2004-2005 INDICATIVE ACTIVITIES (DONE)

- Major contributions to the open source development of DSpace
- Major contributions to the open source development of Fedora
- "DSpace in a box" ("plug and play" distribution package with documentation)
- Cocoon – DSpace trial integration
- Open source “research portal” software and associated middleware to unify disparate repositories
- Documentation of metadata harvesting protocols for research repositories
- Repository management policy documents
- Project reviews & case studies
- Repository middleware development
- Documentation of management issues in a distributed repository environment
- Repository subject classification schemes to the Australian Standard Research Classification
- Data replication for PARADISEC in conjunction with APAC and collaborating organisations
- Collaboration with Music Australia
- Sustainability issues paper
- Sustainable repository checklist draft
- Criteria for choosing a repository draft
- Sustainability analysis survey tool
- Sustainability risk analysis survey of researchers within APSR partners
- Sustainability analysis of open source repositories
- Documentation of key preservation metadata elements (PREMIS collaboration)
- Documentation of preferred supportable file formats (stage 1)
- Investigation of a risk notification tool for repositories

2005-2006 (PRIORITY FUNDING ALLOCATED)

- Integration of preservation metadata into open source repositories
- GIS metadata capture tool
- Documentation of issues related to storage and access of compound objects
- Guidelines for user/ community-centred services
- Broader data replication in conjunction with APAC (and associated generic middleware)
- Sustainable business models for repositories
- “Fedora in a Box” (documented distribution package of the software)
- Deepened participation in DSpace and Fedora development communities
- Customisation of DSpace/Fedora reporting (e.g. DEST reporting requirements)
- Documentation of good procedures and standards for byte stream protection
- Documentation of standards for Archival Information Packages
- I-Spheres middleware & generic tools to facilitate interoperability across repositories
- Develop XSD library for common data types (schemata)
- Sustainable models for word-processed documents
- Sustainable models for data sets (non-text)
- Collaboration with Arts Council
- Guidelines for “trusted digital repository” standard in higher ed
- Sustainability risk analysis project review and case studies
- Implementation of risk notification tool in open source repositories (collaboration with DSTC, NLNZ, and DCC)
- Compile library of APSR publications and tools
- Document issues with persistent identifiers in repositories
- APSR events: Sustainable Repositories within the RII Colloquium (10/6), DCC Public Lecture (9/6), Sustainable Environments for Large Data Sets (Sept – Reagen Moore), “Essentials of Sustainable, Repositories” Workshops (Q3 05), Symposium, Conference

Australian Partnership for Sustainable Repositories
... to establish a centre of excellence for the management of digital collections ...

THE APSR PARTNERS

ANU

The University of Sydney

The University of Queensland

National Library of Australia

APAC

APS is supported by the Systemic Infrastructure Initiative as part of the Commonwealth Government’s Backing Australia’s Ability - An Innovative Action Plan for the Future

www.apsr.edu.au
At the heart of the APSR enterprise are the National Outreach Program and the Digital Sustainability Program. These two programs are informed by the APSR Partners and APSR’s national and international Linkages.

The APSR partners are expected to have a pre-existing institutional commitment to developing sustainable digital repository environments for their own institutions. They are funded through APSR to augment those activities in such a way as to contribute to the national interest. In particular they contribute to the APSR National Outreach and Digital Sustainability Programs. All APSR projects develop in a context of national and international linkages.

DIGITAL SUSTAINABILITY

An APSR core objective is to document good practice for digital preservation and sustainable management of digital repositories. APSR develops guidelines, checklists, recommendations, standards, issue papers, etc. APSR also builds up a library of generic tools, software, and systems to assist digital sustainability.

APSR is not a repository itself but rather a centre of excellence for sustainable digital repositories. APSR does not promote any particular repository flavour but rather outlines principles and standards by which to identify the most appropriate software for a certain situation. APSR is not dominated by the needs of one research community, but rather acknowledges the immense variety of research data formats as well as discipline-specific expertise and requirements. APSR acknowledges the variety of sustainability solutions necessary for these communities as well as the systems that might unify them.

APSR aims to identify for the Australian context the strategic issues in digital sustainability and address them through collaboration and targeted funding.

NATIONAL OUTREACH

National outreach is the culmination and ultimate goal of all APSR activities. All APSR projects need to have some outreach component by which experience, good practice, and standards in digital sustainability are published and disseminated to the sector at large.

APSR publishes (in a variety of media) the guidelines, checklists, etc. that are the product of the Digital Sustainability Program. The APSR website provides rationale and links for the tools, software, and systems developed both within the APSR Digital Sustainability Program and externally.

APSR convenes forums (colloquiums, public lectures, workshops, etc.) to share experience and stimulate interest and activity in sustainable digital repositories.

APSR PARTNERS

APSR partners are committed players in the field of sustainable digital repositories. The partners participate in APSR to enhance and extend their existing work and make it useful and relevant to the sector at large.

The university partners run test beds, where they use their own repository environments to trial APSR initiatives. Specialist expertise is provided by the National Library (digital preservation) and APAC (e-research data sets). All the partners contribute to the central sustainability and outreach programs.

LINKAGES

APSR’s role in the Systemic Infrastructure Initiative is to promote excellence in sustainable digital repositories. It complements and collaborates with the work done in the MAMS, ARROW and ADT projects.

APSR also benefits from and collaborates with other digital sustainability initiatives worldwide. Wherever possible APSR documents and adopts existing international standards or is actively involved in developing and implementing emerging standards.

APSR PROJECT ACTIVITIES

The APSR Project commenced in May 2004. The focus of the first part of the project has been on:

- establishing the strategic issues of the Digital Sustainability Program
- developing the partner Testbeds.

The focus of the second part of the project will be:

- practical implementation in the Digital Sustainability Program.
- national outreach activities.

This is reflected in the project timetable:

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