

# **Tracing A Sustainable Path For Data Intensive Research Communities: An Institutional Case Study From The University Of Melbourne**

Anna Shadbolt<sup>1</sup>, Dirk van der Knijff<sup>1</sup>  
*University Of Melbourne*

## **Abstract:**

In 2006 a team of researchers, archivists, librarians and ICT (information and communications technology) specialists were ushered together by a psychologist to document researcher community activity around research data management, storage and sustainability. The product of this journey was a report that enabled the amplification of a common message from eReseachers. For some who listened this was a surprise; while for others it was a validation.

This paper will provide an overview of an audit of the data management practices of eleven eResearch communities at the University of Melbourne. Disciplines selected were diverse and included: Applied Economics; Astrophysics; Computer Science and Software Engineering; Education; Ethnography; Experimental Particle Physics; Humanities informatics; Hydrology and Environmental Engineering; Linguistics; Medical informatics; Neuroscience, and the Performing Arts. The discoveries around ICT infrastructure and support needs of eResearchers will be outlined and this institution's response will be presented. This response will be contextualized within a variety of eResearch initiatives at the university.