

Biography: Dr Ann Borda

Dr. Ann Borda is the newly appointed Executive Director of Victorian E-Research Strategic Initiative (VeRSI). Ann has held senior operational and management roles within academic, research and public sector organisations in the UK and Canada, with substantial experience in overseeing and delivering large-scale initiatives to further education and research.

Ann has formerly been responsible for engaging with eResearch communities across the UK in order to facilitate broader and more effective use of national infrastructures such as Grid services and data facilities, as well as support for new capabilities and research practices to enable leading edge research. This involved working closely with key stakeholders across the UK Research Councils, government, eScience Centres, and the [JISC](#) Committee for the Support of Research, among others, to identify national requirements. Priority areas consisted of the impact on institutions, Research Councils and communities of new technologies, relationships to industry, and the support infrastructures needed for researchers. Among other roles, Ann has overseen the UK Open Source Software Advisory Service and sat on the Advisory Board to participate on discussions about national dissemination efforts, sustainability and licensing.

Additionally, Ann has pursued academic research on informatics, human-computer interaction and collaborative technologies, and has undertaken consultative projects on soft system design, data modeling and information systems development. Due to the remit of Ann's activities, both professionally and academically, she actively liaises with a number of UK, European, international organisations and networks that are involved in pioneering new technologies to support research collaborations.

In her present position as Executive Director of VeRSI, Ann is committed to the advancement of eResearch as embodied in the VeRSI mission, and to maintain and build on the early successes as achieved by her predecessor, Paul Davis. She is further committed to strategise the positioning of Australian eResearch more widely across national and international communities.