

Annual Report **2015**

www.aaf.edu.au

AUSTRALIAN
ACCESS FEDERATION



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Member of the Australian eResearch Organisation (AeRO)



Supported by the Council of Australian University
Directors of Information Technology

CAUDIT
Council of Australian University Directors of Information Technology

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President's Report

This is the seventh Annual Report of the Australian Access Federation Inc. (AAF) and my first report since taking over as President from Professor Ian Gibson in late December 2015.

On behalf of the AAF Executive, I would like to thank Ian for his contribution to the AAF. Professor Gibson's involvement and strong leadership in the AAF has ensured that it has continued to remain a sustainable and valued part of the Australian research and education landscape. I would also like to thank William Confalonieri for his contributions as past Member at Large (May 2015) and Rick Van Haeften for his contribution as past Secretary (October 2015).

I am pleased to report that with 94 subscribers and over 250 services connected supporting teaching, learning and research, the AAF continues to successfully operate as a valuable shared service for the Australian research and education sector.

A number of key activities were undertaken throughout 2015 which has underpinned yet another successful year for the AAF and a summary of the accomplishments is provided in the Annual Report.

2015 was an outstanding year with the AAF, undertaking a number of innovative initiatives. This included the completion of the Department of Education funded *Enhancing the utility of the AAF and Grid Certificates Project*, a program of activities which has enabled the development of a number of important technologies and services to enhance the federation. Another major initiative was the National eResearch Collaboration Tools and Resources (NeCTAR) *Identity Enhancement (IDE) and Access Control Project*, which delivered a software solution to support the NeCTAR projects. As part of this work the AAF also conducted research into the emerging Open ID Connect (OIDC) standard for authentication that could pave the way for meeting the future needs of NeCTAR and AAF subscribers. Other activities included the completion of the AAF engineered, Intersect Ltd lead and Research Data Services Infrastructure (RDSI) Project funded, SAML Provisioning for Independent Nodes (SPIN) project. The project developed software to assist with providing access for researchers to Amazon Web Services via the AAF.

In June 2015 the AAF was awarded \$850 000 to undertake the Next Generation AAF Project. An innovative project which seeks to create the next generation Australian Access Federation (AAF). The project is well underway with completion scheduled for January 2017.

AAF's Business Development capability commenced in 2015, tasked to analyse potential market segments and develop a plan for growing the federation's subscriber base. This work will further sustain the operations and growth of the federation into the future.

Engagement continued throughout the year with support for a number of international initiatives. Examples included working with Singapore to assist with the establishment of their national federation and AAF's involvement in chairing the Asia Pacific Advanced Network Working group on Identity Management. During 2015, AAF continued to support its subscribers locally through a number of important workshops, roadshows and conference engagements.

I would like to express my appreciation with the ongoing support and confidence received from the Department of Education over the past year, especially to Tony Rothnie and Kirsty Douglas for their valued support to the AAF Executive Committee.

We continue to have an extremely dedicated team of AAF staff under the leadership of Heath Marks who works closely with AAF subscribers to meet their needs and evolve the products and services the AAF offers now and into the future.

The AAF continues not only to be an exemplar service, but also provides sustainable specialist services to meet the evolving needs of federated identity management for Australian research and education. I look forward with optimism to 2016.

Bruce Callow

President, Australian Access Federation Inc.

Australian Access Federation Inc.

Executive Committee

The Australian Access Federation Inc. is governed by an Executive Committee.

The Members of the Executive Committee are:

Mr Bruce Callow

President
Dec 2015

Vice President

May 2015 – Dec 2015

Bruce is the Chief Technology Officer for Griffith University, a position he has occupied since 2013. Previously Bruce was the Director of Information and Communication Technology Services.

During this period he was on the Board of Directors for the global Higher Education Users Group and Chair of the ANZ Higher Education Users Group. Bruce currently sits on the global Oracle Education and Research Strategy Council. Bruce has been an IT professional for over 30 years and his varied background includes 16 years as an Army Officer in various IT related roles, a number of years as an IT Manager in large Local Government Authorities and as a business manager with AWA Computers. Bruce was elected to the position of AAF Vice President in April 2013 and appointed as President in December 2015.



Prof Ian Gibson

Past President
Dec 2015

President

May 2014 – Dec 2015

Professor Ian Gibson has over 25 years of experience as a computer scientist and engineer and at executive level Research and Development (R&D) management. He has led the research, development and global commercialisation of new technology across a broad range of electrical engineering, computer science and digital imaging. Ian was elected to the position of AAF Secretary in April 2013 and then AAF President in May 2014.

From 2008-2015, Ian was the founding CEO of Intersect, Australia's leading eResearch organisation, building it from scratch to being the largest organisation of its type in Australia assisting 12 universities achieve research impact through technology.

Previously Ian was a Division General Manager at CiSRA, the Australian R&D lab for Canon. There he built research capability over several years to deliver original, world leading technology into a wide range of Canon's major product groups generating hundreds of patents along the way. Ian has a PhD from the University of New South Wales in Computer Science, a BE in Electrical Engineering (Hons) and a BSc and serves on many advisory boards and committees.



Mr Paul Sherlock

Treasurer

Paul is the University of South Australia's first Chief Information Officer and he has overall responsibility for the University's Library and IT services. Prior to joining the University in 2001, Paul held senior ICT management roles at the Defence Science and Technology Organisation (DSTO) and BHP.

Paul is Director and Chair of SABRENet Ltd. and the Project Director for the Federal Government funded NRN Project. He is also a member of the Australian National Data Service (ANDS) Steering Committee, a Member of the National eResearch Collaboration Tools and Resources (NeCTAR) Project Board and the Treasurer at the Australian Access Federation (AAF).

Paul is a former President of the Council of Australian University Directors of IT (CAUDIT) and was a founding Member and President of the Australian Access Federation (AAF). He was also formerly a Member of the Australian eResearch Infrastructure Committee (AeRIC). Paul leads CAUDIT's benchmarking activity and is the author of the complexity index which is used by CAUDIT members to make meaningful comparisons of benchmarking data across the ANZ HE sector and internationally. Paul was a member of the AARNet Advisory Committee between 1998 and 2014 (including as Deputy Chair 2004-2008) and is a past faculty member of the CAUDIT Leadership Institute (2004-2008).



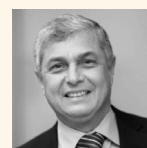
Mr Rick Van Haeften

Secretary

May 2014 – Oct 2015

Rick Van Haeften joined Australian Catholic University in May of 2011 and currently holds the position of Director, Information Technology. Prior to joining ACU, Rick was the Director of Information Services at ANU. Rick has more than 25 years' experience in the ICT industry across the private and public sectors.

In his current role, Rick is focused on leadership and direction of ICT in support of University strategic goals, coupled with cost effective service delivery. As a member of the ICT Advisory Committee and the Executive Planning Group, Rick is responsible for providing advice to Executive Management across the organisation.

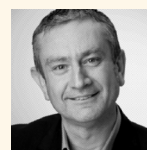


AAF Executive Committee

Mr Richard Northam

Public Officer AAF Inc.

Richard has taken a strategic leadership role in shaping and enhancing the role of Information Technology within various organisations and been active in the federated identity space in higher education. More recently he has played a key national and international leadership role in enhancing research through the development and use of eResearch infrastructure that is enabled by Information Technology.



Richard is a board member of the Research Data Services project; a board member of the National eResearch Collaboration Tools and Resources project; a former board member of EDUCAUSE which is a US based association which represents the best thinking in higher education IT; he is an Accredited Adair International Leadership Trainer; and a member of the faculty of the Hong Kong and African Leadership Institutes for IT Professionals working in Higher Education. Richard holds a Bachelor of Engineering (Electronics) and lives and works in Canberra, ACT.

Richard is the Director, National Engagements at the Australian National Data Service which is part of the Commonwealth Government's National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy. Previously he was the Director of the Research Data Services Project, the Chief Executive Officer of CAUDIT and he has more than 25 years' experience in the ICT industry in the Private, Commonwealth Government and Higher Education Sectors.

Ms Fiona Rankin

Vice President
Dec 2015

Member at Large
May – Dec 2015

Fiona Rankin is the Director of Information Management & Technology Services at the University of Wollongong (UOW), where she is responsible for development and delivery of key strategic initiatives, in addition to the operational and people management aspects of UOW's core technology environment.



Fiona brings to this leadership role more than 25 years technology and executive management experience, and multiple Chief Information Officer (CIO) roles in both the public and private sectors. This is in addition to her Company Director qualifications and previous Board appointment to a subsidiary of a large international corporation.

Fiona has completed a Bachelor of Economics and Graduate Diploma in Financial Management (UNE) and a Masters in Business & IT Management (UTS). In addition she has also completed the Asia Link Leaders Program (Universities of Melbourne and Sydney and the Australian National University) and Leadership 3000 (University of Michigan, USA).

Fiona is a graduate and member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD), a member of 'Women on Boards', she was a 2008 NSW finalist for Telstra Business Women's Awards, and in 2013 received the University of Technology, Sydney (UTS) Alumni Award for Excellence — Engineering and IT.

Co-Opted Non-Voting Member: **Mr Tony Rothnie**, Department of Education

AAF Staff

Mr Heath Marks

General Manager

Heath was appointed by the Council of Australian University Directors of Information Technology (CAUDIT) in July 2009 to head a Team to support the AAF's operations, engage with the higher education and research sectors and more specifically grow the Federation into the future.



Heath is an IT professional with a wealth of management experience in the successful delivery of Information Technology within the tertiary education sector. Heath has formal qualifications in Business (MBA, MTechMgt), Computing (BIT) and is a graduate and member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD).

Heath also holds an open seat on the international Research Education Federations (REFEDS) Committee.

Mr Terry Smith Technical Manager	<p>Terry is responsible for the ongoing operation of the federation and for providing support and training activities to the AAF subscriber community. Terry is an experienced IT professional who has been working in Identity and Access Management in the tertiary sector for more than 25 years. In early 2009 Terry managed the AAF pilot project that bootstrapped today's AAF operation.</p> <p>Terry is the Chair of the Asia Pacific Advanced Networking (APAN) working group on Identity Management.</p>	
Ms Elleina Filippi Service Delivery Manager	<p>Elleina joined the AAF in November 2014 as the Service Delivery Manager and is responsible for overseeing the delivery of services, communication and subscriber engagement activities. Prior to this, Elleina worked for QUT in the Division of Technology, Information and Learning Support as their Communication Team Leader and implemented a number of communication, change and digital media campaigns along with a number of service delivery activities. In her previous role, Elleina was involved with the initial AAF project through providing expert advice on developing successful communication strategies.</p>	
Mr Bradley Beddoes Technical Lead — Innovation, Software Development and Infrastructure	<p>Bradley has worked on delivering secure, standards focused web applications and redundant, scalable IT architectures for 11 plus years within Australia and abroad.</p> <p>Bradley is responsible for the design and implementation of AAF software and system architectures. He leads the software development and operational infrastructure within the AAF.</p>	
Ms Courtney Brown Community Development Manager	<p>Courtney joined the AAF in October 2015 as the Community Development Manager and is responsible for driving growth and value for AAF members and subscribers. Courtney has extensive experience supporting multiple organisations as a national manager being solely responsible for executive, programme and commercial aspects of consulting assignments, marketing and business development. Having worked within the health sector for more than six years and has supported solution delivery for the national eHealth agenda. Courtney is familiar with solution design, product delivery, stakeholder engagement and likewise AGILE methodologies within the IT sector. Courtney is pursuing formal qualifications in Business part-time (MBA, MLLB) through Bond University and also volunteers to support a number of Queensland hospital and health service Boards to support their quality and safety as well as clinical governance.</p>	
Ms Dalia Abraham Technical Support Analyst	<p>Dalia joined the AAF as Technical Support Analyst in 2015 and works as part of the support team who are responsible for providing high level technical support to the AAF subscribers.</p> <p>Dalia has a Masters degree in Information Technology and more than 10 years' experience working in the ICT field.</p>	
Mr Shaun Mangelsdorf Technical Lead	<p>Shaun is responsible for the development of AAF software and infrastructure and has also taken on the technical leadership role for project activities. He has been developing software professionally for over nine years, with experience in identity and access management in the tertiary sector, and custom solutions for the healthcare and pharmaceutical industry.</p>	
Mr Russell Ianniello Senior Developer	<p>Russell is responsible for the development of AAF software and infrastructure. With nearly 10 years' experience in software development, Russell believes in delivering value to customers and staying up to date with the latest trends. He has a mixed background in product development and consulting. In previous roles he has specialised in aviation, finance and environmental management sectors.</p>	
Mr Toomaj Bloorian Developer	<p>With seven plus years' experience in software development Toomaj has had the opportunity to develop software for the tourism industry, web applications and a CRM company internationally. He is passionate about providing high quality outcomes for the AAF and staying up to date with software advancements.</p>	
Ms Glenys Kranz Administration Assistant	<p>Glenys commenced with the AAF Team as Change and Communications Manager in September 2009. After four years with the AAF Glenys has moved into a casual administration support role.</p> <p>Glenys has worked for the most part in higher education across the Brisbane universities and has a background in Human Resource Management and as a Change Manager on a number of IT projects.</p>	

2015: Year in Review

January 1

Boost Program: Summary Boost reports were released to all Subscribers

AAF participated in Australian Computer Science Week

February 2

Invited to take part in QUDIT Identity Management Community of Practice

Enhancing the Utility of the AAF and Grid Certificates Project — completed

Appointment:
Technical Support Analyst

March 3

SPIN (SAML Provisioning of Independent Nodes) Project — completed and open sourced

APAN Conference Japan — AAF plays a key role in the APAN Identity Management Taskforce

eResearch New Zealand 2015 Presentation: General Manager & Technical Lead — AAF hot topics & federated identity management

AAF, RDSI & AARNet participated in a joint booth at the Universities Australia in Higher Education Conference

April 4

AAF General Manager appointed an Open Seat on the international REFEDS steering committee

May 5

AAF Inc. held its Annual General Meeting (AGM) of its members on the Gold Coast 14 May:

- Appointment of Bruce Callow (Griffith University) as Vice President
- Appointment of Rick Van Haeften (Australian Catholic University) as Secretary
- Appointment of Fiona Rankin (University of Wollongong) as Member at Large

THETA 2015

Presentation: Chat in the lounge — Identity Management Challenges. Chat with the AAF

Lightning round: The rapidly changing face of identity management for Higher Education and Research (joint presentation with industry experts)

June 6

NeCTAR – Identity Enhancement and Access Control Project – completed

REFEDS (TNC 2015) Presentation: Technical Manager AAF — APAN taskforce activities

OpenID connect research undertaken

AAF becomes GITC Accredited (QLD)

Release of the fourth Annual AAF Subscriber Survey: a chance for subscribers to have their say

July 7

AAF Technology Roadmap reviewed 2015–2017

AAF Roadshow Tour 2015
(Brisbane | Sydney | Melbourne)

Next Gen AAF Project awarded \$850k

August 8

AAF assisted Singapore with establishing a pilot federation (SingAREN)

APAN Malaysia — AAF continues to play an active role with the APAN IDM Working Group

AAF Next Gen Project — commenced

September 9

Australian Access Federation Incorporated
registered as a Trade Mark

Appointment:
Developer — Next Gen Project



October 10

ORCID Consortium Lead agreement signed between the AAF and ORCID.

eResearch Australasia 2015

- International Panel Session with New Zealand, Sweden, Japan and USA: The rapidly changing facing of federated identity management for research and the challenges that lie ahead
- ORCID Workshop
- ORCID Panel Session



Appointment:
Project Manager — Next Gen Project
Community Development Manager

La Trobe University 1 Day Workshop

REFEDS Meeting / Internet 2 technology exchange

Presentation: General Manager — AAF Update

AAF hosted a one day international federation workshop — Australia, New Zealand, USA, Japan and Sweden

November 11

Identity Provider Shibboleth V3 Installer released
to streamline IdP support for AAF Subscribers

December 12

eResearch Framework Project (Department of Education) – AAF provided input

Bruce Callow appointed as President
Fiona Rankin appointed as Vice President

2015: National and International Engagement

2015 was another year of continued national and international engagement for the AAF, with ongoing membership, sponsorship and the commencement of a number of new initiatives.

The AAF continued to support and be a member of AeRO (Australian eResearch Organisations). Collaborating with national eResearch providers to facilitate and improve the overall delivery and support required for research nationally.



International Federation collaborations

AAF engaged in a number of initiatives, meetings and other activities in order to further international collaboration with overseas federations. This included:

- formal and informal meetings with international federation colleagues to discuss both technical and policy issues of operating a federation
- an international federation panel for eResearch Australasia Conference
- the hosting of a one day workshop with international federation guests from Sweden, Japan, America & New Zealand

REFEDS

In April the AAF General Manager was appointed to an open seat on the Research Education Federations (REFEDS) steering committee (2 year term). In addition AAF:

- took part in the REFEDS meeting held in Portugal
- continued to be a formal REFEDS sponsor

The AAF General Manager contributed to a co-authored paper for REFEDS titled *The Value Proposition for Identity Federations* (<https://wiki.refeds.org/x/MoA4>)

Tuakiri/Reannz

The AAF continued to collaborate with the New Zealand Federation, Tuakiri/Reannz, through the exchange of mutually beneficial processes, practices and technological developments

AARC project

During 2015 the AAF was invited to take part in the external review panel for the European Commission funded Authentication Authorisation for Research and Collaboration (AARC) project.

The goal of the AARC project is to enable users to seamlessly access e-infrastructure services and to offer support actions to increase the penetration of federated access. More information is available about the project online: <https://aarc-project.eu>

APAN

The AAF Technical Manager has played an integral role in the region as Chair of the APAN (Asia Pacific Advanced Networking) Taskforce on Federated Identity Management, working with the Asia Pacific National Research Education Networks (NRENs). Key activities included:

- the development of a geo-mapping tool to identify those connected to a federation in the region
- development of material to assist articulating the value proposition for the countries which are part of APAN

QUDIT

The AAF was invited to participate and provide thought leadership in the Queensland University Directors of Information Technology (QUDIT) Identity Management Community of Practice

eResearch Framework Project

In 2015, the AAF were invited and provided input into the eResearch Framework (NCRIS — Department of Education) project. The project is focused on identifying current and emerging eResearch infrastructure requirements for the research sector into the next decade and those technologies which might meet the sector's needs



The AAF's **VISION**
is to lead access
management for
Australian education
and research.

The AAF's **MISSION**
is to support collaboration
through effective access
management.

Subscribers and Services

Subscriber Growth

Eight new subscribers joined the AAF in 2015 and as of 31 December 2015, the AAF had 94 subscribers. The AAF subscriber profile for 2015 has been broken-down into categories and outlined in Figure 1 below.

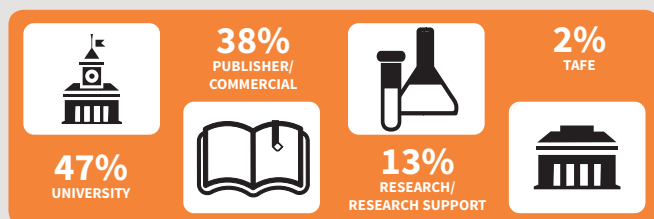


Figure 1: Subscriber Profile

Service Growth

With 250 services available and 52 additional services registered with the AAF in 2015, there has been a 10.6% increase in new services registered in comparison to 2014. This steady growth reflects the continued importance of the AAF's services for the education and research sector. Figure 2 outlines the profile of the services connected to the AAF as of 31 December 2015.

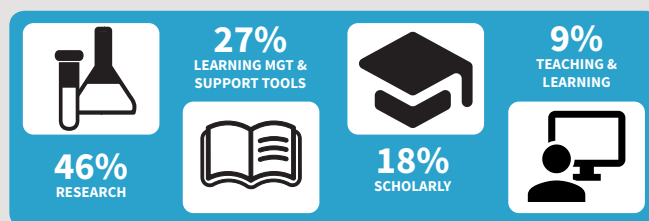


Figure 2: Service Profile

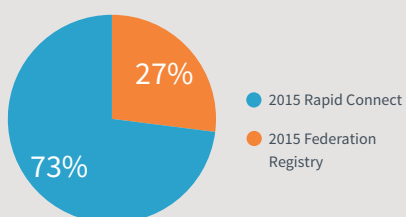
Service Usage

Around 245 529 service authentications were registered through the AAF's Where are You From (WAYF) service in 2015. The total number of authentications made possible via the AAF is, however, significantly higher. This is due to the fact that a number of AAF subscribers use their own 'WAYF type' service, meaning that the total service authentication data across the AAF is not available to be reported on.

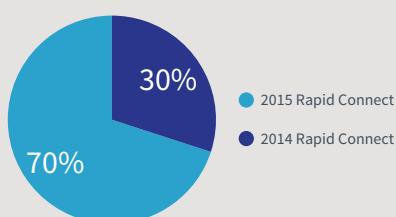
AAF Service Comparison 2014/2015

In 2013 the AAF introduced its new Rapid Connect service (rapid.aaf.edu.au). The service was specifically designed to streamline connection for AAF Subscribers of their services to the federation. As expected the AAF has seen significant uptake in the use of Rapid Connect year on year since its introduction.

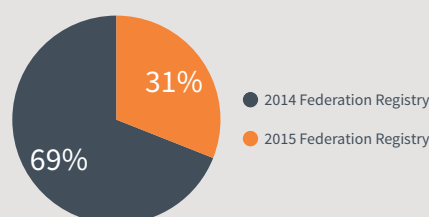
73% of services registered in 2015 were via Rapid Connect.



24% change was seen in overall services registered using Rapid Connect vs Shibboleth (Federation Registry)



22% increase in services registered using Rapid Connect from 2014/2015



17% decline in services registered using Shibboleth (Federation Registry) from 2014/2015 (offset by the increase in Rapid Connect registrations in 2015)

AAF Top 10 Services



Figure 3: AAF Top 10 Services, 1 January 2015 – 31 December 2015

1. Flipped Classroom (Uni of Sydney) (89 679) 37%

The University of Sydney (89 532) 99.83%
Other (147) 0.17%

2. NeCTAR Research Cloud (51 802) 21%

The University of Melbourne (15 644) 30.19%
The University of Queensland (5586) 10.78%
Monash University (4282) 8.26%
University of Tasmania (2392) 4.61%
The University of Western Australia (1811) 3.49%
Other (22 087) 42.67%

3. AURIN (Australian Urban Research Infrastructure Network) Portal (26 335) 11%

The University of Melbourne (14 193) 53.89%
AAF Virtual Home (3096) 11.75%
University of New South Wales (2624) 9.96%
RMIT University (1368) 5.19%
The University of Queensland (558) 2.11%
Other (4496) 17.10%

4. QUT Single sign-on for federated and internal services (16 282) 7%

University of Technology Sydney (2249) 13.81%
University of South Australia (2058) 12.63%
Curtin University (1985) 12.19%
RMIT University (1960) 12.03%
Queensland University of Technology (1890) 11.60%
Other (6140) 37.74%

5. UniSA Collaboration SharePoint (14 498) 6%

University of South Australia (10 051) 69.32%
AAF Virtual Home (2844) 19.61%
University of New South Wales (1155) 7.96%
University of Adelaide (89) 0.61%
Deakin University (69) 0.47%
Other (290) 2.03%

Other Services — 9%

Collaborative Lecture Annotation System (UniSA) | Academic Workload Management System (USQ) | WA Reciprocal Borrower (Curtin Uni) | Quadrant (QCIF) and others...

6. NeCTAR Research Cloud Support (8602) 4%

The University of Melbourne (6330) 73.58%
Monash University (624) 7.25%
The University of Queensland (520) 6.04%
Australian National University (278) 3.23%
eResearch SA (181) 2.10%
Other (669) 7.80%

7. AusStage (Flinders Uni) (6029) 2%

Queensland University of Technology (5973) 99.07%
Flinders University (34) 0.56%
AAF Virtual Home (11) 0.18%
The University of Melbourne (4) 0.06%
Other (7) 0.13%

8. CAUDIT Website (3425) 1%

AAF Virtual Home (1351) 39.44%
University of Western Sydney (220) 6.42%
Griffith University (120) 3.50%
Queensland University of Technology (100) 2.91%
University of Technology Sydney (98) 2.86%
Other (1536) 44.87%

9. Occupational Therapy Simulations (Deakin Uni) (3225) 1%

Deakin University (2393) 74.20%
Charles Sturt University (515) 15.96%
University of the Sunshine Coast (194) 6.01%
The University of Sydney (93) 2.88%
University of Newcastle (8) 0.24%
Other (22) 0.71%

10. ARIN (Australian Research Infrastructure Network) (Monash Uni) (2532) 1%

Monash University (2336) 92.25%
RMIT University (142) 5.60%
The University of Melbourne (34) 1.34%
The University of Wollongong (7) 0.27%
CSIRO (2) 0.07%
Other (11) 0.47%

Growing AAF's Subscribers

The need for collaboration beyond the boundaries of the Higher Education and Research sector where highlighted as a key business objective for the AAF in 2015. To address this need, an AAF business development resource was recruited focusing on the development and execution of a business development strategy to bring on board new subscribers from a number of sectors. The AAF appointed a Community Development Manager in October to take on this role. Following this, a number of activities commenced in 2015 including:

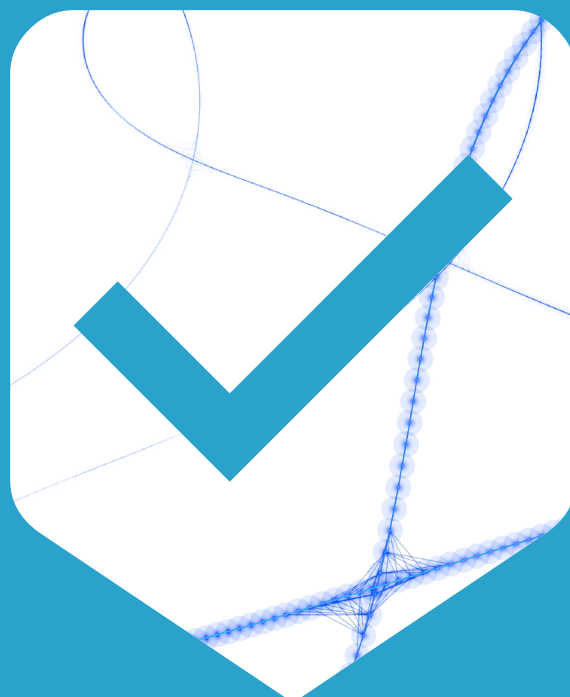
- development of a Business Development Plan focused on key market segments and target groups for growth
- marketing and communications activities focused on growth and attraction for new subscribers to the AAF.

AAF's Business Development activities are focused on adopting a customer centric operating model with engagement for growth focused on a needs assessment approach. With the anticipated release of new products and services for the AAF in 2016 the business development component will continue to highlight new opportunities beyond what the AAF delivers today.

GITC Accredited

In 2015, the AAF became GITC accredited (Government Information Technology Contracting v5.03) to supply goods and services to the Queensland (QLD) Government in accordance with the Queensland Procurement Policy 2013.

By being GITC accredited, the AAF is able to supply goods and services directly to QLD Government, QLD Government owned entities and QLD Government affiliated entities (such as universities).



Our Subscribers

International/Publishers/Commercial

Asia Pacific Advanced Networking (APAN)
BarNet
Cambridge University Press
ClickView
EBSCO Information Services
Elsevier Inc
Emerald Group Publishing Ltd
Evolvingspaces (VIC) Pty Ltd
Ex Libris
Figshare
Fuji Xerox
George Thieme Verlag KG
HighWire Press
JISC Advance
John Wiley & Sons Pte Ltd
Karger Publishers
Kivuto
Lab Archives LLC1
lynda.com
Masaryk University
MyUNIDAYS Limited
NetSpot
PebblePad
ProQuest
QS unisolution
Research Research Ltd
RMIT Publishing
Stratocore
TALIS Information Ltd
The Beans Group Ltd
TERENA
Thinkprocurement
The Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC)
UCROO Pty Ltd
VirtualAccident

Western Australia

Central Institute of Technology
Curtin University
Durack Institute of Technology
Edith Cowan University
Murdoch University
The University of Notre Dame
The University of Western Australia

Northern Territory

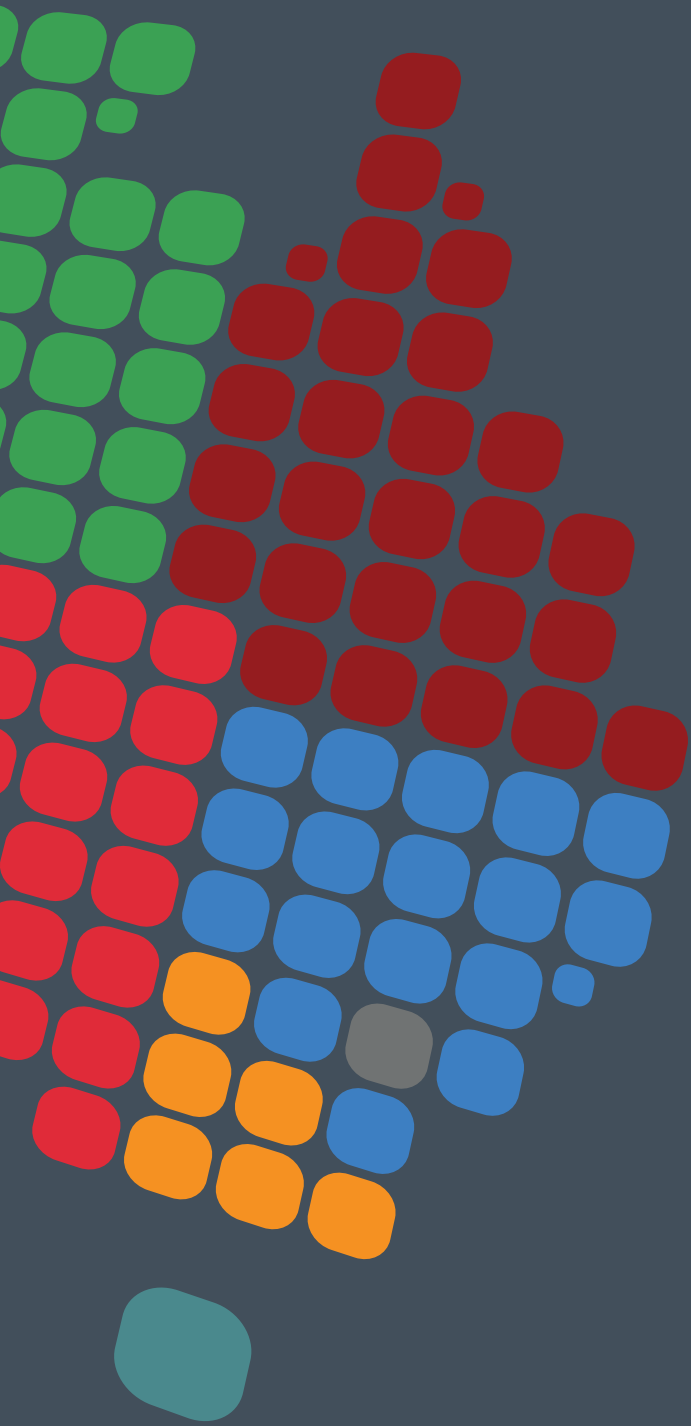
Charles Darwin University

South Australia

Flinders University
Public Health Information Development Unit (PHIDU)
SA Health and Medical Research Inst.
The University of Adelaide
University of South Australia
eResearch SA

Tasmania

Australian Antarctic Division
Tasmanian Partnership for Advanced Computing (TPAC)
University of Tasmania



Queensland

Australian Institute of Marine Science (AIMS)
Bond University
Central Queensland University
Griffith University
James Cook University
Qld Cyber Infrastructure Foundation (QCIF)
Queensland University Directors of Information
Technology (QUDIT)
Queensland University of Technology
The University of Queensland
University of Southern Queensland
University of the Sunshine Coast

New South Wales

Australian Catholic University
Australian Nuclear Science Technology Organisation
(ANSTO)
Charles Sturt University
Garvan Institute of Medical Research
Intersect Australia Ltd
Macquarie University
National ICT Australia Limited (NICTA)
Southern Cross University
The University of New South Wales
The University of Sydney
University of Newcastle
University of New England
University of Technology Sydney
Western Sydney University
University of Wollongong

ACT

Australian Academic and Research Network (AARNet)
Australian National University
Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research
Organisation (CSIRO)
Council of Australian University Directors of Information
Technology (CAUDIT)
University of Canberra

Victoria

Cancer Therapeutics CRC (CTX CRC Ltd)
Deakin University
Federation University Australia
La Trobe University
Monash University
RMIT University of Technology
Swinburne University of Technology
The University of Melbourne
V3 Alliance
Vic Node
Victoria University

Innovation and Strategic Initiatives

Enhancing the utility of the AAF and Grid Certificates Project — June

COMPLETE



In June 2012, the Department of Education awarded \$330 000 to undertake a program of initiatives to enhance the utility of the AAF. The Council of Australian University Directors of Information Technology (CAUDIT) entered into a grant agreement with the Department as the lead agent for the projects, with the AAF subcontracted to undertake the work. In 2015 the AAF completed the project which has enabled the development of a number of important technologies and services that have enhanced the utility of the AAF. The project saw the final two key activities completed in 2015, firstly work on the first stage technically connecting the federation globally and secondly the final stages of the boost program.

Technical connection of the federation globally (eduGAIN) — February

COMPLETE



The AAF commenced this activity in late 2014 and completed the milestone in February 2015. This project seeded the initial technical activities required to connect the AAF to the global federation of federations called eduGAIN. Since the completion of the project the AAF has continued to progress the eduGAIN policy and process activities with a view to operationalise the service into the near future.

Boost program (Identity Provider (IdP) Improvement Program) — February

COMPLETE



The final component of the Boost program was completed in February 2015 providing a package of material which included an individualised Boost summary report and online self-help material for subscribers to assist with boosting their technical connection to the federation.

After completion of the project, the AAF received positive feedback from IT leaders in AAF subscriber organisations regarding the value of the program.

IDE — Identity Enhancement and Access Control Project — June

COMPLETE



In 2014 the NeCTAR (National eResearch Collaboration Tools and Resource) project provided funding for the AAF to undertake the Identity Enhancement (IDE) and Access Control project. The project delivered infrastructure that supports identification of AAF authenticated end users as 'researchers' for the NeCTAR Projects.

IdE was developed to allow NeCTAR funded Virtual Laboratories and other AAF connected services to use this information to make informed access control decisions specifically for researchers. The IdE product enables resource owners to identify and authorise a researcher to access online resources, such as computer facilities, data and other research infrastructure, at their home institution and at other Australian institutions with one set of credentials. The IdE software has been OpenSourced under the Apache V2 Licence.

Open ID Connect Paper — April

COMPLETE



Under the umbrella of the NeCTAR funded IdE project, the AAF undertook and produced a research paper on the emerging OpenID Connect (OIDC) standard which builds upon the OAuth2 standard. In particular this activity compared the OpenID Connect specification with the SAML specification in use within the AAF and many of the NeCTAR Projects. The paper undertook an environmental scan of OIDC in the market and explored the potential role that OIDC could play in meeting the digital identity challenges of the NeCTAR Virtual Laboratories. This work has paved the way for the AAF to continue to explore OIDC integration opportunities into the future.

Next Gen AAF Project — Commenced August

IN PROGRESS



In June 2015 the AAF was awarded \$850 000 to undertake the Next Gen AAF Project. The project seeks to create the next generation Australian Access Federation, which will enhance research collaboration and accessibility both nationally and internationally. Through a program of activities the project will:

- enhance the AAF's tools and services by facilitating research collaboration and expand accessibility between research groups and government organisations. The first milestone was completed in October with AAF's infrastructure moving to an Australian Signals Directorate (ASD) compliant infrastructure provider

- extend our existing software infrastructure. Key activities which commenced in 2015 included the design and development of a new Discovery Service to deliver an improved user interface, support for mobile devices and the groundwork for international connectivity of the federation. In addition, the design and development of a new reporting service commenced
- develop new software and solutions that will make joining the AAF simpler for organisations. This activity will commence in 2016 and see the development of a hosted solution to reduce technical complexity.

Professional Services Activities

Since its inception, the AAF has gained considerable knowledge and expertise with respect to federated infrastructure and software development and best practice identity management. In 2015, the AAF continued to support the needs of eResearch and education by responding to requests to undertake professional consultancy services to meet specific business needs in a reliable, cost-effective and timely manner.

SPIN project — SAML Provisioning for Independent Nodes — March

COMPLETE



Intersect Australia Ltd engaged the AAF as part of the Research Data Services Infrastructure Project (RDSI) to undertake the SPIN project. The project's aim was to develop software that provided a means for researchers to authenticate via the federation to access Amazon Web Services (AWS), using a research project account in AWS. The benefit of this project was for researchers, by providing lower cost compute and storage and free data ingress provided by AWS for the research community. The Project completed in March with the software being open sourced under the GNU APGL licence.

Assisting Singapore establish a pilot federation (SingAREN) July – August

COMPLETE



In 2015 the AAF was approached by Singapore Advanced Research & Education Network (SingAREN) to deploy a pilot federation which they could operate. The AAF provided a program of work which included on-site training for SingAREN technical staff in the operation of the federation technologies and a workshop for SingAREN members in the provision of identities and services to the federation.

University of Melbourne consultation — November

COMPLETE



The AAF Technical Manager met with the University of Melbourne's IDM team in November 2015 to provide an update on the changes and upgrade activities that will be required to migrate to IdP V3. This consultation activity was in preparation for the end of life of Shibboleth IdP V2.

Workshops for Federated Services

COMPLETE



The AAF conducted a one-day workshop for La Trobe University and Australian Catholic University, plus a consultation session with the University of Melbourne. The need for technical workshops has now become a demand driven service with subscribers indicating a need for more general AAF information, roadshows and individual consultation as required.

La Trobe University workshop — October

In October, the Technical Manager conducted a one day workshop to assist with the development of an Access Management and Single Sign-On (SSO) Strategy for La Trobe University. The workshop looked at how the university could integrate their identity management into their current services for improved single sign-on for their users.

Australian Catholic University (ACU) workshop — April

Commissioned by ACU, the AAF ran an Identity and Access Management workshop for the identity management (IDM) staff at ACU. The workshop looked at how ACU could improve their internal IDM processes to move towards a more comprehensive single sign-on solution for the university.





ORCID (Open Researcher and Contributor ID) is an open, non-profit, community-driven effort to create and maintain a registry of unique researcher identifiers and a transparent method of linking research activities and outputs to these identifiers.

Individuals can obtain an ORCID (Open Researcher and Contributor ID) identifier which is a digital identifier that distinguishes individual researchers from other researchers and enables them to manage their records of activities, and search for others in the Registry.

In mid-2015 the Australian ORCID Working Group (Universities Australia, Council of Australian University Librarians, Australasian Research Management Society, Australian National Data Service, Australian Access Federation and Council of Australian University Directors of Information Technology) saw potential for an Australian consortium approach to integrating ORCID nationally. As part of this approach they consulted with the AAF to become the national Consortium Lead. With the AAF already identified as a national provider of identity and access management services for the Australian Education and Research sector, the AAF was a natural fit to take on this sector role. In October 2015 the AAF and ORCID formally signed the Australian ORCID Consortium Agreement, with the commencement of the Australian ORCID Consortium on 1 January 2016.

By developing an Australian ORCID Consortium all member institutions have access to full features of premium ORCID membership at a substantially reduced fee. The Premium membership which is the highest level of ORCID membership provides members with local technical support and a number of other benefits.

As Consortium Lead the AAF will be the first point of contact for all Australian members of the Consortium. The AAF will provide administrative support and manage the on boarding of Consortium members. While also providing a local technical support contact that will be able to advise and maintain any associated documentation for the members.

Australian ORCID Consortium Agreement formally signed

30 October 2015

The Australian ORCID Consortium partnership has taken another step forward with the formal signing of the agreement at eResearch Australasia in Brisbane last week.

41 Australian institutions have now confirmed their intention to join the Consortium, which is expected to open in January 2016. The Australian Access Federation (AAF) has agreed to be the Consortium Lead.

The official agreement was signed during an ORCID session at eResearch attended by conference participants. Pictured signing the agreement at eResearch are Executive Director of ORCID Laurel L. Haak, PhD, and Heath Marks, General Manager at AAF.

The Australian ORCID Working Group would like to thank all those who have contributed to the progress of the Consortium so far.

As reported on ANDS News & Events web page:

<http://www.ands.org.au/news/news-events-index.html>



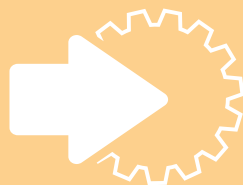
ROLE OF THE CONSORTIUM LEAD

Support



support@aaf.edu.au
Mon-Fri | 8am-5pm
Tier 1 incident support

Advice & Guidance on Integration



Members need to advise the Consortium Lead of:

- planning
- testing
- integration

CONSORTIUM MEMBER BENEFITS

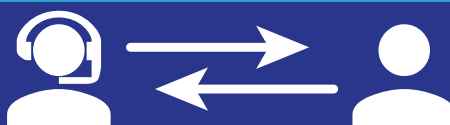


Premium Membership

- Reduced costs
- Ability to integrate ORCID IDs in multiple systems

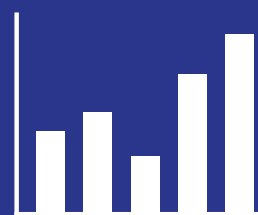
Local

Australian Support



Integrated application & user acceptance testing

Reporting



STATS | REPORTS FOR ORGANISATIONS

API
organisations get:

- ▶ Access to the member API
- ▶ Access to user's Read Limited Data
- ▶ Facilities to deposit & update user records
- ▶ Notifications of updates to user records

ORCID Workshop | eResearch Australasia | October 2015

In collaboration with Australian National Data Service and Council of Australian University Libraries — what attendees had to say...

Great session — gave me a really good overview of what is happening and where we are headed

Great update on current position on ORCID and the Australian consortia

Thanks very much! Excellent to hear about the consortium and some implementation examples etc.

I thought the session was very helpful and I got a lot out of it. Especially liked the benefits and selling points for when talking to both researchers and institution executives.

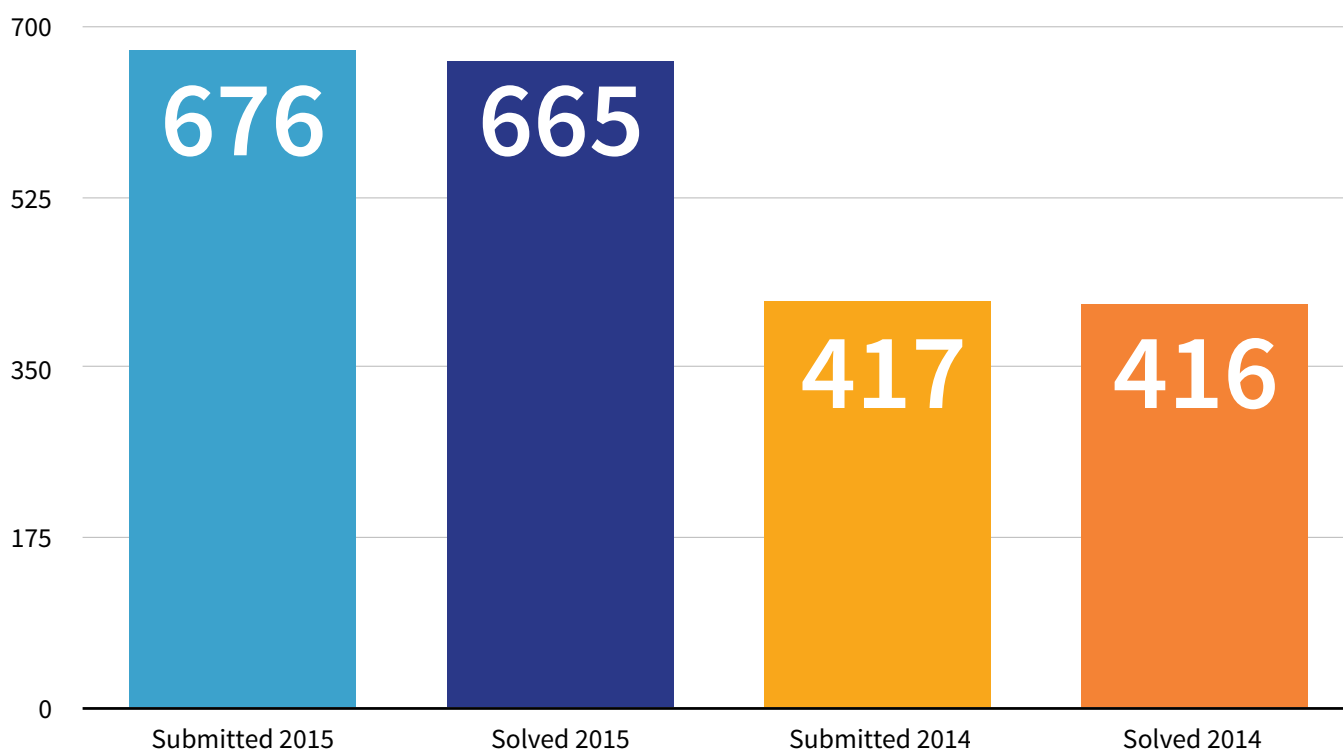
Technology and Support

AAF Support Desk



During 2015, the AAF experienced a 62% increase in submitted support tickets in comparison to 2014. It should be noted, that the increase in support tickets is connected to a number of initiatives that the support team have undertaken throughout 2015. This includes working with subscribers regarding the outcomes of the Boost program and preparing subscribers to upgrade their technical connections to the federation to the latest software release.

Submitted vs Solved Support Desk Tickets



2015 Support Desk Satisfaction Rating

Satisfaction Score

99.5%

Response Rate

33.7%

Percentage Surveyed

92.7%



Preparing for Shibboleth V3 upgrade

During 2015 the Support Team undertook a number of activities for AAF subscribers to inform and prepare them for the Shibboleth version three (V3) upgrade, which will need to be completed by July 31 2016 (due to software version end of life). The Support Team initiated three major activities to assist subscribers:

- active follow up on the outcomes of the Boost program by liaising with subscribers and identifying upgrade paths ready for Shibboleth Identity Provider (IdP) V3
- the development and release of the AAF IdP Installer in quarter four to assist subscribers and reduce the complexity of upgrading and maintaining Shibboleth software
- communication campaigns to raise awareness of Shibboleth V2 end of life to assist subscribers to plan their upgrade.

What the sector is saying about the AAF...

“The AAF provide a great service. This is affordable, nationwide and cross-institutional. As consumers of cloud services and on a large scale, our institute requires an authentication provider. We are extremely satisfied with our enterprise subscription.”

Colin MacDonald, CIO,
Central Institute of Technology

“I wanted to congratulate you (AAF and ANDS) on the ORCID Workshop at eResearch last week. It was extremely timely and very helpful to have a roadmap on the way forward with the consortia, implementation timelines and also the proposed support model. The presentations from institutions who had conducted implementations and carried out pilots were extremely useful and provided a much richer context on the issues surrounding ORCID implementation. Also, thanks for organising for Laurel Haak to participate on the day. Organising and delivering workshops take a lot of effort so I wanted to say great work and thanks for keeping the community up-to-date.”

Vicki Picasso, Senior Librarian, Research Support Services, The University of Newcastle

“In the community commentary, the elements most often singled out as having performed very well by international standards are the Australian National Data Service (ANDS) and the Australian Access Federation (AAF), both cases where the Australian approach has been world leading. There is also significant satisfaction with the maturity and performance of peak facilities, the computational infrastructure at the National Computational Infrastructure (NCI) and the Pawsey Supercomputing Centre.”

Emeritus Professor Tom Cochrane, Status Report on the NCRIS eResearch Capability

“As a highly virtualised business, the partnership with AAF was a critical component of provisioning our entire eResearch ecosystem in the cloud. We are now looking into other AAF member benefits that will help us optimise collaboration and reduce operation costs for our business and CRC partners.”

Paul Reeve, Director of Operations,
Cancer Therapeutics CRC

Community Engagement

Marketing and Communication activities

The AAF had a presence and presented at a number of conferences and key industry meetings during the year.

Had a presence at
conferences **9**

Australian Computer Science Week
Universities Australia in Higher Education Conference 2015
APAN Conference Japan
eResearch New Zealand 2015
THETA 2015
TERENA Networking Conference Czech Republic
APAN Conference Malaysia
eResearch Australasia 2015
Internet 2 TechX Conference USA

AAF hosted **7** workshops or forums

AAF Roadshow Tour 2015
(Brisbane | Sydney | Melbourne)

One day federation workshop
Hosted international federation guests

La Trobe University Workshop
ACU workshop

Participated in
international meetings for REFEDS & APAN
national meetings for AeRO, ORCID Working
Group, QUDIT & the eResearch Framework

Presented **20**
times through **2015**

2014 Subscriber Survey

In June 2015, the AAF launched its fourth annual subscriber survey. The survey's aim was to capture our subscribers' needs, increase our understanding of future activities and priorities, and understand how our subscribers perceive the AAF. The survey responses also formed part of the data for the AAF Executive Strategic Planning Day in August.

Overall the survey indicated that subscribers were satisfied with the reliability and services offered by the AAF, noting:

- the ease of use, collaboration and connections which the AAF enables for researchers. Along with the authentication benefits of using one account and password
- the simplicity of accessing services via the AAF which would otherwise be inhibited for research organisations and academia
- that AAF Support was timely, reliable and well communicated.

From the Survey there were four main recommendations that have since been included in the AAF's future planning and strategic directions. These recommendation categories included:

- International collaboration: eduGAIN implementation and enabling ORCID
- Investigation of other authentication methods and technologies: Non-web authentication, cloud hosted federated services, further support for non-standard software
- Business development: Continue to grow the federation both national and internationally.

We asked our subscribers what was important to them and how we were going — this is what they said...

“It enables us to allow researchers to have controlled access to web services without us having to set up accounts, manage passwords, and so on. It also allows users to use an existing account name and password that they are familiar with.”

“AAF is a mature and efficient service.”

“Our federated IdP has been used to access Service Providers that we did not anticipate, thus provides an important function in our organisation that without may have inhibited some of our interactions with research organisations and academia. Looking forward we are looking to deploy our first Service Provider that will provide a training platform for our AU undergraduate learning initiatives, so I can see the importance of the AAF becoming extremely important over the next 1–2 months.”

“This is a service which supports our Research Collaboration activities and so it is very important to us as an organisation.”

“Enables us to verify student and academic staff status.”

“You offer a great service — you have great staff!!!”

“Key partner on technological innovations.”

“I generally think the AAF is doing a good job and want you to continue to provide the services we use.”

“The AAF has always been there to support us if we needed them to do so.”

“We really use this service.”

“Lots of services we offer rely on AAF logins.”

Communications

AAF Web Statistics

The AAF website at www.aaf.edu.au provides information to subscribers, potential subscribers and the research community. The website recorded 12 076 visitors in 2015. Work commenced in late 2015 to redesign the AAF website with a fresh look and feel. Release is scheduled for early 2016.

AAF Newsletters

Three editions of the AAF General Newsletter, four editions of the AAF Technical Newsletter and two Special Edition Newsletters were published during the year. The open rate and click rate of the newsletter campaigns were well above the average rates published by the AAF's cloud-based newsletter service (industry average open rate = 16.3%, industry average click rate = 2.2%¹).

The **Technical Newsletter** is specifically produced for the AAF technical community, to provide practical information, updates on software development activities, upcoming workshops and new releases.

The AAF **General Newsletter** is designed to provide the latest news on AAF's activities, policy and strategy for the IT Directors, CIOs and key contacts within our subscribing organisations.

The **Special Edition Newsletters** were developed for a technical audience to inform them of upcoming changes that will need to be implemented and how the AAF will work with our technical contacts to implement these changes.

Campaign	No. of Subscribers	% Open Rate	% Click Rate
		Industry average open rate is 16.4%	Industry average click rate is 2.2%
Technical Newsletter 2015			
#14 · 24 February	199	46.1%	7.3%
#15 · 29 April	194	42.9%	6.8%
#16 · 6 July	193	36.9%	7.5%
#17 · 26 August	191	38.9%	10.3%
General Newsletter 2015			
#13 · 10 April	274	33.7%	4.2%
#14 · 3 July	263	32.2%	7.5%
#15 · 17 November	263	34.3%	5.6%
Special Edition Newsletter			
#01 · 8 October (Tech Admins)	92	44.8%	10.3%
#01 · 8 October (Tech newsletter list)	185	40%	4.4%

¹It is important to note that the actual Open Rate may be higher than the reported figure in Table 1 due to some information not being available.

Our Plan for Success

2016-2017 Strategic Plan

1 **Be the identity broker for Australia's research and education community**

- attracting new subscribers
- growing new services connected to the federation
- remaining aligned with Australian eResearch Agenda
- establishing key partnerships where mutually beneficial.

2 **Extend AAF services, by**

- expanding AAF's identity and access management products
- providing professional services
- taking leadership in facilitating and developing best practice federated identity management.

3 **Technologies and trends supporting global research and education**

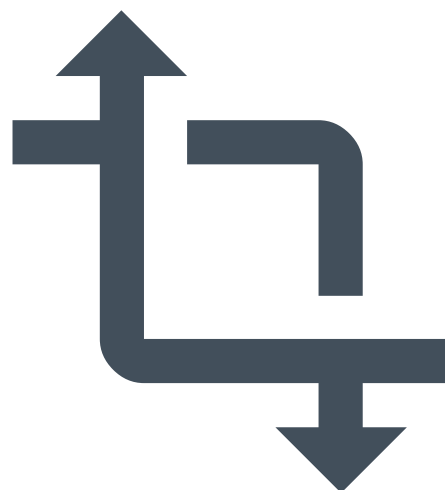
- align with international federation initiatives to enable international access to federation services
- continue to align with international federation initiatives through REFEDS(Research Education Federations)
- take a leadership role in facilitating the development of federated technologies in the Asia Pacific Region.

The Year Ahead

The year ahead will see the AAF focusing on implementing the following key activities that have been set out in the 2016 Business Plan.

- 1.** Provide operational support services (Service Desk, Knowledge Base and technical documentation, assisting subscribers identify services of value to the Federation and best practice and technical architecture advice) to ensure existing Subscribers gain best value from their subscription.
- 2.** Provide a range of professional services (install and configure Identity Providers, and software development services for bespoke federated identity management solutions) billed at market rates.
- 3.** Provide compliance support activities associated with the Federation Rules and annual Compliance Statements.
- 4.** Undertake marketing and communication activities that focus on promoting the AAF's value proposition.
- 5.** Develop and deliver on-demand training workshops aimed at increasing the skill base across the higher education and research sector with respect to federating services for access via the AAF.
- 6.** Ensure the technology on which the AAF depends is appropriately maintained (application patching, security bug fixes and minor enhancements to AAF's software stack where activities are critical for the successful operations of the Federation).
- 7.** Continue partnerships with national eResearch infrastructure projects and other subscribers where mutually beneficial opportunities exist. Continue bronze sponsorship of REFEDS (Research and Education Federations), AeRO (Australian eResearch Organisation) membership, committee support to REFEDS, and support the APAN community through chairing the APAN (Asia Pacific Advanced Networking) Federated Identity Management Taskforce.
- 8.** Continuation of AAF's business development and innovation capabilities to further build upon the utility and value of the Federation.

The 2016 Business Plan and 2016–2017 Strategic Plan can be found at www.aaf.edu.au



Income Statements

AUSTRALIAN ACCESS FEDERATION INCORPORATED

ABN 13 155 355 685

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

	2015 \$	2014 \$
INCOME		
AAF Subscriptions	813,540	727,638
Bank Interest	18,472	22,338
Training Income	-	1,410
Project Income	450,546	129,600
Other Income	137,490	199,954
TOTAL INCOME	<u>1,420,048</u>	<u>1,080,940</u>
EXPENSES		
Staff Salaries & On-costs	1,122,216	663,181
General Operating Expenses	112,301	72,495
Project Expenses	67,750	127,536
Meetings & Events	72,868	26,651
Depreciation	10,309	6,961
Accounting Fees	19,250	14,750
Audit Fees	2,200	2,000
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>1,406,894</u>	<u>913,574</u>
NET CURRENT YEAR SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	<u>13,154</u>	<u>167,366</u>
Total Other Comprehensive Income for the year	-	-
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ATTRIBUTABLE TO MEMBERS OF THE ENTITY	<u>13,154</u>	<u>167,366</u>

AUSTRALIAN ACCESS FEDERATION INCORPORATED

ABN 13 155 355 685

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2015**

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Bank - Operating a/c	39,155	31,128
Bank – Online Saver a/c	1,164,514	1,147,723
Bank – US \$ a/c	82,400	0
Membership Debtors	939,547	594,001
Sundry Debtors	39,940	25,006
Total Current Assets	<u>2,265,556</u>	<u>1,797,858</u>
Non-Current Assets		
Equipment at wdv	27,146	21,350
Total Non-Current Assets	<u>27,146</u>	<u>21,350</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>2,292,702</u>	<u>1,819,208</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Current Liabilities		
Payables & Accrued Expenses	160,109	146,948
GST liability	136,630	109,632
Prepaid Income – AAF	920,234	885,954
Prepaid Income – ORCID	404,180	-
Project Income in Advance	52,872	116,400
Employee leave entitlements	110,077	87,360
Total Current Liabilities	<u>1,784,102</u>	<u>1,346,294</u>
Non-Current Liabilities		
Employee leave entitlements	22,532	-
Total Non-Current Liabilities	<u>22,532</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>1,806,634</u>	<u>1,346,294</u>
NET ASSETS	<u>486,068</u>	<u>472,914</u>
MEMBERS FUNDS		
Retained Surplus	486,068	472,914
TOTAL MEMBERS FUNDS	<u>486,068</u>	<u>472,914</u>

AUSTRALIAN ACCESS FEDERATION INCORPORATED

ABN 13 155 355 685

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015**

	Note	2015 \$	2014 \$
Cash flows from operating activities			
Receipts from operating activities		1,610,547	1,411,453
Interest received		19,130	22,578
Payments to suppliers and employees		(1,506,354)	(954,351)
Net cash provided by operating activities	4(b)	<u>123,323</u>	<u>479,680</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments for plant & equipment		(16,105)	(18,046)
Proceeds from disposals		-	-
Net cash (used by) investing activities		<u>(16,105)</u>	<u>(18,046)</u>
Net (Decrease)/Increase in cash held		107,218	461,634
Cash at the beginning of the year		1,178,851	717,217
Cash at the end of the year	4(a)	<u><u>1,286,069</u></u>	<u><u>1,178,851</u></u>

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015**

	Retained Earnings \$	Total \$
Balance at 31 December 2013	<u>305,548</u>	<u>305,548</u>
Net surplus (deficit)	167,366	167,366
Balance at 31 December 2014	<u>472,914</u>	<u>472,914</u>
Net surplus (deficit)	13,154	13,154
Balance at 31 December 2015	<u><u>486,068</u></u>	<u><u>486,068</u></u>

AUSTRALIAN ACCESS FEDERATION INCORPORATED

ABN 13 155 355 685

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015**

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Preparation

The Committee has determined that the Association is not a reporting entity because there are no users dependent on a general purpose financial report. The Association is a not-for-profit entity for Australian Accounting Standards.

The financial statements are special purpose financial statements prepared for the purpose of complying with the NSW Associations Incorporation Act 2009 and to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the constitution and to meet the needs of the members of the Association.

The financial statements have been prepared on the basis of a Tier 1 association and the financial reporting exemptions provided by Class Order 11/01.

The Association is a medium registered charity and is subject to the ACNC reporting requirements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the mandatory Australian Accounting Standards applicable to entities reporting under the Tier 1 association exemption provided by Class Order 11/01 and the significant accounting policies disclosed below, which the committee members have determined are appropriate to meet the needs of members.

The financial report, except for the statement of cash flows, is prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where stated, current valuations of non-current assets. Cost is based on the fair values of the consideration given in exchange for assets. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

The following is a summary of the significant accounting policies adopted by the Association in the preparation of the financial report. These policies are consistent with the previous year unless stated otherwise.

(a) Income Tax:

The income of the Association is exempt from income tax under Division 50-5 of Income Tax Assessment Act 1997

AUSTRALIAN ACCESS FEDERATION INCORPORATED

ABN 13 155 355 685

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015**

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES CONTINUED

(b) Income In Advance

Income received for subscriptions from members and events which will occur in relation to the subsequent financial year are treated as income in advance

(c) Income

Interest revenue is recognised on a proportional basis taking into account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

Income from the rendering of a service is recognised upon the delivery of the service to the customer or based on the stage of completion of the service delivery at the end of the financial year.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax.

(d) Goods & Services Tax

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the Statement of Financial Position are shown inclusive of GST.

(e) Equipment

Equipment is measured on the cost basis less depreciation and impairment losses.

Depreciation is calculated on a straight-line basis, over the useful lives of the assets to the Association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

The carrying amount of equipment is reviewed annually by the Association to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount from those assets. The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the depreciated replacement cost of the asset.

Equipment that has been contributed at no cost, or for nominal cost, is valued at the fair value of the asset at the date it is acquired.

(f) Impairment

At the end of each reporting date, the Association assesses whether there is any indication that an asset may be impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the assets, being the assets depreciated replacement costs, is compared to the assets carrying value. Any excess of the assets carrying value over its recoverable amount is expenses in the income statement.

AUSTRALIAN ACCESS FEDERATION INCORPORATED

ABN 13 155 355 685

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015**

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES CONTINUED

(g) Staff Leave Entitlements

Liabilities for staff salaries and staff leave entitlements expected to be settled within 12 months of the reporting date are recognised in current liabilities in respect of staff services up to the reporting date and are measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled.

(h) Comparative Figures

When required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.

(i) Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgments

The committee members evaluate estimates and judgments incorporated into the financial report based on historical knowledge and best available current information. Estimates assume a reasonable expectation of future events and are based on current trends and economic data, obtained both externally and within the Association.

(j) New Accounting Standards for Application in Future Periods

The AASB has issued a number of new and amended Accounting Standards that have mandatory application dates for future reporting periods, some of which are relevant to the Association. The committee has decided not to early adopt any of the new and amended pronouncements. The committee's assessment of the new and amended pronouncements that are relevant to the Association but applicable in future reporting periods is set out below:

AASB 9: Financial Instruments and associated Amending Standards (applicable to annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2018).

The Standard will be applicable retrospectively and includes revised requirements for the classification and measurement of financial instruments, revised recognition and de-recognition requirements for financial instruments, and simplified requirements for hedge accounting.

These Standards are not expected to significantly impact the Association's financial statements.

AUSTRALIAN ACCESS FEDERATION INCORPORATED

ABN 13 155 355 685

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015**

NOTE 2: ASSOCIATION DETAILS

The Australian Access Federation Incorporated is an incorporated association under the New South Wales legislation Associations Incorporation Act 2009.

The registered office of the Association is 10 Nyora Place, Jerrabomberra, NSW, 2619

The principal place of business of the association is Building 9, Banks Street, Yarralumla, ACT

NOTE 3: EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING DATE

Since the end of the financial year there have been no material post balance date events that could affect the financial position and performance of the Association.

The financial report was authorised for issue on the date the Committee Report was signed and dated.

NOTE 4: CASH FLOW INFORMATION

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
(a) Reconciliation of Cash		
Bank - Operating a/c	39,155	31,128
Bank – Online Saver a/c	1,164,514	1,147,723
Bank – US \$ a/c	82,400	-
Cash at the end of the year	<u>1,286,069</u>	<u>1,178,851</u>
(b) Reconciliation of the operating surplus to the net cash provided by operating activities:-		
Operating surplus/(deficit)	13,154	167,366
Gain on disposal/write off of plant & equipment	-	-
Depreciation and amortisation	10,309	6,961
Movement in assets and liabilities:-		
Decrease/(Increase) in receivables	(345,546)	(100,137)
Decrease/(Increase) in prepayments/ Other Debtors	(14,934)	(13,463)
(Decrease)/Increase in creditors/accruals	40,159	52,195
(Decrease)/Increase in prepaid income	374,932	327,668
(Decrease)/Increase in Employee liabilities	45,249	39,090
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>123,323</u>	<u>479,680</u>

