

Engaging Researchers in eResearch

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‘Build it and they will come’ doesn’t seem to work when it comes to researchers engaging with eResearch. Institutions invest in infrastructure and platforms but for a portion of our communities this doesn’t deliver better, faster research or more connected researchers because they are not engaging with eResearch – *aren’t aware of it, can’t access it, don’t know how it applies to them, struggle to use it or don’t feel it meets their needs.*

We assume those involved with engaging researchers in eResearch grapple, as we do, with what is engagement in this context – beyond marketing and promotion - and how to identify and address barriers. *How can we connect researchers with eResearch so they truly engage with it – access it, use it, shape it, innovate with it and achieve amazing things with it?*

Many universities in Australia and New Zealand run several services and programmes that engage researchers in eResearch at various scales, career stages and across diverse communities. This 60 minute BoF will include a series of short presentations from Auckland and Griffith Universities in which they will offer highlights and insights from several engagement activities e.g ResBaz, Hacky Hour, digital research skills training, partnering with researchers to build bespoke solutions or support national research programmes, developing an eResearch Community group, etc. We will then facilitate an open discussion to draw input from the audience regarding the wider experiences and themes.

Anticipated outcomes of the BoF will be the identification of ‘low-hanging-fruit’, effective and transferable solutions, methodologies and practices, and strengthened community relationships.

This BoF is targeted at all those involved engaging researchers in eResearch, including eResearch analysts, ECRs working at the intersection of research and skills training, research managers, eResearch directors, academic engagement or research librarians, and communication and service managers.