



Participant Information and Consent Form

Researchers

Title	FAIR and Open Non-Traditional Research Outputs
Principal Investigator	Dr Gary Pearce (RMIT University)
Associate Investigator(s)	Julie Clift (Curtin University), Monique Fountain (University of Western Australia), Peter Neish (University of Melbourne), Dr Piyachat Ratana (Sydney University), Thomas Reeson (Griffith University), Michelle Watson Deakin University), Dr Kate Davis (Council of Australian University Libraries).

What does my participation involve?

1 Introduction

You are invited to take part in this research project, which is called FAIR and Open Non-Traditional Research Outputs. You are invited to participate in this research because you are a researcher that undertakes research that produced Non-Traditional Research Outputs (NTROs). Your contact details were obtained from [will be customised for each participant].

This Participant Information and Consent Form tells you about the research project. It explains the processes involved with taking part. Knowing what is involved will help you decide if you want to take part in the research.

Please read this information carefully. Ask questions about anything that you don't understand or want to know more about. Before deciding whether to take part, you might want to talk about it with a relative or friend.

Participation in this research is voluntary. If you don't wish to take part, you don't have to.

If you decide you want to take part in the research project, you will be asked to sign the consent section, scan the page, and return it to the research team via email before your interview. By signing it you are telling us that you:

- Understand what you have read
- Consent to take part in the research project.

You should retain a copy of the signed consent section and this Participant Information and Consent Form for your own records.

2 What is the purpose of this research?

This research forms part of a project that is an initiative of the Council of Australian University Librarians' Advancing Open Scholarship Program. The program focuses on advancing open research practice through advocating for making research Findable, Accessible, Interoperable

and Reusable (FAIR) and open, and undertaking projects that progress the work of libraries in supporting open practice. The project team is undertaking a review of current library practice related to support for Non Traditional Research Outputs (NTROs) at both a national and international level.

Non-traditional research outputs (NTROs) differ from traditional research outputs such as scholarly monographs or peer-reviewed journal articles. NTROs are frequently, although not exclusively, the product of creative or practice-based research projects and practices and include the research products of different kinds of critical endeavour that see the development of new concepts, understandings, methodologies often in new and creative forms. In defining NTROs in opposition to traditional publication outputs, any format of output that is an assessable presentation of research findings, or the embodiment of research effort, could be classified as an NTRO. Examples of NTROs given by Excellence for Research in Australia (ERA) include creative works, performance, recorded/rendered works, curated exhibitions or events, research reports, portfolios. NTROs can also include software, coding, website creation, databases, and commissioned reports of various kinds.

To date, there has been no research exploring the role of libraries in supporting researchers to make their NTROs FAIR and open. This project will address this gap. It seeks to identify areas where there are opportunities to improve or expand practice related to application of the FAIR principles to NTROs. The project will also explore how the CARE principles should be applied to these outputs. The CARE principles are designed to protect Indigenous People's rights and interests, particularly with regard to collective benefit, authority to control, responsibility and ethics.

The project will deliver findings and a practice framework that will be relevant to all university libraries, in Australia and beyond. The project will highlight best practice, identify opportunities to better support researchers who produce NTROs, and contribute to the scholarly evidence base related to contemporary open research practices. Adoption of the project findings has the potential to benefit both researchers and institutions by making research more visible and increasing impact.

The project includes three sub-studies involving interviews with three participant groups:

- Identified experts in the field
- University library staff
- Researchers.

3 What does participation in this research involve?

Your participation in this project will involve participation in an interview that will take no longer than 60 minutes of your time. Interviews will take place by Teams at a date and time that is convenient to you and will be audio recorded and transcribed.

Indicative interview questions include:

- What are some of the challenges or frustrations you encounter with regard to your research outputs?
- How do you publish these outputs? What does 'publish' mean?
- What assistance do you get from your faculty or school for making your outputs findable, accessible, interoperable, reusable and open?

- Which parts of the support the library provides do you find especially useful and valuable?

There are no costs associated with participating in this research project, nor will you be paid. As the interview will be conducted via Teams, you should not incur any costs as a result of taking part.

4 Other relevant information about the research project

For this sub-study, the project team will interview approximately 10-12 researchers undertaking research that has produced Non-Traditional Research Outputs. Additionally, the project team will undertake two other sub-studies that will involve interviews with library staff (approximately six in total) and identified experts in the field (approximately six in total). This is a national study that will recruit participants from a range of institutions.

The project team includes researchers from RMIT University, Curtin University, University of Western Australia, University of Melbourne, Sydney University, Griffith University, Deakin University, Council of Australian University Libraries..

5 Do I have to take part in this research project?

Participation in any research project is voluntary. If you do not wish to take part, you do not have to. If you decide to take part and later change your mind, you are free to withdraw from the project at any stage.

If you do decide to take part, you will be asked to sign this Participant Information and Consent Form and return a scanned copy to the research team. You should retain a copy for your own records.

Your decision whether to take part or not to take part, or to take part and then withdraw, will not affect your relationship with the researchers or any of the institutions involved in the project.

You may stop the interview at any time. Unless you say that you want us to keep them, any recordings will be erased and information you have provided will not be included in the study results. You may also refuse to answer any questions that you do not wish to answer during the interview.

6 What are the possible benefits of taking part?

We cannot guarantee or promise that you will receive any benefits from this research; however, you may appreciate contributing to knowledge. Possible benefits may include improvements to the support available for researchers related to making NTRs FAIR and open, through the application of the practice framework that will be produced as part of this research. There may not be any clear benefit to you personally from your participation in this research.

7 What are the risks and disadvantages of taking part?

There are no risks to you as a participant beyond those associated with day to day living, and the inconvenience of participating in an interview.

8 What if I withdraw from this research project?

If you do consent to participate, you may withdraw at any time. If you decide to withdraw from the project, please notify a member of the research team. You have the right to have any unprocessed data withdrawn and destroyed.

9 What happens when the research project ends?

Participants will not be directly provided with a summary of results. Project findings will be reported via a report that will be accessible from the Council of Australian University Librarians' website and the researchers' institutional repositories. It is anticipated that the project findings will be available by December 2022.

How is the research project being conducted?

10 What will happen to information about me?

By signing the consent form, you consent to the research team collecting and using information from you for the research project. Please note the following important information about how your information will be stored and used:

- All comments and responses will be treated confidentially unless required by law. Any information that you provide can be disclosed only if (1) it is to protect you or others from harm, (2) if specifically allowed by law, (3) you provide the researchers with written permission.
- Interviews will be video recorded and deleted after transcription is reviewed. It is not possible to participate in this project without being recorded.
- Interviews will be automatically transcribed via Teams.
- All identifying information about you will be removed from your interview transcript and your transcript will be named with a unique code that you generate, which will allow the research team to locate your data should you wish to withdraw from the project.
- Any data collected as a part of this project will be stored securely as per RMIT's Research Data Management Procedure. Data will be stored in Cloudstor and backed up on RMIT OneDrive. It will be password protected and available only to the research team.
- It is anticipated that the results of this research project will be published and/or presented in a variety of forums. In any publication and/or presentation, information will be provided in such a way that you cannot be identified, except with your express permission.
- It is anticipated that research data (interview transcripts and a document describing the demographics of participant cohort as a whole) will be shared in the RMIT research data repository, Figshare. This will be made available in such a way that you cannot be identified except with your express permission.
- Any information obtained in connection with this research project that can identify you, such as your signed consent form and contact details, will remain confidential. It will be stored in a password protected file that is stored separately from the deidentified interview transcript and recording of your interview.
- In accordance with relevant Australian and/or Victorian privacy and other relevant laws, you have the right to request access to the information about you that is collected and stored by the research team. You also have the right to request that any information with which you disagree be corrected. Please inform the research team member named at the end of this document if you would like to access your information.
- Data gathered in this research will be used for this research project and may also be used in future research projects led by the researchers in this study or re-used by other researchers via the research data repository. All data use will comply with both this project's and future projects' ethics approvals.

11 Who is organising and funding the research?

This research is being conducted as part of a broader project being undertaken by the Council of Australian University Librarians, led by the Principal Investigator.

12 Who has reviewed the research project?

All research in Australia involving humans is reviewed by an independent group of people called a Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC). This research project has been approved by the RMIT University HREC.

This project will be carried out according to the *National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research* (2007). This statement has been developed to protect the interests of people who agree to participate in human research studies.

13 Further information and who to contact

If you want any further information concerning this project, you can contact the researcher on 03 9925 4562 or any of the following people:

Research contact person

Name	Dr Gary Pearce
Position	Principal investigator
Telephone	+61 3 9925 4562
Email	gary.pearce@rmit.edu.au

14 Complaints

Should you have any concerns or questions about this research project, which you do not wish to discuss with the researchers listed in this document, then you may contact:

Reviewing HREC name	RMIT University
HREC Secretary	Vivienne Moyle
Telephone	03 9925 5037
Email	humanethics@rmit.edu.au
Mailing address	Manager, Research Governance and Ethics RMIT University GPO Box 2476 MELBOURNE VIC 3001

Consent Form

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Acknowledgement by Participant

I have read and understood the Participant Information Sheet.

I understand the purposes, procedures and risks of the research described in the project.

I have had an opportunity to ask questions and I am satisfied with the answers I have received.

I freely agree to participate in this research project as described and understand that I am free to withdraw at any time during the project without affecting my relationship with RMIT.

I understand that I will be given a signed copy of this document to keep.

Name of Participant (please print)			
Signature		Date	

Declaration by Researcher*

I have given a verbal explanation of the research project; its procedures and risks and I believe that the participant has understood that explanation.

Name of Researcher* (please print)			
Signature		Date	

* An appropriately qualified member of the research team must provide the explanation of, and information concerning, the research project.

Note: All parties signing the consent section must date their own signature.