eResearch survey: first longitudinal report

Comparing findings from 2009 and 2011
**approach**

**Mode**
- Online survey, 40 questions (8 open-ended)

**Three main eResearch areas:**
- *data* management, retention and sharing
- research *methods*, tools and services
- research *collaboration* and dissemination

**Focus:**
- current (eResearch) *practices* & challenges
- *needs* for eResearch support & priorities
- *attitudes*, awareness and willingness to be involved
why?

improving awareness & uptake of eResearch; understanding:
• existing practices;
• what prevents researchers from adopting eResearch;
• what motivates researchers to change.
  ▪ raise awareness of eResearch & Intersect
  ▪ BASELINE DATA
Rollout, participants, sample size

May – June 2009
University of Sydney
University of New South Wales
University of Newcastle
University of New England

Sep – Nov 2009
University of Technology, Sydney
Southern Cross University
Charles Sturt University

2009 total: >1000
>850 valid

Oct – Nov 2011 (currently open)
University of Western Sydney
University of Sydney
University of New South Wales
Macquarie University
University of Newcastle
University of New England
University of Wollongong
University of Technology, Sydney
Southern Cross University
Charles Sturt University

to date: 451
initial findings into second round
early comparisons 2009 - 2011

q6 have heard of 'eResearch'

[Bar chart showing a comparison between 2009 and 2011, with 2011 having a higher value.]
q10 how much of your research is collaborative?
q11 Where research collaborations occur

- Research collaborations inside research group
- Other unis in Aust
- Other unis & inst internationally
- Within faculty
- With industry

Comparison between 2009 and 2011
q12 which technologies do you use to collaborate?

- Email: 90% (2009), 90% (2011)
- Face to face: 50% (2009), 50% (2011)
- Phone: 40% (2009), 40% (2011)
- Audio conference: 10% (2009), 10% (2011)
- Desktop video conferencing (e.g., Skype): 20% (2009), 20% (2011)
- File/document sharing tools: 10% (2009), 10% (2011)
q16 how often do you use data obtained in the following ways?
q18 how much digital data do you currently store?

- < 10 GBs
- < 1 TB
- < 10 TB
- > 10 TB

Bar chart comparing data storage in 2009 and 2011.
q20 do you allow researchers outside your team to access your data?
q21 how do you provide access to your data?

- Privately negotiated
- Publish online
- Published w papers
- Open data repositories
- Third party

Year: 2009, 2011
q22 if access is restricted what are the reasons?

- Confidentiality
- Competitive advantage
- Other ethics
- Commercialisation
- Technical difficulty
- No incentive
q24 do you or your team have an explicit data management plan?
q25 where do you store your data during a project?

- Internal hard drive
- USB
- External hard drive
- CDs/DVDs
- LAN
- Central storage facility

2009
2011
q26 who typically stores your data after a project?

- me
- uni
- don't know
- nobody
- disciplinary data repository
- central data repository

2009
2011
q27 who provides you with ICT support for your research?

- Faculty IT staff
- Central IT staff
- Colleagues
- Researchers
- Research centre IT staff
- Grad students
q29 have you **heard** about or used services provided by the following Australian bodies?

**heard**

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**INTERSECT**
q29 have you heard about or **used** services provided by the following Australian bodies?
q31 how important is eResearch to the future progress of your research?
Conclusions?

- Movements not trending as we might expect:
  - away from collaboration & data sharing;
  - less data management plans

- Predictable movement:
  - more using Skype etc;
  - Rise in data storage requirements.

- Clearly more effort required in building awareness, outreach, community

- Perhaps as Mao Tse Tung replied when asked,
  - what is the significance of the French revolution?
  - It’s too soon to tell