An afternoon of fun with Heurist eResearch Australasia Workshops

Steven Hayes¹, Stephen White²
¹University of Sydney, steven.hayes@sydney.edu.au
²University of Sydney, stephen.white@sydney.edu.au

GENERAL INFORMATION
- Half-day workshop
- Convened by Steven Hayes of Arts eResearch, University of Sydney
- This is a hands of workshop – you will build and populate an online research database
- This workshop is limited to eight participants
- All participants will need their own laptop computer with an internet connection and a recent version of Firefox

DESCRIPTION
For people who would like to set-up a working Heurist H³ environment that they can continue to use with confidence post workshop. Participants will leave with a H³ USB memory stick containing the data set they will create. Also on the full stick will be a full H³ installation package, a visual guide and voucher for two hours of post workshop Heurist support group phone support.

H³ is a mature and sophisticated information management and modelling tool that has some very clever visualisation methods. Advanced users can now add their own custom applications and the 2012 version has introduced improved linked open data type functions. Photography stored in image sharing services can for instance now be directly referenced rather than downloaded. H³ presents an innovative and compelling approach to understanding and managing a web of distributed research objects and we expect the small group of participants to enjoy a lively afternoon.

The workshop is limited to 10 participants and will be run by Steven Hayes and Steve White from the Heurist Support Unit, a part of the University of Sydney’s Arts eResearch unit. Participants are encouraged to bring their own laptop and ensure that all browser applications are of the latest version available. Participants are strongly encouraged bring examples of research data that is of interest and to contact Steven Hayes at least a week prior to the workshop with a general description of the data.

The small size of the group and the inherent flexibility of H³ will allow the team to customise the workshop to the specific needs of participants.

OUTLINE
1. What makes H³ different? A half hour overview of Heurist H3 and what makes it different from other research databases.
2. Setting up H³ and creating a database. A half hour hands on session where participants will setup H3 on their own laptop computers
3. Adding your own research data. This final two hour session will see participants analyse their own research data and build models with H3. They will be shown how to individually enter records, bulk import data and iteratively modify their initial model. Participants will learn how to share data models, visualise complex related data and publish results.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND
Active researchers seeking to find information management, visualisation and publishing solutions. Individuals looking to assess eResearch tools for integration into their institutional eResearch support framework.

WHAT TO BRING
Laptop with internet access and an up-to-date version of Firefox. Real life research data.

ABOUT THE PRESENTERS
Steven Hayes has been an expert user Heurist facilitator since 2007. He acts in the role of technical coordinator for the Dictionary of Sydney project and has made a significant contribution to the information modeling and management aspect of several ARC research projects. He has a particular interest in text handling through TEI and in the use of XSL
to build custom visualizations from the standard Heurist XML output. Steven is the main point of contact between researchers and Arts eResearch and spends much of his time either training Heurist users or enhancing datasets and visualizations.

**Steve White** spent most of the 90’s working as a programming trainer for Microsoft in Seattle. In his current role he is the chief programmer for the Heurist team. Most of what you see in Heurist is based on code either written by or checked over by Steve. Few people know as much about the in depth workings of the application framework and Steve is always ready to push the envelope with new ideas. Steve’s particular expertise lies in configuring and supporting the Heurist environment and in extending the code base to encompass a greater range of humanities data models.