NeCTAR's Research Cloud and National Servers Program (NSP) a new era for Australian researchers BoF

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DESCRIPTION

Topic Summary:
This BOF aims to encourage greater understanding as to two new and free e-Research services now on offer to the Australian research community.

The first **NeCTAR's National Research Cloud** was launched in Februrary 2012, and is an Australian first for researchers. It empowers researchers with new self-service abilities to publish research data, share knowledge and rapidly deploy and access software applications without the burden of operating their own computer servers. The cloud enables researchers to easily put their great ideas, tools, research applications and data online, instantly – anywhere and at anytime. It supports new opportunities for collaboration. The cloud is an Australian secure platform to respond rapidly to new developments, access computer power from a single server to thousands of servers and share computational results with national and international collaboration partners. The University of Melbourne has built the first node of the research cloud, operational now, and further nodes will be commissioned by other research institutions throughout 2012.

The second the **National Servers Program (NSP)** is a high-quality and robust hosting service for important research applications for Australian researchers. It has robust virtual servers and platforms to support many eResearch services such as the operations for the Research Cloud, virtual laboratories, tools and data. The NSP is available to be used now and it provides a safe and secure environment for Australian researchers to host their important research application which means they don't have to worry about anything except managing their research.

Why would delegates attend?
To learn more about these two great service offerings such as: How to use the Research Cloud and NSP? Who to contact for more information? Where to access these service offerings? What features are on offer and why they are of benefit? What are some examples of other people using these services and how are they using these services?

Desired outcomes from this BOF – better understanding as to how to use NeCTAR's National Research Cloud and National Servers Program; the unique features on offer to the Australian researcher community; how to access these services; how to use them and who to contact for more information.

FIRST TOPIC. **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF FIRST TOPIC AND SPEAKER.**
***10 MINUTES* OUTLINE**

1. **First topic. NeCTAR's National Research Cloud, how to use it, Dr Steven Manos**

   Dr Manos, head of University of Melbourne, ITS research services. How to access NeCTAR's research cloud? What services and applications are deployed? How can Australian researchers benefit? How easy is it to use? What disciplines are engaged? How does the research cloud enable national access to eResearch tools and integrate with other initiatives such as RDSI to enable access to large and robust data storage and management. Where can you go for more information?

   10 minutes

2. **Second topic**. **National Servers Program, how they can help you, Nick Golavachenko**

   Nick Golavachenko, University of Melbourne, project manager National Servers Program.

   How does the NSP work? How can it help you? How does it create greater collaboration opportunities, addressing researcher needs and opening new specific capabilities for researchers? What are some unique features? How does the NSP connect resources?

   10 minutes

3. **Discussion.** Audience participates in the discussions.

CITATIONS AND REFERENCES

www.nectar.org.au

https://www.nectar.org.au/research-cloud

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

[1] Biography – Dr Steven Manos

Dr Steven Manos, Manager, ITS Research Services at the University's Information Technology Services, was previously at the University College of London and involved in bio-medical research that aimed to produce a unique prototype system for studying brain blood flow for hypertension.
"To understand how organisms develop and function, we need to not only understand how the constituent parts (such as cells, organs and tissues) operate, but how these parts interact," Dr Manos says. "By using computers, we open the door to a radically new way of treating disease; the effectiveness of drugs or surgery can be simulated and customised for a particular person by using their genes or physical characteristics as input to a computer simulation.

[2] Biography – Nick Golavachenko

Nick Golavachenko is the Project Manager for the NeCTAR National Servers Program, HPC Renewal, Parkville Research Cloud Pilot, a Research Data service pilot and a number of initiatives within the NeCTAR eResearch infrastructure program and University of Melbourne Research Services. He is on secondment to Melbourne University Research Services from the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences.
In his previous role he engaged with a wide range of research groups from different disciplines across the Faculty, with the aim of assisting researchers to develop customised solutions and services for their research. He has worked on major research projects such as the development of a SAN Storage system for research data, as well as a infrastructure as a service(IAAS) project for the virtualisation of research applications.