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Osaka University

# The ARROW Project

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ARCHER Project Director



The ARROW Project is funded by the Australian Commonwealth Department of Education Science and Training, under the Research Information Infrastructure Framework for Higher Education

## What is ARROW?

- Funded by the Australian Commonwealth Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST), under the banner of the Systemic Infrastructure Initiative (SII), a part of *Backing Australia's Ability – An Innovation Action Plan for the Future*
- Original consortium comprised Monash University (lead institution), National Library of Australia (NLA), the University of New South Wales (UNSW), and Swinburne University of Technology. Now joined by University of Southern Queensland.
- Originally funded 2003-6, now extended



- *“The ARROW project will identify and test software or solutions to support best practice institutional digital repositories comprising e-prints, digital theses and electronic publishing.”*

## What did the ARROW project set out to achieve?

- Solution for storing any digital output
  - Initial focus on print equivalents – theses, journal articles
  - Now looking at other datasets, learning objects
- More than just Open Access – some things need to be restricted
  - Copyright
  - Confidentiality/ethical considerations
  - Work in progress



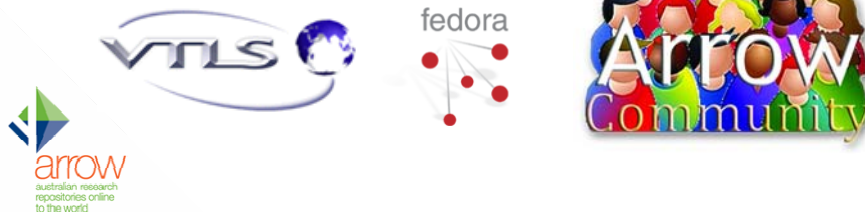
## What did the ARROW project set out to achieve? (2)

- Meeting DEST reporting requirements
- Employ Open Standards
  - Making sure the data is transferable in the future
- Deliver Open Source Tools back to the FEDORA Community
- Solution that could offer on-going technical support and development past the end of the funding period



## What is the ARROW solution?

- VITAL software developed in partnership with VTLS Inc.
- Proprietary software built on top of Fedora Open Source architecture
- ARROW Community



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## The development process

- Entered into a partnership arrangement with VTLS Inc. ([www.vtls.com](http://www.vtls.com))
- VTLS provided:
  - Development expertise and staff
  - Infrastructure for future support and development
- ARROW provided:
  - Intellectual property and design specifications - Versions 2 through 4 of VITAL largely based on ARROW input
  - “Real world” use cases, testing and feedback



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## Why a commercial partner?

- Time to market – hopefully faster than doing it ourselves
- Focus on defining what we want, rather than trying to develop it ourselves
- Sustainability once project funding ends
- Offering a vendor for members to turn to for support and advice



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## The result?

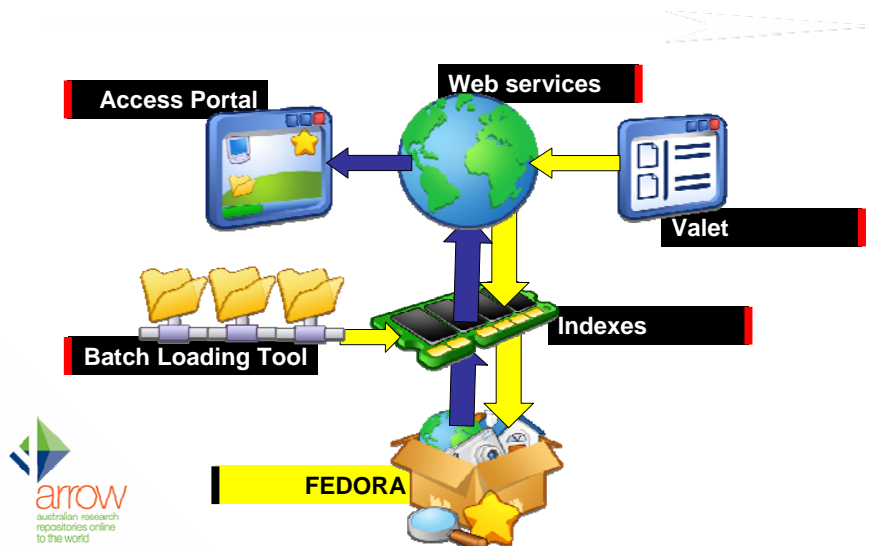
- VITAL:
  - VITAL Manager Online
  - VITAL Access Portal
  - VALET - Web Self-Submission Tool
  - Batch Loader Tool
  - Handles Server (CNRI)
  - Google Indexing and Exposure
  - SRU / SRW Support



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## VITAL architecture overview



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## What has ARROW been working on?

- Supporting the Research Quality Framework (RQF)
- Creative development of institutional repositories
- Supporting Australian engagement with institutional repositories
- Building partnerships to further enhance repositories
- Persistent Identifiers and Linking Infrastructure (PILIN)



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## What is the ARROW Community?

- Any institution with the ARROW repository solution is a member
- Designed to:
  - Share knowledge and experiences
  - Share information and solutions
  - Develop Open Source software
  - Coordinate future development of VITAL and other relevant software
  - Promote institutional repositories



## What services does the Community provide?

- GoogleGroup
- ARROW Repository Managers Group
- ARROW Development Group
- Metadata Advisory Committee for Australian Repositories (MACAR)

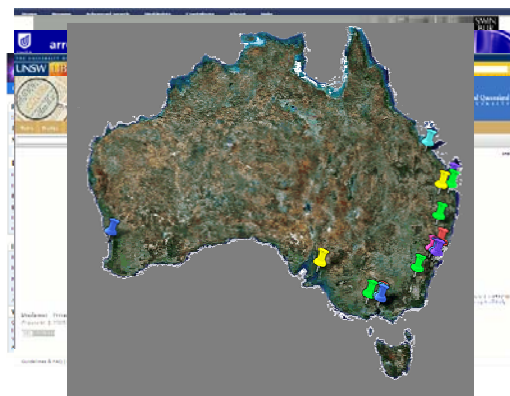


## Who are the members of the ARROW Community?

- Monash
- UNSW
- NLA
- Swinburne
- South Australia
- Central Queensland
- LaTrobe
- Murdoch
- RUBRIC
- Macquarie
- USQ
- UNE
- Sunshine Coast
- Newcastle
- New England
- Ballarat
- Western Sydney



## 16 members in 2007





## Future Directions

- Closer integration of ARROW with ARCHER
- Preparing the Community for life after ARROW
- Further development of VITAL and related tools



## What is ARCHER?

- Australian ResearCH Enabling enviRonment
- Also part of Systemic Infrastructure Initiative (SII), a part of *Backing Australia's Ability – An Innovation Action Plan for the Future*
- Aims to productionise the software tools developed under the DART project and adapt them to
  - to assist researchers collect and store data
  - share it securely with collaborators,
  - plus access many of the DART developed tools, such as annotations, electronic publication, replication and backup, communication tools, search tools, etc.



## Current areas of interest

- both traditional and emerging data objects

Showing results 1 - 5 of 5.

First Previous | 1 | Next Last

Title	Creator	Date	Full Text
 DATASET 1   Native 2.0 Angstroms			—
 DATASET 1   Unmerged reflection intensities			
 DATASET 2   Native 2.5 Angstroms   Part 1			—
 DATASET 2   Native 2.5 Angstroms   Part 2			—
 DATASET 2   Unmerged reflection intensities			—

First Previous | 1 | Next Last

#### Format Type

Tape Archive (3)  
Text Document (2)



## The Community after ARROW

- Free and open source tools
  - Google
    - Groups
    - Calendar
    - Documents
    - Blogger
  - del.icio.us tagging
  - Skype



## Developing the repository

- Easier to ingest
- Discipline based “slices”
- Better access control
- Support for different types of users



## Thank you for your attention

Questions?

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<http://www.arrow.edu.au>

