# Annual Report
# 2014

**AUSTRALIAN**
**ACCESS FEDERATION**

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**AAF**

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Member of the Australian eResearch Organisation (AeRO)

Supported by the Council of Australian University Directors of Information Technology

**CAUDIT**

Supported by the Australian Government through the Department of Education

**Australian Government**
**Department of Education**

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# President's Report

This report is my first since taking over as Australian Access Federation (AAF) President from David Toll in May 2014.

David's involvement and strong leadership over the last two years has ensured the AAF has continued to remain a sustainable and valued part of the Australian research and education landscape. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Marc Bailey for his contributions as the past AAF Treasurer, a position which he held from 2010 through until March 2014.

I am pleased to report that like previous years, the AAF continues to grow its foot-print in the sector, with 86 subscribers and over 150 services supporting teaching, learning and research connected to the federation. 2014 also saw AAF's first non-university education institution connect to the federation. A number of key activities were undertaken throughout 2014 which has underpinned yet another successful year for the AAF and a summary of accomplishments is provided in this Annual Report.

One of AAF's key activities in 2014 has been the expansion of its professional service capabilities. With expertise in solving complex federated identity management problems, the progression towards professional services has been a smooth transition for the AAF. Importantly, this has enabled the AAF to engage effectively with the Federal Government's National Collaboration and Research Infrastructure (NCRIS) capabilities to include both the National eResearch Collaboration Tools and Resources (NeCTAR) and the Research Data Storage Infrastructure (RDSI) projects. These partnerships continue to build upon the value that the AAF provides for Australian research and raises our profile within the sector.

Project work continued throughout the year as part of the Department of Education funded grant to enhance the utility of the AAF. Many AAF subscribers took part in the *boost program* and in late 2014 received individualised reports with key information to help their organisations with best practice federated identity management.

The AAF has continued to be a member of the Australian eResearch Organisations (AeRO) and to work with its members to contribute to on-going activities which aim to accelerate the development of Australia's eResearch infrastructure capabilities.

The AAF also took a lead role in establishing the Asia Pacific Advanced Networking (APAN) Federated Identity Management Taskforce. The focus of the taskforce is to enable and assist with creation of federated identity management in the Asia Pacific region. This work will continue throughout 2015.

Looking beyond 2014, 2015 will see the AAF introduce to its operations business development and innovation capabilities - a strategy endorsed by the members at the October 2014 General Meeting to further sustain the operations of the federation.

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 Cheryl Kut and Tony Rothnie for their valued support to the AAF Executive Committee.

We continue to have an extremely dedicated AAF team under the leadership of Heath Marks, who works closely with our stakeholders to further develop and evolve the products and services we offer.

I would also like to thank our subscriber organisations and the IT leaders for their continued ongoing support in using the services offered by the AAF. My sincere thanks to Executive Committee Members for their support and the high level of contribution and commitment to the work we do on behalf of our subscribers.

AAF continues to provide sustainable specialist services for the sector and I look forward with optimism to 2015.

**Dr. Ian Gibson**
**President**

# Australian Access Federation Inc. Executive Committee

The Australian Access Federation Inc. is governed by an Executive Committee.
The Members of the Executive Committee are:

**Dr Ian Gibson**
President

Dr 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, Ian has been the 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 Bruce Callow**
Vice President

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.

**Mr David Toll**
Past President
(2 May 2014 -
14 August 2014)

David Toll is Intersect's Member Services Manager and coordinates Intersect's direct engagement with Members through the eResearch Analyst Team. Prior to joining Intersect, David held roles as Chief Information Officer and General Manager Finance at CSIRO, and Deputy Director-General, National Library of Australia. David has had close involvement with eResearch developments in Australia in recent years through board involvement with the Australian National Data Service, National Computational Infrastructure and Australian Access Federation. David has Masters degrees in Commerce and Business Administration.

**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

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.

**Mr Richard Northam**
Public Officer AAF Inc.

Richard is the Director of the Research Data Storage Project at the University of Queensland which is part of the Commonwealth Government's National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy. Previously he was 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. Throughout his career, 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 use of new methodologies and development of eResearch infrastructure that are enabled by Information Technology. Richard is 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.

**Mr William Confalonieri**
Member at Large

William Confalonieri is Chief Digital Officer with Deakin University Australia, originally being appointed Deakin's first CIO in January 2012.  William has been awarded Chief Information Officer of the Year by ITNews at the Australian CIO Strategy Summit in February 2014.

Having a passion for emerging technologies he believes that changes in technological paradigms will significantly transform Deakin University over the next few years, with the evolving expectations on rich digital experiences being the enablers of that transformation.
William has a blend of public and private sector experience, strong technical and business skills, experience in managing large dispersed teams, and a track record of large scale IT transformations.

In 2012 William accepted a position on the Board of Callista Software Services, and more recently has been elected President of McKinnon Secondary College after serving many years as a Council member.  William has also been appointed as a member of the Executive Committee for the Australian Access Federation. William has postgraduate qualifications in Computer Science, Business and Economics, he is a certified Enterprise Architect and a graduate from the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

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

# AAF Team

**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 of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

**Mr Terry Smith**
Technical Manager

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 boot-strapped today's AAF operation.

**Miss Elleina Andrews**
Service Delivery Manager

Elleina joined the AAF in November 2014 as the Service Delivery Manager. 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.

**Mr Bradley Beddoes**
Technical Architect

Bradley is responsible for the design and implementation of AAF software and system architectures. Bradley has worked on delivering secure, standards focused web applications and redundant, scalable IT architectures for the past 11 years within Australia and abroad.

**Mr Brendan O'Keeffe**
Project Manager / Business Analyst

Brendan joined the AAF in December 2014 as a dedicated Project Manager and Business Analyst for the Identity Enhancement (IdE) and Access Control Project. Brendan is responsible for the ongoing coordination, communication and management of the IdE project. He has been working in ICT project delivery for 10 years and has a broad range of project management skills.

**Mr Shaun Mangelsdorf**
Senior Developer

Shaun is responsible for the development of AAF software and infrastructure. He has been developing software professionally for nine years, with experience in identity and access management in the tertiary sector, and custom solutions for the healthcare and pharmaceutical industry.

**Mr Russell Ianniello**
Senior Developer

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.

**Mr Jason Tan**
Developer

Jason attended the University of Queensland in Brisbane and received a Bachelor of Information Technology, majoring in software design. In 2014, Jason joined the AAF as part of their graduate program and during this time he has been exposed to a variety of popular programming languages and development methodologies

**Ms Glenys Kranz**
Administration Assistant

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. 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.

# 2014: The Year in Review
## Snapshot of the AAF highlights for 2014

**1**

## JANUARY

**Virtual Home** released as open source software

**NeCTAR-AAF project** commenced to enable Enhanced Client or Proxy (ECP) within the federation

**AAF continues to support the RDSI** project with their federated identity management needs

**2**

## FEBRUARY

**6**

## JUNE

**Release of Annual AAF Subscriber Survey:** a chance for subscribers to have their say (third annual survey)

**AAF facilitated Federated Identity Management Planning workshop for meeting the needs of eResearch capabilities (Melbourne and Sydney)**

**5**

## MAY

**AAF Inc. held its Annual General Meeting (AGM) of its Members in Melbourne 2 May:**

- Appointment of Dr Ian Gibson (Member for Intersect Australia Ltd) as President
- Appointment of Mr Paul Sherlock (Member for University of South Australia) as Treasurer
- Appointment of Mr Rick Van Haeften (Member for Australian Catholic University) as Secretary

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## OCTOBER

**AAF Inc. General Meeting** (24 October): 2015 Business Plan and 2015-2016 Strategic Plan endorsed by AAF Inc. Members

Conference presentation: General Manager, Technical Manager and Technical Architect  AAF – *Simplifying Identity Management for Research applications* (eResearch Australasia 2014)

## SEPTEMBER

**AAF participated in the NCRIS showcase at Parliament House (Canberra)**

**9**

Our success to date has been driven by a number of carefully executed strategies which ensure our commitment to provide a valued service to our subscribers, enabling access to over one million identities in the research and education sector.

# 3

## MARCH

**IdP Enhancement program (Boost) underway with the release of the first questionnaire to Identity Providers (IdP)**

eduGAIN workshop: *The next steps* (Brisbane) with the New Zealand Federation Tuakiri and AARNet

## APRIL

**AAF's first non-university education provider became a subscriber** (Central Institute of Technology Western Australia)

# 4

# 7

## JULY

**AAF Inc. Executive Committee Planning Meeting held** (9 July)

Conference presentation:  General Manager AAF and Service Manager Tuakiri (New Zealand Federation) - *Envision, Collaborate, and Innovate with Access Federation* (New Zealand eResearch 2014)

Birds of a Feather: Technical Manager AAF – *How to get the most out of Australian Access Federation's Tools and Services* (QuestNet 2014 Brisbane)

AAF participated in the AeRO Ticket Exchange and Incident Management Platform Workshop (Melbourne)

## AUGUST  8

Presentation: Technical Manager AAF - *Tools for successfully operating a federation* (APAN Meeting Taiwan)

**Appointment:**
  - Graduate Developer

# 11

## NOVEMBER

**Boost Program:** Reports for Identity Providers were released

**Appointments:**
 - Service Delivery Manager
 - Business Analyst/Project Manager
 - Senior Developer

**AAF-NeCTAR Identity Enhancement project commenced**

# 12

## DECEMBER

Technical Manager appointed Chair of the APAN Identity Management Task Force

**SAML Provisioning for Independent Nodes (SPIN):** AAF-RDSI-Intersect professional service engagement commenced

## 2014 National and International Engagement

Throughout 2014 the AAF continued to be a contributing member of AeRO (Australian eResearch Organisations). AeRO is Australia's national association of eResearch providers collaborating together to facilitate and improve the overall delivery and support required for research nationally.

Also, during the year the AAF were approved to be part of the RDSI-CAUDIT Vendor Panel. This panel was established to enable suppliers of services in the sector to provide a value for money service to RDSI nodes and CAUDIT members without the need to go through a tender process.

AAF continued to engage in a number of initiatives, meetings and other activities in order to further international collaboration with overseas federations. AAF staff took part in formal and informal meetings to discuss issues of common interest, including both technical and policy issues. In May 2014, AAF staff attended the international Research and Education Federations (REFEDS) meeting held in Ireland. AAF also continued to be a formal sponsor of REFEDS.

The AAF continued to collaborate with the New Zealand Federation, Tuakiri, with both groups taking part in a joint workshop to plan and brainstorm technical development and identify the skills and knowledge required to assist the operation of both national federations. The AAF also continued to assist Tuakiri with the adoption and uptake of AAF Virtual Home software. The General Manager co-presented with the Tuakiri Service Manager at the New Zealand eResearch conference in July 2014.

The AAF Technical Manager has also played an integral role in working with the Asia Pacific National Research Education Networks (NRENs) in establishing an APAN (Asia Pacific Advanced Networking) Taskforce. The objective of the taskforce will be to support the development and establishment of a research and education identity federation and Eduroam services in the Asia Pacific Region. The AAF Technical Manager has been appointed as the chair of the taskforce and APAN are keen for the AAF to take this lead role, given its maturity in the region.

*The AAF's* **vision** *is to be the authoritative provider of access management services for Australian education and research.*

*The AAF's* **mission** *is to support collaboration and resource sharing through effective access management services.*

# Subscribers and Services

## Subscriber Growth

Ten new subscribers joined the AAF in 2014 and as of 31 December 2014, the AAF had 86 subscribers. All Australian universities, a number of state based research organisations, government and private research organisations and commercial organisations subscribe to the AAF. The AAF also saw its first non-university education provider Central Institute of Technology Western Australia subscribe. Publishers of scholarly resources are increasingly seeking to become AAF subscribers - this is a trend we expect to continue based on experiences from other international federations.

## Service Growth

With over 150 services available, 45 new services registered with the federation in 2014. This strong growth reflected the continued importance of the AAF's services for the education and research sector. 2014 also saw many virtual laboratories from the NeCTAR project begin to use the AAF as their authentication mechanism. A small number of services were decommissioned in 2014 reflecting the sometimes short life of IT services for researchers. To date the services registered in the federation support both teaching and learning and research. These services include:

- data storage
- scientific instruments
- virtual lab equipment
- scholarly resources
- online collaboration tools
- eResearch portals and more recently, medical research.

## Service Usage

Around 178 000 service authentications were registered through the AAF's Where are you From (WAYF) service in 2014. 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.

Figure 1 outlines the Top 10 services in 2014, including the subscribers with the largest number of authenticated users from a connected Identity Provider, recorded by the AAF's WAYF Service.
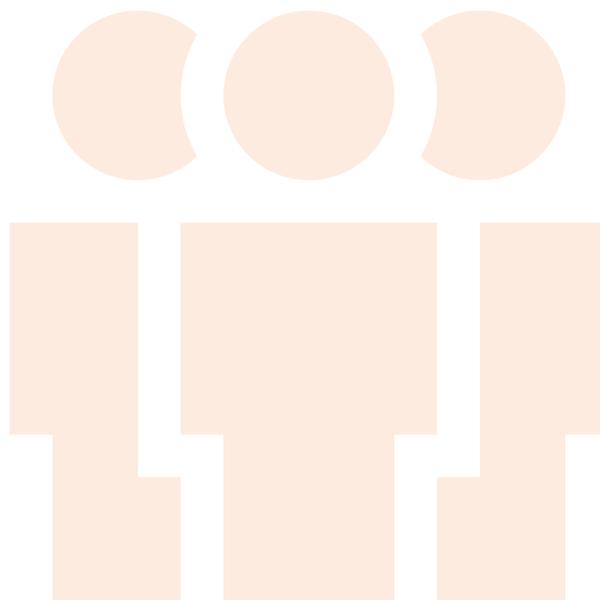
# AAF Top 10 Services
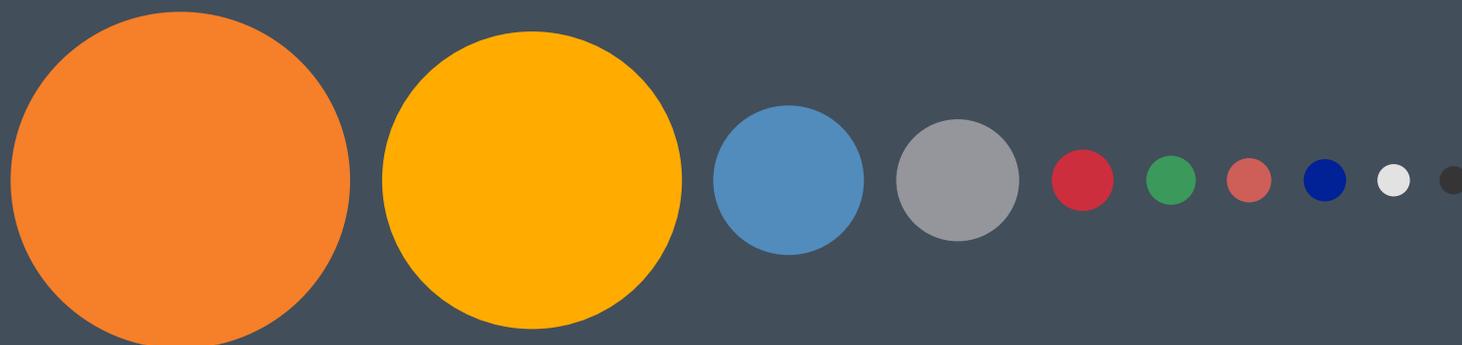


## NeCTAR Research Cloud Keystone Service
**21.41% (38 138)**
- The University of Melbourne (8481) 22.32%
- The University of Queensland (7064) 18.59%
- Monash University (3582) 9.42%
- AAF Virtual Home (3425) 9.01%
- University of Adelaide (2668) 7.02%
- Other 33.64%

## Flipped Classroom (UniSyd)
**18.90% (33 655)**
- The University of Sydney (30 118) 89.49%
- AAF Virtual Home (3093) 9.19%
- The University of Queensland (280) 0.83%
- The University of Notre Dame (39) 0.11%
- Macquarie University (35) 0.10%
- Other 0.28%

## QUT eGrad
**9.54% (16 989)**
- AAF Virtual Home (5196) 30.62%
- The University of Queensland (1876) 11.00%
- Curtin University (1630) 9.60%
- University of Technology Sydney (1527) 8.99%
- University of South Australia (1422) 8.37%
- Other 31.42%

## AURIN Portal
**7.75% (13 794)**
- The University of Melbourne (6947) 50.47%
- AAF Virtual Home (2928) 21.27%
- The University of Queensland (423) 3.07%
- Queensland University of Technology (400) 2.90%
- The University of Western Australia (394) 2.86%
- Other 19.43%

## Genomics Virtual Lab: UCSC Browser (Members Area)
**3.9% (6954)**
- The University of Queensland (6893) 99.02%
- AAF Virtual Home (39) 0.56%
- University of the Sunshine Coast (23) 0.33%
- The Garvan Institute of Medical Research (3) 0.04%
- Other 0.98%

## Emerald Group Publishing
**3.12% (5556)**
- AAF Virtual Home (3330) 59.79%
- Curtin University (240) 4.30%
- Monash University (212) 3.80%
- Macquarie University (206) 3.69%
- The University of Melbourne (166) 2.98%
- Other 25.44%

## NeCTAR Research Cloud Monitoring
**2.81% (5013)**
- The University of Melbourne (3058) 61.00%
- University of Adelaide (1039) 20.72%
- The University of Queensland (638) 12.72%
- Monash University (144) 2.87%
- AAF Virtual Home (32) 0.63%
- Other 2.06%

## UniSA Collaboration SharePoint
**2.68% (4768)**
- University of South Australia (3199) 67.09%
- AAF Virtual Home (1297) 27.20%
- James Cook University (85) 1.78%
- AARNet (71) 1.48%
- University of Adelaide (35) 0.73%
- Other 1.72%

## NeCTAR Research Cloud Support
**2.05% (3656)**
- The University of Melbourne (1757) 48.06%
- Monash University (598) 16.36%
- The University of Queensland (570) 15.59%
- AAF Virtual Home (324) 8.86%
- University of Adelaide (127) 3.4%
- Other 7.66%

## Collaborative Lecture Annotation System (UniSA)
**1.78% (3175)**
- The University of Sydney (1121) 35.31%
- University of South Australia (854) 26.90%
- AAF Virtual Home (549) 17.29%
- University of New South Wales (389) 12.25%
- The Garvan Institute of Medical Research (196) 6.17%
- Other 2.08%

### Other Services - 26%
- AAF Management Tools
- James Cook University eSpaces
- CAUDIT Website
- CSIRO Cloud Based Image Analysis & Processing Toolkit
- ANDS Online Services and others…

**Figure 1:** *AAF Top 10 Services, 1 January 2014 - 31 December 2014*

# Australian Access Federation Subscribers
## December 2014

### International

Cambridge University Press
EBSCO Information Services
Elsevier Inc
Emerald Group Publishing Limited (UK)
Georg Thieme Verlag KG
HighWire Press (Stanford)
Ingram Library Services (Coutts)
JISC Services Management Company Ltd (trading as JISC Advance)
John Wiley & Sons Singapore Pte. Ltd.
Karger Publishing
Kivuto
LabArchives LLC
lynda.com
Masaryk University
MyUniDays Limited
QS UniSolution
Research Research Ltd
Stratocore
Talis Education Limited
TERENA
The Beans Group Ltd
The Royal Society of Chemistry

### Northern Territory

Charles Darwin University

### Western Australia

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

### South Australia

eResearch SA
Ex Libris (Australia) Pty Ltd
Flinders University
NetSpot Pty Ltd
South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute (SAHMRI)
The University of Adelaide
University of South Australia

### Tasmania

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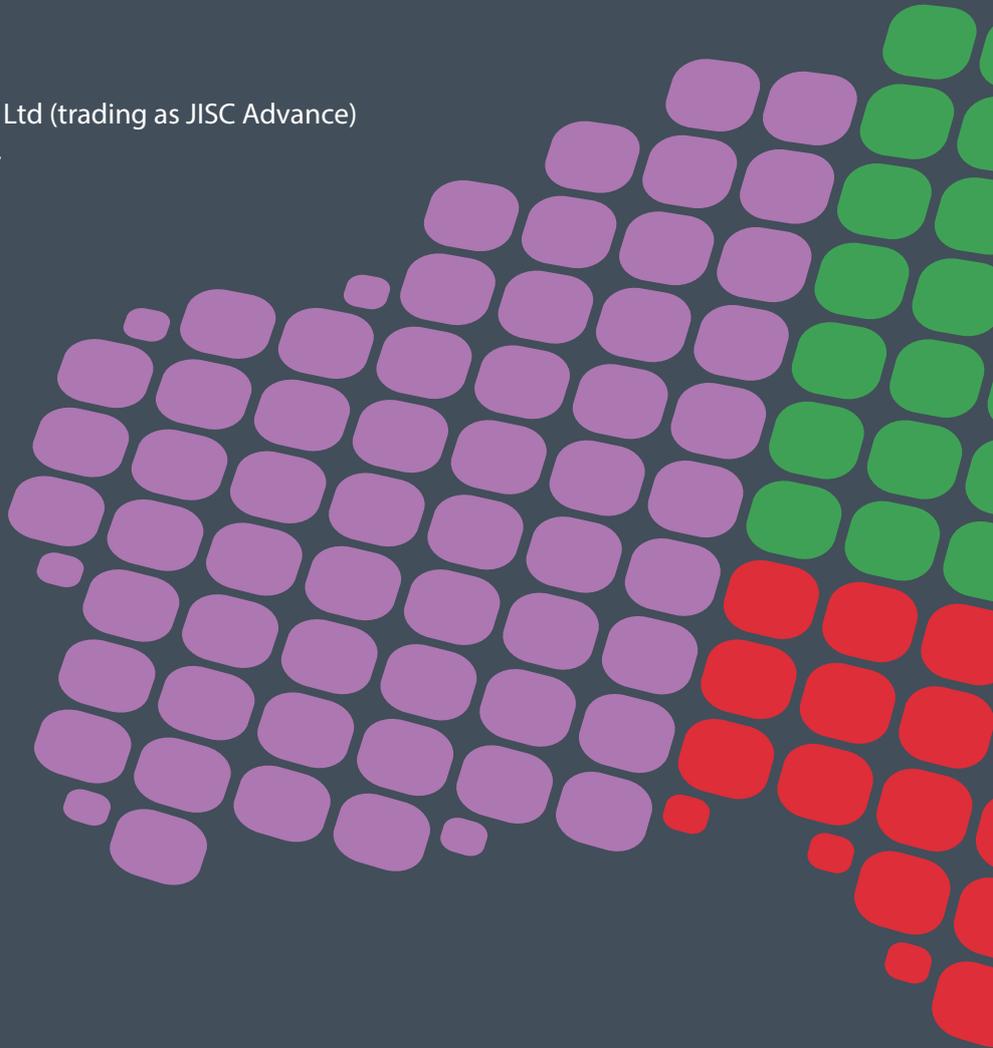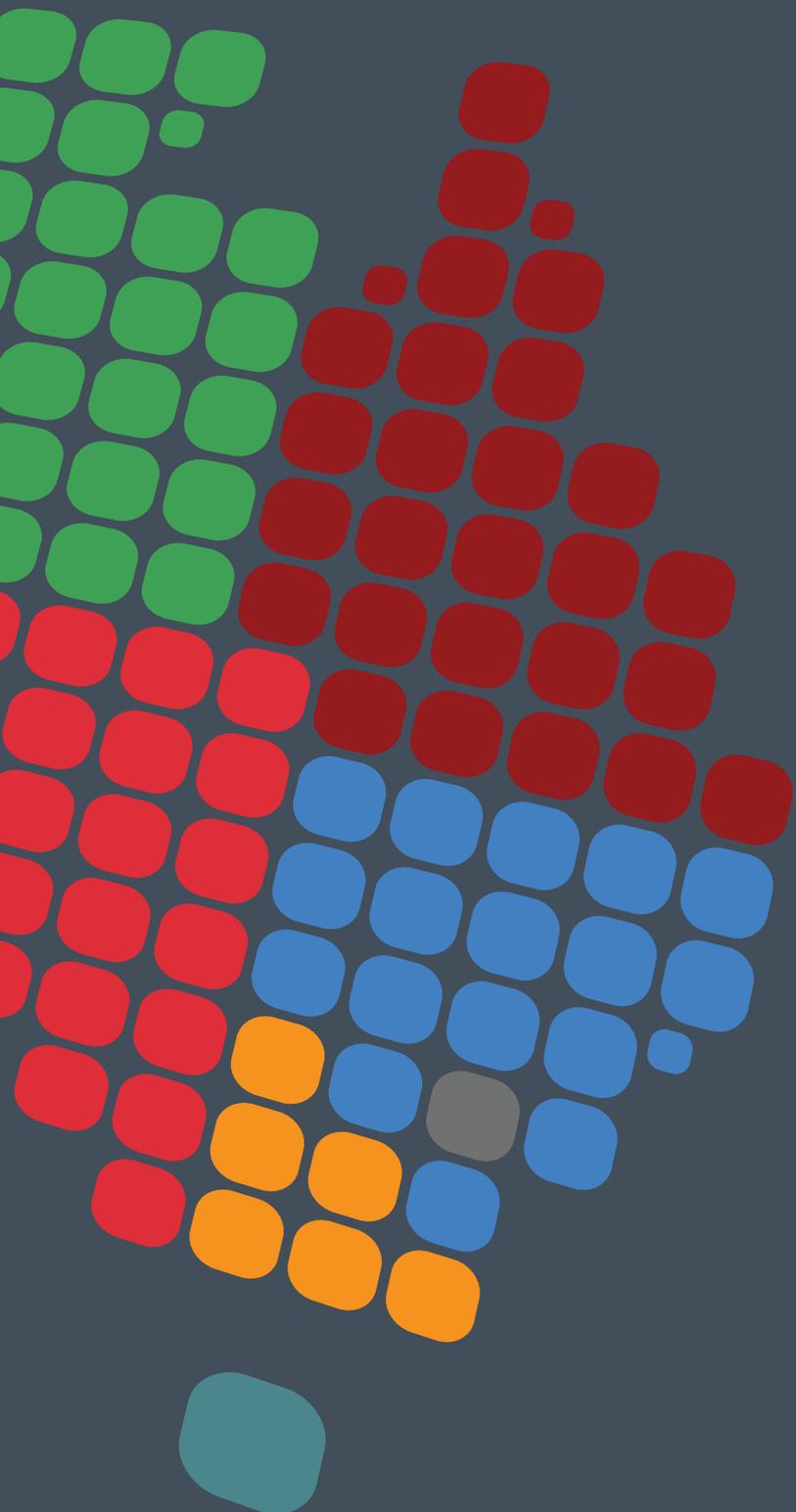
## Queensland

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

## New South Wales

Australian Catholic University
Charles Sturt University
Fuji Xerox Australia Pty Ltd
Garvan Institute of Medical Research
Intersect Australia Ltd
Macquarie University
National ICT Australia (NICTA)
Southern Cross University
The Shepherd Centre
The University of New South Wales
The University of Sydney
University of New England
University of Newcastle
University of Technology Sydney
University of Western Sydney
University of Wollongong

## ACT

AARNet
Australian National University
CAUDIT Incorporated
CSIRO
University of Canberra

## Victoria

Deakin University
EvolvingSpaces (VIC) Pty Ltd
Federation University Australia
La Trobe University
Monash University
Open Universities Australia
RMIT Publishing
RMIT University
Swinburne University of Technology
The University of Melbourne
UCROO Pty Ltd
V3 Alliance
Vic Node
Victoria University
Virtual Accident

# Strategic Initiatives

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. Throughout 2014 the AAF continued to generate the remaining project outcomes.

## Technical connection of the federation globally

**IN PROGRESS**

In late 2014 the AAF commenced work to enable the Federation Registry tool to connect the AAF to the global federation initiative called eduGAIN. The Department of Education funded work will see the AAF do the first part of this work, namely enabling the functionality technically. The internationalisation of the AAF is an important part of connecting Australian researchers with their counterparts globally. In addition, the AAF held a number of discussions with the New Zealand Federation about how to progress connecting both federations to eduGAIN. There continues to be significant and ongoing work to fully enable the AAF with this capability and work will continue beyond the grant funded activity in line with AAF's 2015 technology roadmap.

## Other user-pays model of grid certificates of authentication

**COMPLETE**

Throughout the year the AAF also assisted CAUDIT in working with AusCERT to provide a solution for issuing International Grid Trust Federation (IGTF) accredited certificates to researchers, a service which AusCERT now provides under their new certificate provider agreements.

## Boost program (Identity Provider (IdP) Enhancement Program)

**IN PROGRESS**

One of the key activities undertaken for the Department funded work in 2014 was the Boost program. The program's focus was to enable the AAF to better understand the identity management practices in the sector and to help the AAF develop material to assist with common issues. The program is planned for completion in early 2015 and will provide AAF subscribers with content and self-service resources.

### What is boost?

The boost program is data collection, analysis, profiling and reporting on organisations that have connected their identities to the federation. This program has since lead to the development of an individualised boost report for subscribers. The report highlighted key information to help organisations with best practice federated identity management.

### Environmental Analysis (AAF boost framework)

This framework has been designed to be reused for future boost activities. The outcomes of this framework will assist with the creation of resources to assist AAF subscribers.
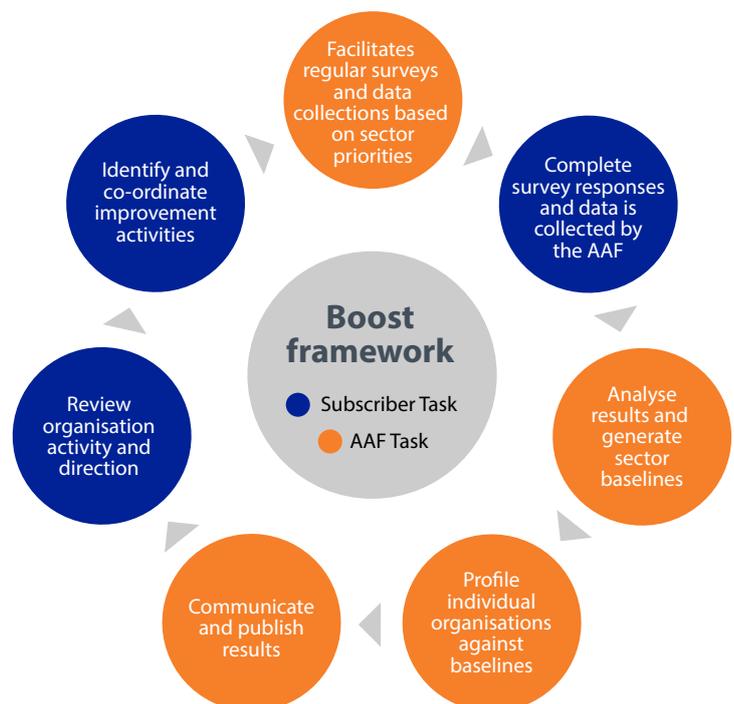


**Figure 2:** *AAF boost framework*

# What did Boost tell us?

## 48

subscribers took part in the boost program.

Awareness of the federation tools is relatively high with more than half of the organisations aware of tools and services offered by the AAF.

## Awareness of federation tools

## Assurance

This boost measured an organisation's awareness of the federation's Assurance framework and level to which it has been implemented.

## 1/4

of subscribers are on their way to implementing NIST level 1 assurance. There are also a small number of subscribers that are ready to implement NIST level 2 of assurance.

## Federation Tools

This boost focused on an organisation's awareness of the federation tools and the options that can improve the effective operation of an IdP.

More than 1/2 of subscribers surveyed are aware of, or regularly use, federation tools.
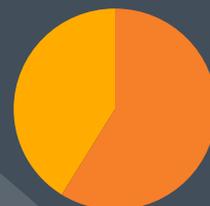
## IdP deployment

This boost focused on how well an organisation's Identity Provider (IdP) has been deployed and maintained.

## Technical deployment

On a scale of 1-5 (1 being the highest) the majority of subscribers that took part in boost scored between

## 1 and 2 for:

- high availability
- automated attribute filters
- monitoring
- opperational support for running the IdP.

## User Interface

Overall most IdP's had implemented a user interface which matched corporate look and feel components for their organisation.

corporate colours
links
logo username
support desk
no tech jargon

## Security

A number of security tests were undertaken against IdP deployments and results were reported back to the individual subscriber.

# Technology and Support

## AAF Support Desk (support.aaf.edu.au)

During 2014, the AAF experienced a decrease in submitted support tickets in comparison to 2013 which saw a 35% increase from the previous year. The decrease in support tickets is accredited to increased awareness of the AAF knowledge base and self-service tools.

### Submitted vs Solved Help Desk Tickets
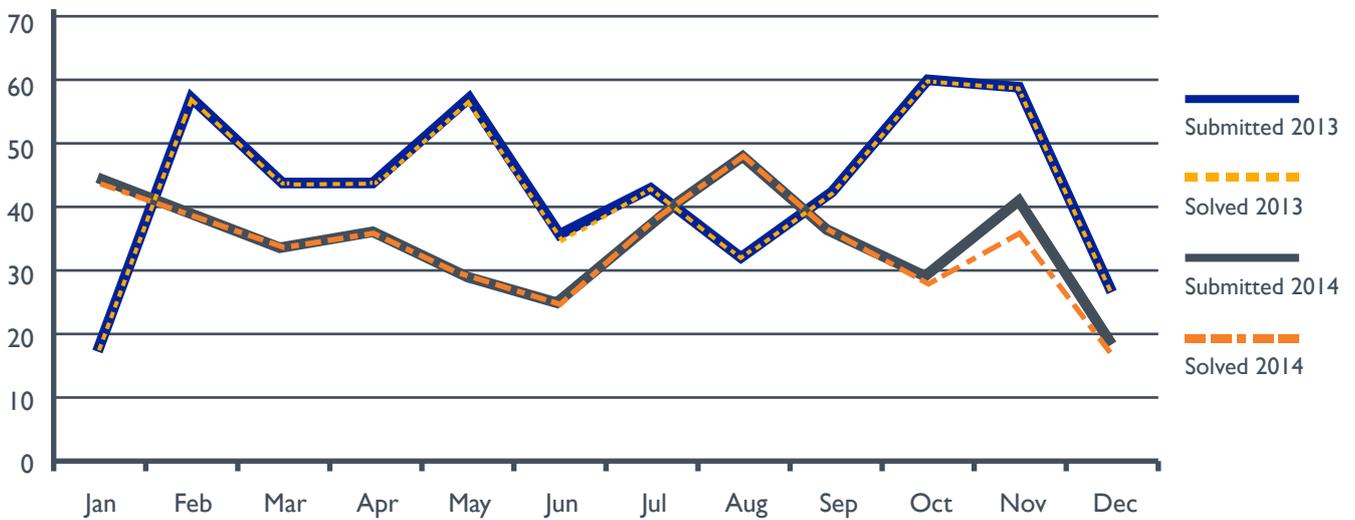


**Figure 3:** *Number of Help Desk Support Tickets Submitted and Solved from 1 January 2013 – 31 December 2014*

The AAF support knowledge base (support.aaf.edu.au) website also reflected these changes in 2014 with an increase of 131.34% in unique visitors who spent an average of 1:24 minutes accessing self-service information and resources.

### AAF Self-Service Support - Knowledge base (support.aaf.edu.au)



These three groups were role based personas which were introduced in 2013 as part of the Department of Education funded Institutional Service Desk Engagement Framework project to assist subscribers with self-service support.

**Figure 4:** *AAF web statistics for support.aaf.edu.au from 1 January 2013 – 31 December 2014*

The Support Desk continued to collect end-user feedback and received a satisfaction rating of 99% from 46.5% of those surveyed.

## Rapid Connect

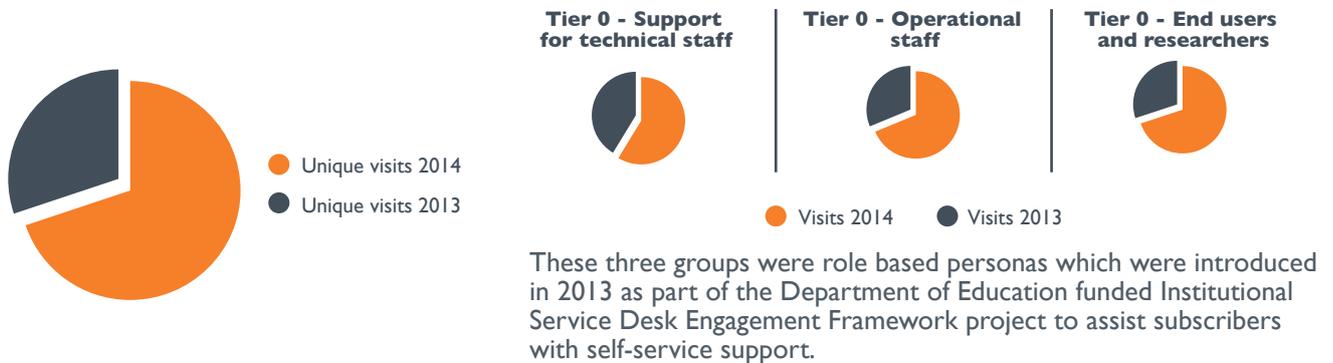In response to our subscribers' needs for a flexible way to connect services to the federation, the AAF developed and released its rapid connect product in 2013. Rapid connect has allowed developers to connect applications to the federation with ease by automatically providing common user attributes and simplifying technical components. In 2014 the AAF saw continued growth in this service with uptake from 17+ subscribers and over 7200 sessions via rapid connect. There are approximately 23 AAF services connected to the federation via rapid connect and we expect this number to continue to increase next year. During the year the AAF also had discussions with the New Zealand Access Federation (Tuakiri) that plan to implement the rapid connect software in early 2015.

## AAF Dashboard (status.aaf.edu.au)

In 2014, the AAF Dashboard was redeveloped to provide a more reliable interface for subscribers. The redevelopment included an enhanced visual interface to align with the AAF web application and more informative information about service availability. Since the redevelopment, all rapid connect services are listed in the dashboard and the underlying monitoring infrastructure has been revamped to provide advanced automation for reliability and monitoring.

# Professional Service Activities

Since its inception, the AAF has gained considerable knowledge and expertise with respect to federated infrastructure development and best practice identity management. In 2014, the AAF continued to support the needs of Australian eResearch and education by responding to a number of ad hoc approaches to undertake professional consultancy services to meet specific business needs in a reliable, cost-effective and timely manner.

## AAF-NeCTAR | Enhanced Client or Proxy (ECP) Project | January - February

**COMPLETE**

In February, the AAF in collaboration with the National eResearch Collaboration Tools and Resources (NeCTAR) Project undertook a program of work ($57 000) to enable the Enhanced Client or Proxy (ECP) profile within the test federation environment.

ECP is a non-browser based Single Sign-on (SSO) profile. Basically, it is an adaptation of SAML authentication that is designed to provide SSO for non-browser based applications. It is designed for clients such as:

- desktop applications
- server-side code running in a web application and
- anything else that isn't a browser.

This work has laid the foundation to enable new capability for the federation in providing access to non-web services in some use cases. The outcomes of this activity have also enabled the RDSI project to invest in data access products for the RDSI nodes.

## RDSI | Identity Management Support | January - June

**COMPLETE**

The first half of 2014 saw the AAF assist the RDSI project nodes in understanding their requirements for access and control for research data collections. A number of solutions were evaluated in-line with the rapidly changing nature of the project.

## Intersect (RDSI Node) - AAF | SPIN (SAML Provisioning for Independent nodes) | commenced November

**IN PROGRESS**

In 2014, the AAF undertook the SPIN project ($109 114) to provide researchers with the ability to authenticate via the AAF to an Amazon Web Services (AWS) project account. Work is underway and will continue in 2015.

## AAF-NeCTAR | Identity Enhancement and Access Control Project | commenced November

**IN PROGRESS**

In November, the AAF and NeCTAR worked closely together to develop the Identity Enhancement and Access Control Project ($295 000). When complete the outputs of the project will support the access management needs of many NeCTAR projects by operating infrastructure that supports identification of AAF authenticated end users as 'researchers' and infrastructure to authenticate researchers who use non-web access methods. NeCTAR funded Virtual Laboratories and other AAF connected services will be able to use this information to make informed access control decisions in the future.

The first milestone for this project was the creation of a minimal viable product which was delivered in late 2014.

**Identity Provider Installation Services**

The AAF assisted the Central Institute of Technology Western Australia (CITWA) establish their technical connection to the AAF.

## Workshops for Federated Services

The AAF conducted a one-day workshop for the University of New South Wales and a half day information session with the University of Sydney. Throughout 2014 it was noted the demand for technical workshops was down and feedback indicated a need for more general AAF information roadshows.

Although the demand was down, the workshop feedback indicated a high level of satisfaction with the training provided by the AAF. The workshop delivered the following outcomes to participants:

- an understanding of the Federation Registry management tool
- knowledge on how to register a new service within the federation
- an understanding on how to install the Shibboleth service provider software
- knowledge on how to obtain information about users accessing their service
- an understanding of how to integrate new and existing applications to the federation using rapid connect.

As part of the AAF's annual strategic planning cycle, the team held two stakeholder workshops (Melbourne and Sydney) aimed at gathering information about the sector's current eResearch requirements for federated identity management. These workshops were well received with representation from a number of eResearch service providers.

# AAF supporting Australia's teaching, learning and research

"The efficiency of the BCCVL (Biodiversity Climate Change Virtual Laboratory) is greatly enhanced by the single sign-on, secure and easy access provided by the AAF"

Professor Brendan Mackey,
Director Griffith University Climate
Change Response Program

"All QUT students and staff are reaping the benefits of secure seamless access to the lynda.com's online training video library (lyndaCampus), as a result of changing from using personal usernames and passwords using IP Authentication via EZproxy, to using their QUT username and password via the Australian Access Federation"

Ross Hall,
Learning and Development Coordinator,
Information Technology Services,
Queensland University of Techonology

"For the past two years the AAF has enabled me to provide my students with additional resources and applications for their learning. In my area of research (education technology) and in my courses I deploy applications that enhance the ecosystems of tools used by my students. The AAF has completely solved the credential management problem I had experienced. I connected the authentication layer with a conventional off-the-shelf web design framework and I have been able to offer these resources to users properly authenticated"

"Many organisations have natural sensitivities and concerns about their data and require advanced security solutions to be in place.  AURIN (Australian Urban Research Infrastructure Network) leverages the AAF to provide all academics across Australia with authenticated access to these data resources and tools, with transparent extensions to provide finer-grained authorisation. Furthermore, through the AAF Virtual Home Organisation the project is able to provide access to resources to non-academics since increasingly those from government and industry are interested in AURIN"

Professor Richard Sinnott,
Director eResearch,
The University of Melbourne

Dr. Abelardo Pardo,
Senior Lecturer,
School of Electrical and
Information Engineering,
The University of Sydney

# Marketing and Communications

## Conferences and key industry meetings

The AAF had a presence at the following conferences and key industry meetings during the year:

- 13-14 March       eduGAIN workshop 'The next steps' (Brisbane) with the New Zealand Federation Tuakiri and AARNet
- 16-22 May         TERENA Networking Conference (TNC 2014) (Ireland)
- 25-26 June        AAF Federated Identity Management Planning workshop for meeting the needs of Research (Melbourne and Sydney)
- 30 June – 2 July  eResearch NZ 2014 (New Zealand)
      Presentation – *'Envision, Collaborate, and Innovate with Access Federation'*
- 1-3 July          QuestNet 2014 (Brisbane)
      Birds of a Feather - *'How to get the most out of Australian Access Federation's Tools and Services'*
- 18 July           AeRO Ticket Exchange and Incident Management Platform Workshop (Melbourne)
- 11-16 August      APAN Meeting (Taiwan)
      Presentation - *'Tools for successfully operating a federation'*
- 21 August         NAUDIT Meeting (New South Wales University Directors of IT and New South Wales Health)
- 30 September      NCRIS Showcase at Parliament House with the Department of Education
- 27 October        AAF – Federation Operator Planning Workshop with the New Zealand Federation Tuakiri (Melbourne)
- 27-31 October     eResearch Australasia 2014 (Melbourne) AAF Booth operated during conference.
      Presentation *'Simplifying Identity Management for Research applications'*

## 2014 Subscriber Survey

In June 2014, the AAF launched its third 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 June.

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

- federated authentication provides benefits including ease of use and the ability to collaborate.
- the majority of respondents said that service performance, reliability and the support desk were performing well.
- the reputation and credibility of the service continues to add value to the sector.
- some respondents said that they would like more functionality that supports non-web authentication in which the technology for this requirement is still maturing.

41 subscribers responded to the survey and it was publicly advertised in the AAF and CAUDIT newsletters and on the AAF website.

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

"Integral to our business"

"Ability to authenticate collaborative researchers / research service clients beyond our institution is invaluable"

"Ability to access services across different institutions and facilities is very important for our researchers"

"It is how we verify students and staff of a university without them having to activate their account via email. This saves users a huge amount of time during sign up and is critical to our activation rate"

"Provides access to a range of services which are growing in take-up across the institution. Is currently rated as a Priority 1 system for us"'

"Ease of connectivity"

"AAF is the mechanism that gives access to a wider range of resources than are provided internally. We are also able to use AAF to collaborate and share our resources with collaborators"

"Keep up the good work. AAF is a true enabler of collaboration"

## AAF Web Statistics

The AAF website at **www.aaf.edu.au** provides information to subscribers, potential subscribers and the research community. The website recorded 9043 unique visitors in 2014.

During the same period, the AAF Dashboard of services that AAF offers (**dashboard.aaf.edu.au**) had a total of 1417 visits (456 unique visitors) with an average visit duration of 4:19 minutes indicating that users are spending time accessing the tools and services that the AAF provides.

## AAF Newsletters

Three editions of the AAF General Newsletter and two editions of the AAF Technical Newsletter 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 = 16.4%, industry average click rate = 2.3%[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.*
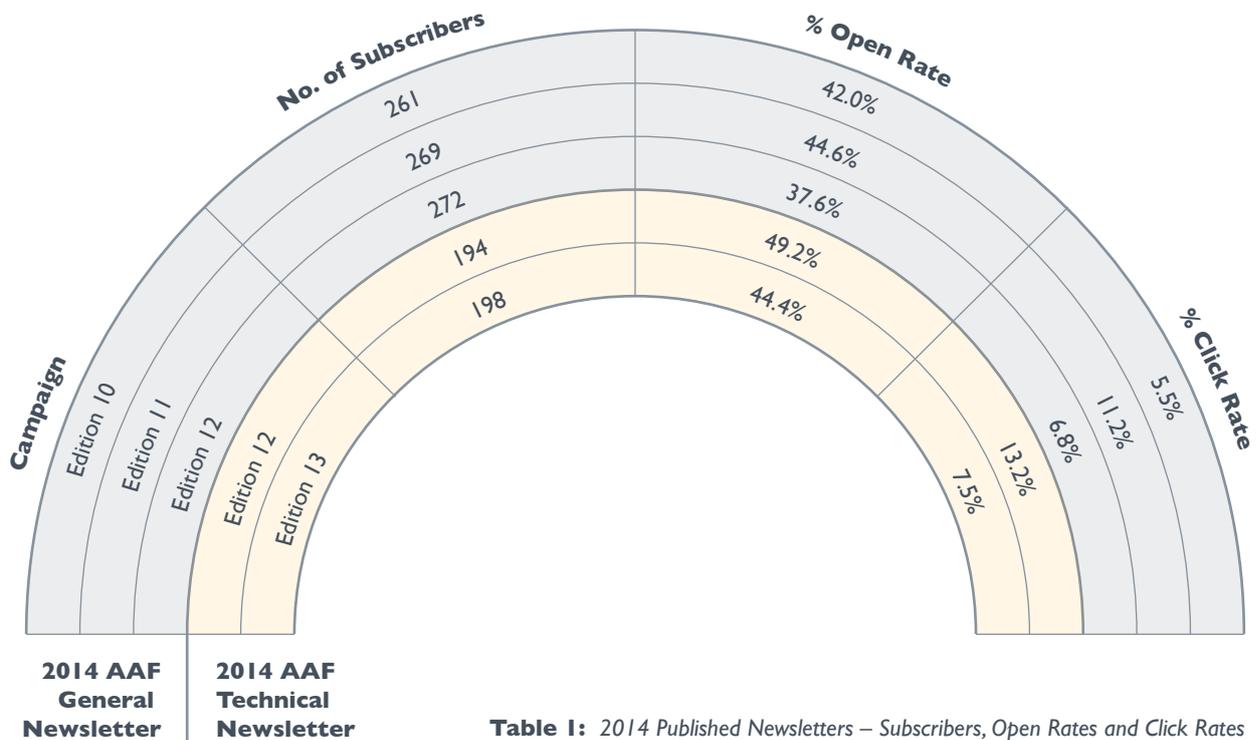


**Table 1:** *2014 Published Newsletters – Subscribers, Open Rates and Click Rates*

[1] *It 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
# 2015-16 Strategic Plan

At the AAF Inc. General Meeting in October 2014, the Members endorsed the 2015-16 Strategic Plan for our success into the future. The following key strategic objectives have been identified by the AAF as areas of focus over the next two years:

**1**

**Be the identity broker for Australia's research and education community, by:**

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

**Extend AAF services, by:**

- expanding AAF's identity and access management products
- expanding professional services to the Australian education and research community.

**2**

**3**

**Deliver high quality sustainable and innovative products and services, by:**

- adopting a highly customer-centric operating model.

**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).

**4**

A full copy of the 2015-16 Strategic Plan can be found at **www.aaf.edu.au**

# The Year Ahead

The year ahead will see the AAF focusing on implementing the following key activities that have been set out in the 2015 Business Plan.

1. Provide **operational support services** (Service Desk, Knowledge Base and technical documentation, assisting subscribers identify services of value to the federation, 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 **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 practical.

In addition to these key activities and to build long term sustainability into the future, the AAF will also work towards implementing:

1. A **Business Development capability** to focus on the development and execution of a business development strategy to add a conservative number of new subscribers to the federation

2. An **Innovation capability** to build upon AAF's services and remain relevant to subscribers as their requirements evolve. Two key areas of innovation focus on technologies and trends to enable internationalisation of the federation and expanding AAF's services to undertake a program of work each year in line with AAF's technology roadmap.

A full copy of the 2015 Business 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 2014**

|  | 2014 $ | 2013 $ |
|---|---:|---:|
| **INCOME** | | |
| AAF Subscriptions | 727,638 | 621,222 |
| Bank Interest | 22,338 | 24,453 |
| Training Income | 1,410 | 14,125 |
| Project Income | 129,600 | 163,173 |
| Other Income | 199,954 | 77,774 |
| **TOTAL INCOME** | 1,080,940 | 900,747 |
| **EXPENSES** | | |
| Staff Salaries & On-costs | 663,181 | 635,765 |
| General Operating Expenses | 72,495 | 61,854 |
| Project Expenses | 127,536 | 162,000 |
| Meetings & Events | 26,651 | 24,872 |
| Depreciation | 6,961 | 6,675 |
| Loss on Disposal of Assets | - | 867 |
| Accounting Fees | 14,750 | 10,801 |
| Audit Fees | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| **TOTAL EXPENSES** | 913,574 | 904,834 |
| **NET CURRENT YEAR SURPLUS (DEFECIT)** | 167,366 | (4,087) |
| Total Other Comprehensive Income for the year | - | - |
| **TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ATTRIBUTABLE TO MEMBERS OF THE ENTITY** | 167,366 | (4,087) |

This Income Statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes to the accounts.

**AUSTRALIAN ACCESS FEDERATION INCORPORATED**
**ABN 13 155 355 685**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**
**AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2014**

|  | 2014 $ | 2013 $ |
|---|---:|---:|
| **ASSETS** | | |
| **Current Assets** | | |
| Bank - Operating a/c | 31,128 | 17,627 |
| Bank – Online Saver a/c | 1,147,723 | 675,777 |
| Bank – Online Saver a/c (DIISRTE) | 0 | 3,813 |
| Term Deposit | 0 | 20,000 |
| Membership Debtors | 594,001 | 493,864 |
| Sundry Debtors | 25,006 | 11,543 |
| **Total Current Assets** | 1,797,858 | 1,222,624 |
| **Non-Current Assets** | | |
| Equipment at wdv | 21,350 | 10,265 |
| **Total Non-Current Assets** | 21,350 | 10,265 |
| **TOTAL ASSETS** | 1,819,208 | 1,232,889 |
| **LIABILITIES & EQUITY** | | |
| **Current Liabilities** | | |
| Payables & Accrued Expenses | 146,948 | 126,711 |
| GST liability | 109,632 | 77,674 |
| Prepaid Income | 885,954 | 674,686 |
| Project Income in Advance | 116,400 | - |
| Employee leave entitlements | 87,360 | 38,863 |
| **Total Current Liabilities** | 1,346,294 | 917,934 |
| **Non-Current Liabilities** | | |
| Employee leave entitlements | - | 9,407 |
| **Total Non-Current Liabilities** | - | 9,407 |
| **TOTAL LIABILITIES** | 1,346,294 | 927,341 |
| **NET ASSETS** | 472,914 | 305,548 |
| **MEMBERS FUNDS** | | |
| Retained Surplus | 472,914 | 305,548 |
| **TOTAL MEMBERS FUNDS** | 472,914 | 305,548 |

This statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes to the accounts.

**AUSTRALIAN ACCESS FEDERATION INCORPORATED**
**ABN 13 155 355 685**

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014**

| | Note | 2014 $ | 2013 $ |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Cash flows from operating activities** | | | |
| Receipts from operating activities | | 1,411,453 | 731,381 |
| Interest received | | 22,578 | 24,911 |
| Payments to suppliers and employees | | (954,351) | (890,994) |
| **Net cash provided by operating activities** | 4(b) | 479,680 | (134,702) |
| **Cash flows from investing activities** | | | |
| Payments for plant & equipment | | (18,046) | (7,056) |
| Proceeds from disposals | | | |
| **Net cash (used by) investing activities** | | (18,046) | (7,056) |
| **Net (Decrease)/Increase in cash held** | | 461,634 | (141,758) |
| **Cash at the beginning of the year** | | 717,217 | 858,975 |
| **Cash at the end of the year** | 4(a) | 1,178,851 | 717,217 |

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY**
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014**

| | Retained Earnings $ | Total $ |
|---|---|---|
| **Balance at 31 December 2012** | 309,635 | 309,635 |
| Net surplus (deficit) | (4,087) | (4,087) |
| **Balance at 31 December 2013** | 305,548 | 305,548 |
| Net surplus (deficit) | 167,366 | 162,253 |
| **Balance at 31 December 2014** | 472,914 | 467,801 |

The statement of cash flows and statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes to the accounts.

**AUSTRALIAN ACCESS FEDERATION INCORPORATED**
**ABN 13 155 355 685**


**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS**
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014**


## 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 recognition, measurement and classification requirements of Australian Accounting Standards and comply with the disclosure requirements of the following Australian Accounting Standards:
AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements
AASB 107 Statement of Cash Flows
AASB 108 Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors
AASB 1031 Materiality
AASB 1048 Interpretation of Standards
AASB 1054 Australian Additional Disclosures


The financial report 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 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 2014**


## 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 2014**


**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 and Interpretations that have mandatory application dates for future reporting periods, some of which are relevant to the association. The association has decided not to early adopt any of the new and amended pronouncements. The association's assessment of the new and amended pronouncements that are relevant to the association but applicable in future reporting period is set out below:

• AASB 9 Financial Instruments (December 2010) and associated Amending Standards.

These Standards are mandatorily applicable for annual reporting periods commencing on or after 1 January 2018.

These Standards are applicable retrospectively and include revised requirements for the classification and measurement of financial instruments, as well as recognition and de-recognition requirements for financial instruments.

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 2014**


## NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES CONTINUED

• AASB 2014-1 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards

This Standard is mandatorily applicable for annual reporting periods commencing on or after 1 July 2014.

Part A makes editorial corrections to various AASB standards.
Part B is applicable to defined benefit plans.
Part C deletes the reference to AASB 1031: Materiality in particular AASB standards.
Part D is applicable to AASB 14: Regulatory Deferral Accounts.
Part E is applicable to AASB 9: Financial Instruments.

This Standard is not expected to significantly impact the association's financial statements.

• AASB 2014-3 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Accounting for Acquisitions of Interests in Joint Operations

This Standard is mandatorily applicable for annual reporting periods commencing on or after 1 January 2016.

This Standard is applicable to AASB 11: Joint Arrangements

This Standard is not expected to significantly impact the association's financial statements.

• AASB 2014-4 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Clarification of Acceptable Methods of Depreciation and Amortisation

This Standard is mandatorily applicable for annual reporting periods commencing on or after 1 January 2016.

This Standard clarifies that the use of the revenue-based methods to calculate the depreciation of an asset are not appropriate or allowable.

This Standard is 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 2014**


## 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

| | 2014 $ | 2013 $ |
|---|---|---|
| (a) Reconciliation of Cash | | |
| | | |
| Cash at bank | 1,178,851 | 717,217 |
| Cash on hand | - | - |
| | 1,178,851 | 717,217 |

(b) Reconciliation of the operating surplus to the net cash provided by operating activities:-

| | 2014 | 2013 |
|---|---|---|
| Operating surplus/(deficit) | 167,366 | (4,087) |
| Gain on disposal/write off of plant & equipment | - | 867 |
| Depreciation and amortisation | 6,961 | 6,675 |
| Movement in assets and liabilities:- | | |
| Decrease/(Increase) in receivables | (100,137) | (242,896) |
| Decrease/(Increase) in prepayments/ Other Debtors | (13,463) | (1,093) |
| (Decrease)/Increase in creditors/accruals | 52,195 | 78,825 |
| (Decrease)/Increase in prepaid income | 327,668 | 11,970 |
| (Decrease)/Increase in Employee liabilities | 39,090 | 15,037 |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | 479,680 | (134,702) |