RUBRIC bid

• The RUBRIC project proposal was submitted to DEST under the criteria:

“Maximising access to digital resources in Australian universities, especially regional universities”

• Funding needed for regional universities to build capability and have adequate staff to monitor and deploy emerging best practice

• Partnering and mentoring for assisted take-up of emerging technologies in regional areas
RUBRIC Partners

- Confirmed:
  - University of Southern Queensland (lead)
  - University of New England
  - Sunshine Coast University
  - University of Newcastle (cross-sectoral with IRUA)
  - Massey University (NZ)

- Silent:
  - James Cook University
Why these partners?

• USQ, UNE and USC - existing customers of VTLS with established and extensive working relationships with each other
• USC is a member of VTLS international user group for Library Management System
• University of Newcastle represents IRUA members (Flinders, Macquarie and Murdoch Universities have committed)
• Massey University has an existing relationship with USQ
Why USQ as lead?

• Leverage off existing repository projects running in the DeC and Library
• Explore synergies with other regional and like-minded organizations and provide leadership and mentoring
• Key staff already abreast of national and international repository issues
• Keen to bring regional issues to the table (feed into ongoing development nationally)
• Core mechanism to support research mission
ePrints

- [http://eprints.usq.edu.au](http://eprints.usq.edu.au)
- Largely student work at present – addresses identified need
- Plan to include
  - Journal articles
  - Book chapters
  - Technical reports
  - Working papers
  - Conference papers
  - Student papers at defined levels of study not eligible for ADT
ICE

- Integrated Content Environment
- [http://www.usq.edu.au/dec/staff/ice.htm](http://www.usq.edu.au/dec/staff/ice.htm)
- Templated data entry
- Repository management software
- Conversion software
- Test-bed for standardization
RUBRIC Project Outline

• There are three core areas of work:
  – 2\textsuperscript{nd} generation repository infrastructure, building on ePrints work
  – Data lifecycle management building on ICE work
  – e-Framework developments as a national strategy regarding standards and interoperability
RUBRIC will

• Address challenges faced by regional and smaller universities in establishing research infrastructure
• Deploy best practice emerging from the first round of ARIIC SII projects, ARROW, APSR, MAMS and ADT, collectively known as FRODO (Federated Repositories of Digital Objects)
• Develop sustainable infrastructure
RUBRIC will achieve

- Tangible, demonstrable “exemplars” at USQ and then partner sites
- Provision of a vehicle for an assisted take-up service with other regional universities
- Strengthen national and international partnerships (NZ)
- Ensure regional repositories can be harvested by national discovery services
- Explore effectiveness of the e-Framework for planning, dissemination, implementation
Sustainable Infrastructure

- Growing need
- Address cultural change issues
- Awareness raising
- Keeping regional areas abreast of developments
- Ensuring ongoing ability to participate / support universities’ mission to research
- Foster and sustain collaborative work
- Integration of various repository solutions
Building capability

- Provide dedicated staff to develop regional infrastructure
- Assisted take-up service and related support services to ensure equity of access in regional areas
- Improved knowledge for more effective participation in national developments
- Preventative measure to “digital divide”