transforming research via Information Technology.

Organisations join AeRO to advance their own capabilities and services, to collaborate and to network with peers.

AeRO believes researchers and the sector significantly benefit from greater communication, coordination and sharing among the increasingly different and evolving service providers.

AeRO members are organisations that:

- Provide and support eResearch services and resources
- Leverage eResearch capabilities to support and accelerate modern research
- Value the research impact they help to enable

These include universities, research institutions, infrastructure bodies, state-partnerships, research communities, IT groups, NCRIS projects, service providers, peak bodies, associations and industry.

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Challenges

eResearch is widely recognised
for its value in
enhancing existing research methods and
enabling new research techniques
through information technology.

This is a rapidly evolving world,
with the emergence of Big Data,
the Internet of Things, Artificial Intelligence,
machine learning, and increasing large cross-institution and cross-disciplinary collaboration,
constrained by skills and workforce issues and many other challenges,

that also offer many opportunities.

Benefits

Members benefit from AeRO because their:

Researchers are better supported,
more aware, more productive, better skilled.

Staff are better trained, more engaged,
better informed, more connected.

Services are better integrated,
more cohesive, more usable, more
standardised, more trusted, more visible.

Organisation is better informed,
more visible, more efficient, better equipped,
more aligned, more consulted and engaged
with national initiatives.

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Community

AeRO builds a stronger community
by providing a forum,
a coordinating point,
an independent voice,
and a critical mass.

This community is for
sharing and coordinating,
for leveraging and developing,
for communicating and advocating.

Working together leads to
better, scalable and
more sustainable outcomes.

Membership

Members can access, influence,
and help initiate
a wide range of projects, services,
events and other activities
valued by the broader eResearch community.

We undertake these activities to
support our members,
and through the emerging
national framework of
eResearch capabilities,
help increase the impact of research.

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Current AeRO activities

Widely-circulated Australasian eResearch newsletter & syndicated social media campaign

Regular engagement with Government and other funders

Growing catalog of eResearch education and training materials and providers

Active jobs board, highlighting job opportunities across the eResearch sector

Running Australasia's premier annual eResearch conference

Research infrastructure registries such as Visualisation, HPC and Digitisation facilities plus valued software tools

Improving User Support, directly linking infrastructure provider frameworks with institutions

Regular inclusive events including the annual AeRO National Forum with 100 eResearch leaders

AeRO Tick maturity assessment framework for eResearch tools and services

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Timely insightful analysis of emerging issues and opportunities affecting the eResearch sector

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Planning & development

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Features

- A forum to collaborate, coordinate, and standardise offerings; filling gaps, and identifying resources that can be shared for mutual benefit.
- Develop a common framework and market of eResearch services, bringing together providers from across Australasia and beyond.
- Foster support for the entire data and research lifecycle, from concept, through publication to re-use.

Benefits

- More strategic investment planning for common outcomes.
- Increased resource sharing.
- Filling gaps and avoiding duplication.
- Awareness of member and sectoral roadmap.
- Integrating offerings into a coherent and well-connected framework for researchers.
- Linking institutional, state, national, international and commercial services.

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Engagement

Features

- Deliver widely-informed input to national discussions on the impact of eResearch infrastructure.
- Provide thought leadership, with an international and independent view.
- Run events to gather requirements, disseminate knowledge, foster collaboration and greater integration across providers.
- Develop partnerships with industry providers.

Benefits

- Strongly-backed advocacy with government, funders, industry and researchers.
- Assistance for member planning, prioritisation and stakeholder engagement.
- Measuring and communicating investment impacts and benefits.
- Bridging research and industry, understand market offerings and roadmaps, provide guidance on requirements, and deploy emerging technologies

Communication

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Features

- Provide a trusted collective ear and voice for the members, sharing information about activities and services, and about coordination and integration of the national eResearch infrastructure.
- Run a regular newsletter, an active social media campaign, and targeted events to diverse audiences
- Offer the sector a common point for information sharing and connection.

Benefits

- Drive uptake of member services.
- Raise awareness of the national collective of eResearch services and activities.
- Promote specialised, collective and integrated offerings.
- Improve and simplify communications across all channels.
- Assist users with contacting a range of providers for their needs.

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Education & training

Features

- Coordinate the discovery, development and delivery of resources for training, education, marketing and support.
- Provide a catalog of materials and other resources.
- Organise and run workshops, tutorials, webinars and other events.

Benefits

- Improve access to materials and people for training and development.
- Foster greater resource sharing.
- Avoid duplication of effort.
- Support staff with professional development.
- Improve support for users.

Workforce development

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Features

- Provide a jobs board with opportunities for employment, secondment, cadetships and internships across the sector.
- Support career paths for eResearch staff.
- Develop a library of exemplar recruitment materials and techniques.

Benefits

- Improve access to a mobile and fluid workforce.
- Achieve shorter recruitment timeframes.
- Support staff to be better prepared, more connected.
- Enhance staff satisfaction.
- Provide better support for researchers.

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Maturity

Features

- Develop and operate a national assessment framework to agreed standards for services, tools, materials and other resources.
- Foster a national trust framework for eResearch services.
- Encourage the use of standards and best practices.
- Foster comparable quality across the sector, and benchmark delivery of resources.

Benefits

- Standardise assessment and endorsement of eResearch resources.
- Identify and promote best practices and standards.
- Provide recognition of effort in quality and achievement.
- Establish credentials for trusted infrastructure and services.
- Drive uptake of trustworthy and valued services.

Objectives

As the industry association of organisations committed to advancing the use and support of IT for research impact, excellence and productivity (eResearch), AeRO:

- Supports the coordination of initiatives amongst its Members;
- Supports increasing integration and maturity of eResearch solutions across the sector;
- Supports the development of the eResearch workforce nationally;
- Builds a community which enhances communication, collaboration and workforce mobility;
- Supports the enhanced impact of eResearch on research excellence and productivity; and
- Advocates the development and use of eResearch capabilities with government, academia, industry and others as appropriate.

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join@aero.edu.au

Becoming an AeRO member is quick and easy

We welcome memberships from organisations and projects that provide, operate or support ICT infrastructure, services, advice or resources for research.

Individual memberships are not currently available.

Full Members

Can fully participate in the governance of AeRO
Have equal ownership interest in AeRO assets
Pay significantly reduced fees for all AeRO offerings, where charged

Associate Members

Are observers in the governance of AeRO
Have no ownership interest in AeRO assets
Pay slightly reduced fees for some AeRO offerings, where charged

Full Membership fees for 2017 – pro rata for part-year

Tier	Fee	Staff measure*	Turnover measure
Tier 1	$5 000	1-10	$1-5 M
Tier 2	$10 000	11-50	$5-20 M
Tier 3	$15 000	50+	$20+ M

Membership fees are levied on the number of Research IT Support staff in the organisation.
*Staff include employees, contractors, interns, secondees, etc.
Research IT support functions include technical, training, advisers, analysts, data managers, etc.
Turnover measure used when Staff measure is not appropriate.

Download a Membership Application and read the Membership Agreement at **www.aero.edu.au/join**

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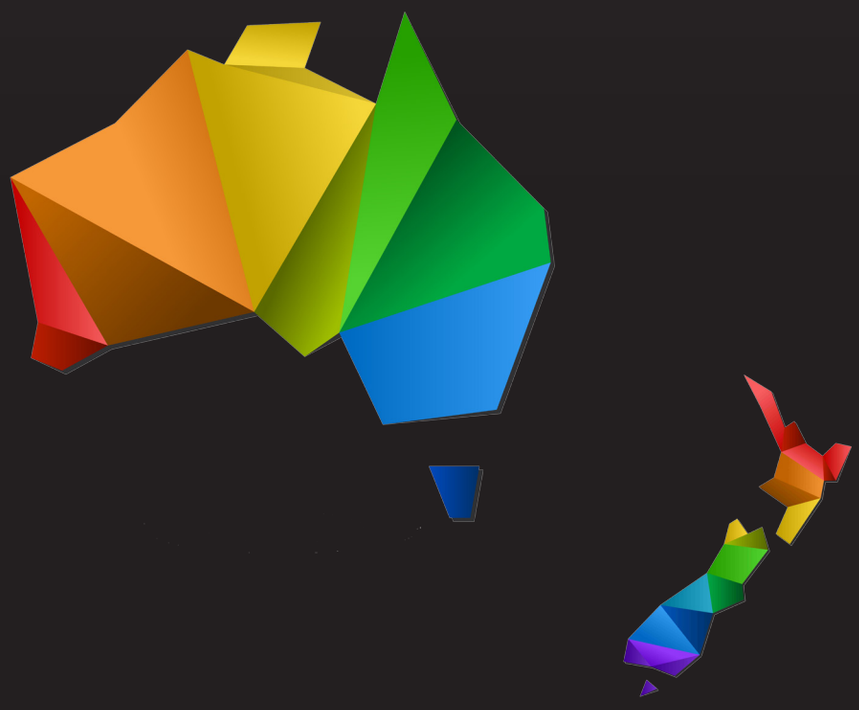

Designed and edited by Loretta Davis - ICE Solutions

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