

Minutes of ARCLinkage Meeting
Wednesday 24th September 2003
FIRE Seminar Room NTU

Meeting opened: 1:30pm

Present: Michael Christie, Helen Verran, Trevor Van Weeran, Matthew Longworth, Mary-Anne bin Sallik, Bevan Koopman, Peter Cook, Michael Storrs, Jenny Carter, Waymamba Gaykamangu, Lorraine Williams, Barbara White, Jodie Tutty, David Ritchie, Genevieve Meehan

1. Michael Christie (CI, FIRE ,NTU)

Introduction of all present and brief overview of ARCLinkage project concept and projected outcomes of today's meeting.

Michael stated that there are 4 main parts to the project

1. *An audit of Indigenous Knowledge bases already at work in the Top End*
2. *The construction of databases for NTU, YYF, DIPE, NLC/NAILS, Larrakia Nation*
3. *Establish networks with other database operations and support of other database development in the Top End and elsewhere*
4. *The use/implementation of databases and the application for intergenerational transmission*

Resolution:

Michael proposed to arrange a series of seminars, meetings, and workshops. At present a web site will be established to act as a forum for communication

2. Jenny Carter (NTU Research Branch)

See handout attached: ARCLinkage Grants 2003- The Bureaucratic stuff.

Jenny discussed all points included on the above

Important points were:

- There is 6mths funding already in ARC holding funds, which can't be released to project funds until the application for variation is completed and approved. Letters of support from all partners are needed (NLC & DIPE have signed, still waiting on Yothu Yindi Foundation(YYF))
- There is a clause in the ARC project guidelines where Michael, Waymamba and Helen can be asked to assess up to 20 new applications for ARC funding. There is no choice in this request and refusing will lead to termination of the project.

Discussion on IP, ethics and the implications of commercial activity of database owners/users

Resolutions

- There needs to be an agreement as to how issues of Intellectual property(IP) will be handled
- BIP (Background Intellectual Property) : standard clause and many owners of the IP
- FIP (Foreground Intellectual Property) : each partner can use internally and benefit from use
- Interaction with external commercial entities using IP will be subject to revenue sharing and must be deemed by partners to be of valuable contribution to this field. However, we can provide the product free of charge to external parties of the agreement for research and educational purposes.
- That all parties share in any revenues of change from any exploitation of the IP
- That a general principle of the project is that there is a "public good" label for research and educational purposes

Actions:

- 1. Talk to Hemali re Ethics Clearance in relation to project (MC)**
- 2. See Jenny re questions of use and carrying over of funding \$\$\$ (MC)**
- 3. Remember to address issues of legalities and IP in interim reports**
- 4. Jenny to draft up partner agreements for variation of the project due by November 8th**

3. Bevan Koopman (Distributed Systems Technology Centre)

Gave demonstration of ICM Database being used and developed in Brisbane. Concern raised by Peter Cook re people that are already confident in data collection techniques and being asked to do something new and possibly out of their level of competence

Refer back to earlier statement in seminar by Michael and Helen re: the databases must be "trained" to suit the users and not the other way round.

4. Michael Christie

Illustrated projected 3 year timeline on whiteboard

5. Michael Storz and Peter Cook (NLC Caring For Country)

Michael and Peter discussed the fact that NLC had major emphasis on back to country type projects and not on data base work as such, however, as the situation matures they are prepared to engage and support this work. He also pointed out that Paul Josef would be primarily responsible for the concept of the NLC partnership. (Paul is away in Arnhemland)

Peter spoke of electronic maps and the possibility of indigenous knowledge and spatial data being overlayed and linked to places of importance. He would welcome the opportunity to work at developing this concept and "run testing" in the bush

Resolution:

MC stated that the ARC research will work on the computer side of the NLC projects and that the needs, ideas and agendas of these projects will be taken into account in developing the databases.

Actions: **1. To investigate this proposal further with Paul Josef**
 2. To clarify the approach and identify file type specifications etc to equip those who are already and may in the future be collecting data in order to keep processes streamlined

6. David Ritchie (DIPE)

David spoke of the recent development of the Governments new Parks and Reserves Policy and how this will project a further emphasis on knowledge collection especially over the next few years. They will be looking to commence an inventory of relevant data for the development of these Parks and Reserves. It is envisaged that the ARC Project would have a potential role in documenting the traditional cultural and ethno botanical knowledge.

David expressed an interest in the "maps concept" as mentioned by Peter Cook

Michael concluded by stating that there are many theoretical research issues that need to be developed and that an active web site, meetings and workshops will be forums to work out achievements and directions of the project.

Meeting closed: 3:30 pm