Planning Day

A Network Planning Day was held on Friday 12th November at the University of Western Australia.

The following documents from the day are available:

- Programme
- Verbatim report
- E-consult draft
- Governance
- Symposia
- Postgraduate Advanced Training Seminars
- Alternative model for the Postgraduate Advanced Training Seminars
- Membership and Entitlements
- Digital Services Programme
- Music and NEER
Network for Early European Research planning day
12 November 2004
Old Senate Room, Institute of Advanced Studies
The University of Western Australia

Each of the sessions is scheduled for one hour.

Facilitator: Terri-ann White

9.15am  Welcome by Professor Anne Pauwels, Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences (5 minutes)
9.20am  Introduction by Dr Pam Sharpe (10 minutes)

9.30am  Session 1: Establishing criteria and entitlements for network members. Introduced by Toby Burrows.
         Chair: Pam Sharpe

10.30-10.45am  Morning Tea

10.45am  Session 2: Symposia planning. Introduced by Theme leaders
         Chair: Philippa Maddern

11.45am  Session 3: Governance. Introduced by Andrew Lynch
         Chair: Anne Scott

12.45-1.45pm  Lunch

1.45pm  Session 4: Digital Projects. Introduced by Toby Burrows
         Chair: Sue Broomhall

2.45pm  Session 5: a) Postgraduate workshops introduced by Anne Scott
        b) e-consult scheme introduced by Lesley O’Brien
        Chair: Trish Crawford

3.45-4.00pm  Afternoon Tea

4.00-5.00pm  Session 6
             Professor Ian Donaldson
             (Director, Humanities Research Centre, ANU)
             Summing up of sessions 1-5 and
             Issues involved in running large humanities research
             centres/grants
             Chaired by Chris Wortham

5.00pm  Session 7: Beyond 2009: further ideas (including issues of funding
         and additional partners. Introduced and chaired by Terri-ann
         White

Dinners:
Thursday evening for core group
Friday evening for all attendees (self-funded)
NEER PLANNING DAY: 12TH NOVEMBER 2004

In attendance:

Alicia Marchant (part)
Andrew Lynch
Anne Pauwels (part)
Anne Scott
Bob White
Brett Hirsch
Chris Wortham
Claire McIlroy
Constant Mews
David Lemmings
Deborah Williams (part)
Doug McEachern (part)
Graeme Henderson
Ian Donaldson
Jacqueline VanGent
John Melville-Jones
Lesley O’Brien
Margaret-Clunies-Ross
Michael Bennett
Nick Eckstein
Olivia Mair
Pam Sharpe
Peter Holbrook
Philippa Maddern
Richard Read
Robert Curry
Stephanie Tarbin
Stephanie Trigg
Sue Broomhall
Terri-ann White
Toby Burrows

Notes taken verbatim

NB These notes were taken during discussions and represent, as closely as possible, what was said.

9.15 am Welcome: Anne Pauwels:
Coming to grips with hosting the Network. Amazing new development. Overseas contacts very excited, e.g. about symposia and the application’s ‘themes’ – cross-period, cross-discipline. Dean will work with executive team to give accommodation, make us visible locally. Kick-start from ARC Discovery Grants to be announced, we hope. Wish you success.

Apologies from Trish Crawford. C. Mews is on his way

Thanks to Dean, who offered us $1,000 seed-funding and pointed out scheme to us. Process to get application in. Seed-funding brought in $10,000, less than other putative networks. Pro-VC of Research at UWA gave $15,000 and that funded the strategy day. Jan-March, put application in. Only addressed need for partners late. We’d do it differently now, so things might need to be adjusted. Also, a strategic application, with reference to the ARC discussion paper, and what a ‘network’ was. Ticked the boxes. Involved remote people, persons at all career stages, Pam chosen as Convenor because already ARC fellow. Digital projects we thought we could handle and assessors would like. 25/50 minimum participants had to be current ARC grant holders, those who could be found. Theme leaders were invited from different institutions.

Now we see funding in detail, have referred it to legal office, because the funding contract at present precludes signing new partners. Will ARC update that? We hope so

We pondered take-overs, tried to make PVC take us seriously, employed Anne Scott and had regular meetings.

End result is a one-line budget of $1.6m. but $300,000 short of what we asked for.

Items on today’s agenda are areas to discuss today, not the only issues.

Last session looks to future. How we might get more major funding in the future. To ‘add value’ to certain disciplines is our aim (awful language).

Problems of language generally. Would something else be better than a ‘Network’.

We have to call it the ‘ARC Research Network for Early European Research’.

The feedback on position papers from those not here.

Concern in these about international aspect. Should we have an international advisory board, and specialist advisors’ input into digital projects? Sounds useful.

Have an access grid at UWA (Motorola). Can talk directly to people in this way. Free use at the moment. Could be of use internationally.

Link with Prato (Monash). Bill Kent urges us to use it.

Our strengths:

- Intellectual substance in our projects.
- Background in interdisciplinary and inter-institution collaboration in Australia. A real advantage.

Symposium in Feb. was buzzing ideas day. Today is nuts and bolts. We want to keep it exciting. Pam on maternity leave. Will disappear every now and then. Be advised.

**Thanks to**

Terri-ann White and Institute of Advanced Studies.

Peter Holbrook (taking over from L Davis)

Thanks to Ian Donaldson – one of referees. Hear the references were very good for us on the ARC panel. ID now involved today. Thanks again.

Thanks to Chris Wortham. Took over Convenorship and discovered a much bigger job because we got the grant. In his study leave!
Session 1: Membership: Chair, Pam Sharpe. Introduction, Toby Burrows

Toby Burrows speaks to his paper: Membership and entitlements. Like governance, essential, but the more boring admin side. We are doing strategic planning. Directions in research. We the Network are an example of the ‘future direction’ of research. Knowledge community, virtual organization. How do you run them? No given rules, not much ARC guidance, beyond convenor, administrator. Smooth working requires framework for what membership means. No precedents to work from. Have 5 years to get it right.

What does membership mean? Individually and institutionally?

50 named individuals, many institutions.

Network activities are open, public, inclusive. As far as possible.

BUT

some can’t be freely available. Who can make use of those? What is restricted?

The register of participants is broadly defined as in Individual Eligibility in TB’s paper. First three dot points.

Entitlements. Dot points listed for individual members.

Obligations.

Institutional membership.

More difficult. We have a range of institutional partners.

Some promised money, some in-kind support. Do we distinguish between the principal universities that put in funds and the others. [See later discussion in governance session.]

Can we include other non-contributing partners?

Further dot points. Wish to include more industry/community partners. The time was short, and not all the decisions could be made, and we would like to return to the table with them if we can.

Access to commercial databases:

Something we wanted to do. E.g., EEBO. Brepols.

Publishers not used to Networks, no pricing models.

We negotiated for 50+50 more in EEBO, and for Brepols a fixed number with passwords.

How many have access and how many don’t? We don’t know. Network can only afford so much access, and it’s not unlimited. This is where the question of membership entitlements comes in. We know we have to spend money on this and that there are limits.
CW. Steering committee have been dealing with issues. Contract from ARC is modelled on ARC Discovery Projects, so the terms of contract are inappropriate. UWA solicitor is confident he can get ARC to come around and modify the contract. PS. A problem for all networks.

MCR. Can it be modified, to include others?

CW. Yes, individuals, institutions and partners.

ST. Should we ask other networks?

PS. Yes. Convenors could get together.

ID. Will there be a difference between ‘partner’ and ‘member’?

TB. Network could still have a relationship with a ‘new’ institution, in an informal sense, even if we couldn’t make them a formal member.

PM. In practical terms, a partner typically puts in support, and that support is acknowledged by ARC in terms of money given to us, and in terms of continuation of funding to us in future. If we can’t make them partners, ARC would not acknowledge the funding they give and credit us with getting it.

MCR. If NEER expands, ARC may be concerned that application was not assessed with those groups in mind, so … that’s legalistic, but it would alter the submission.

GH. Call new people ‘affiliates’?

MCR. That changes nothing.

MB. Get more effective partners in research funding. Can approach ‘new’ partners with Linkage applications,

NE. Have to be careful in every aspect. Danger of circular argument. Abstract discussion of membership is less important than ‘what will happen’? ‘what will people do’? Will Bell Shakespeare, for example, get something important going, and be approved of? Sub-networks should be activity-based.

MCR. There are two separate issues. The ARC application had particular bodies involved. What is the situation of people who may wish to become NEER members? Will the ARC create difficulties? We should pursue Toby’s questions, and then, depending on legal advice, take the issue to ARC. They probably won’t have thought about these things.

PM. What is the reaction to Toby’s protocols?

TB. Only a certain amount of money. The protocols are activity-based. We need a framework for applying/granting money.

ID. Obligations. If the basic principle is quid pro quo, that would be a sensible operational principle. Eg, EEBO access to those ready to be in e-consult scheme. That would be a huge incentive to me.

MCR: Concern that there is no statement that individuals who are members should be active researchers in the NEER area. Needs to be some credentialling. Otherwise, time-wasters, cranks, especially in on-line work, discussion groups. Bona fides needed, eg of independent scholars.

RSW. Model of funding is not ‘outcomes’ based in this case. Growth and activity instead.
Could definition of eligibility be ‘identifiable, valuable research activity’, with ‘obligation of member to acknowledge help from NEER in outcome of activity’? That might help us be more specific.

PM. We could ask for cvs with a letter of recommendation, publications, etc.

Re ID’s comment. Quid pro quo is good, but what if lots of people want to join and we can’t afford it? Is it first come/first served?

B. Hirsch. Could NEER become a text-contributing partner of EEBO?

TB. Threshold amount of money, worth investigating.

(Constant Mews arrives).

PH. Are we talking of applications to join NEER? A process? Like joining a professional body?

MCR. Application form on line. Students can have recommendation from supervisor, etc. also for independent scholars.

MB. Should focus too on consumers of research. Would want to link people in.

PB. E.g., schoolteachers. Need to be involved.

ST: Read-only category?

MCR. CMS has 4 categories. Members, associate members, student members, hon. members.

Assoc. member would cover PH’s point.

PM. We will make many things freely available on the website, anyway.

Publicise to people at large. Have read-only category.

MCR. In category of institutional membership, you have other unis. Would ARC allow international universities to be members? Can’t have money spent on them.

AMS. They encouraged us to have international people as participants; they asked which countries we were linking with. ARC was confused, but categories were there.

PS. We just filled up the form.

TB. No international universities as institutions involved. Affiliate idea, perhaps, contacts certainly. Doubt that means membership.

RC. What would be the optimum outcome for NEER in ARC thinking? We have a lot of consumables.

MCR. Value-adding. Demonstration of NEER’s increasing of research visibility and critical mass, and measurable productivity increase.

PM. Linkage grants.

MB. Model of how a dispersed group attains excellence, visibility.

MCR. Science model drives this mainly. Only 45 in humanities/group research across institutions, and including pgs.

PS. There were more social sciences and humanities networks than expected.

PS. Might have thought in our case that Digital Early European Portal (DEEP) is a national asset. Tangible.

MCR ARC didn’t fund e-humanities.

CM: Maximising research grant income from external sources. It’s important that ANZAMEMS is not the only group involved. E.g., Early Medieval Society and Byzantinists. Don’t replicate a hierarchy with ANZAMEMS at top. Other groups can cross-fertilise with the dominant ‘English’ emphasis.

PS. Break for coffee.
Session 2: Symposia:

Chair, Philippa Maddern, Introductions: Peter Holbrook, Stephanie Trigg, Nick Eckstein, Michael Bennett.

PM: Introductory comments:
A happy session. Activity of network. Keep in mind: Schedule B (proposed) is blue sky. Can make any decisions we want. Other symposia can be held for NEER. On rough calculation of the budget, we probably have enough money for 10 symposia over 5 years at $8,000 each and conferences (2) at $25k-30k. We have to think of when, where. Attached to existing conferences?

AS has compiled a sheet of conferences on NEER-related topics currently being planned by a variety of bodies. Please add others if you know of any.

Also, in relation to when, where? First round of symposia must start soon. International speakers. Set of questions raised by theme leaders. How we want the themes to function? Only a framework? Other things we could do with conferences? Feedback has been received. H Fulton is organising AULLA in Cairns in 2005. We could attach. H Kerr/L Warner are organizing next ANZAMEMS conference in 2007, at Adelaide, Would be happy to piggy-back a NEER symposium. Bill Kent wants us at Prato. Meeting of Australasian/European research theme leaders?

Nick Eckstein: Social Fabric
Salient issues and examples. Synergy created by NEER in my own area.


Issue 2. Involving postgrads. Important. Themes and methodological issues both involve pgs. In any symposium, generic skills are imparted such as Latin, But palaeography has v. different applications. Need in selecting themes to strike a balance.

Issue 3. Other institutions. My own case. At Sydney U regular practice to bring out distinguished speakers on ARC money. Nicholas Terpstra will be coming, (Toronto, History) in second half of 2005. Short lead time, but one might manage his visit by Cassamarca money (NE is a Cassamarca fellow.) Mid-semester visit. Small event related to theme of charity. People could be invited to Sydney to speak/participate, and special sessions on the theme could be held for postgrads. He could visit elsewhere. But one has to be careful. One can imagine a 2-day conference, not just on 16th-17th c. Italy,
**Stephanie Trigg: Cultural Memory.**
As broad as possible. Methodological application. Distinguish itself from medievalism studies. Look beyond memory and afterlife of Early Europe in Australia. A risk if that is the main endpoint because it is primarily descriptive. A trap for cultural memory studies. Broader debates are necessary. Heritage culture, museums/curating studies, other memorials/forgettings; how MEMS intersects with cultural studies.

Symposium 1. Broader net; sociology, nationalism, Australian studies, etc. No. 2. More focussed.

Who can come? Wish list: Raphael Samuel. Speak and feedback.  
David Lowenthal,  
Paul Connaughton,  
Bruno Le Tour,  
Graham Huggin,  
Gabriel Spiegel,  
Brian Stock,  
Stephen Greenblatt,  
Peter Burke,  
Mary Carruthers,  
John Ganim,  
Tom Prendergast.

Where: ST is reluctant to host one next year. Just had largish conference at Melbourne on medievalism. On leave in semester 2 Session at Auckland in Feb 2005, a good time to set up longer plans.

Vic state library wants to offer postgrad training, venues. Wary on obligation on theme leaders to raise money from home uni. Goodwill not to be exhausted.

**Michael Bennett: Science, medicine and environment.**
A challenge. Setting research agenda for the future. Need to think big. Create a community out of a ‘theme’, not an obvious grouping for NEER in popular view. People need to stretch in terms of invited speakers, build new linkages. We found lots of people with ARC grants who were not talking to each other. Task to bring them together. Growing the next generation. PhD gets very specialised and needs skills. Sometimes the bigger picture gets lost. Need to inform others of the larger picture we’re in, and to inform ourselves.  
‘1,000 yrs of human experience’ (PM)
Science, medicine and environment. Good portfolio.

Conferences:
First: Look at virtual communities. Look at ‘networks’; in science, medicine
Second conference on nature, place.

Hal Cook (Wellcome Institute, London) would be good. Has done a lot on history of learned academies in 17-18 c. GB, France/Holland. Impact of eastern medicine in Europe.

Fund-raising is hard when you’re asking people to move out of their areas. Hard to ask them to pay. Need money to get them here. Need more than one international speaker to attract a crowd.

Peter Holbrook: Early European/Aust connections.

World Shakespeare conference in Brisbane in 2006. Theme is Shakespeare’s World/World Shakespeares. Strong Pacific/Australasian identity. Who to ask?
Eg., Graham Bradshaw: Shakespeare in Asia
Masterclass on Shakespeare in Asian region.
Issue: involvement of schoolteachers. Skilling-up seminars, not just for academics.
Speakers: S. Greenblatt?
Conal Condren UNSW is doing a conference c. 2006 at Folger Shakespeare library with David Armitage (Harvard) on empire. Relevant to a lot of disciplines/areas. Would key in early European/Australasian theme. NEER could have a role in CC’s conference.
David Quint (Harvard) might participate. Andrew Fitzmaurice also involved. So NEER has connection.

CM. Does the wording of themes change?
More to add on symposia/conferences;
CM. JOW and I are also working on communities of learning in Latin-based culture.
Not asking for assistance for mid-2006 seminar, but NEER’s music angle is interesting. Great potential is inspiring the next generation, so the facility to send postgrads to this sort of meeting is great. Like the database, that would enhance existing networks

ID. HRC in Canberra brings many visitors to Australia. Wants to collaborate with the Network. Collaborative conferences don’t have to be in Canberra. Cf ST’s point that some themes might be thought of in wider prospectus.
Meeting on commemoration coming up.
Theme for 2006: Remembering Lives: Biography, memory and commemoration.
Activities for that year.
End of /Feb: Testimony and witness
Late June/early July. Early modern biography
2006. August. Trans-national biography
Sept. biography and new technologies
Just before World Shakespeare conference: Shakespeare and Political Thought. Would welcome partnership if network were interested in helping. This is the Conal Condren conference. Many big names

VARIOUS: That sounds good!

HRC having no more annual themes from 2006/7. Establishing 4-5 research platforms over a number of years [We’re ahead of them. AL]. 2006 theme will keep going. Setting up biography institute. Want to share that.

MCR.
Centre for Medieval Studies sponsors conferences each year, visiting lecturers; visiting scholars from overseas.
Symposia. Have made modest financial contributions, and will be making one to Manuscript/Classroom conference. Would in principle extend that to NEER symposia if there was something in it for us. Eg visiting speakers could move on to CMS. Board of CMS would approve this. We could give $2-3,000. Part of airfare, etc.

PS.
Two partner fundings linked with 2006 potential European/Australian Connections conference. Maritime museum: a number of things in 2006 Exhibition we could build on. UWA History Fred Alexander fellowship, written into application. Can that be put in with the ‘empire’ theme? That would fit well with Maritime museum collections.

CW: Chris has developed connections with maps in Uni of Melb library. Can that be put together with MB’s ‘place and environment’?

PM: summary.
We have exciting possibilities of symposia funded by NEER, with help, and NEER being a point of contact for many other symposia already on the go. HRC, CMS, WSC, theme leaders, can all co-operate on visiting scholars. Must be planned well in advance.
Addressing wider methodological issues, and the future. Principle for future conferences. Where is research going? What is the future?

CM: keep our own list of conferences in our own newsletter. Keep it running. How much is allocated for postgrads. to attend themes?

PM. NEER website will list new things. Not thinking of hardcopy newsletter, but should look at email newsletter.
Brett H. Hilary Gatti on science/medical knowledge and G. Bruno, suggested as speaker.

Re website. Who will control it and where?

PM. In UWA Arts. Material on web will be managed by network administrator with computing support. Administrator to respond to Management Committee and ‘PVC’ board.

PS: ST shouldn’t have to do Cultural Memory in 2005. We have international conference in 2009, because we have five years of funding over 6 calendar years. 2009 has got only $160,000. Could we have another that year?

PM. Would be feasible to have symposia in 2009. Don’t have funding for more than 2 international conferences over the 5 years.

S. Tarbin. What’s a symposium? An international conference?

PM. A Symposium is 2-day? International conference could be attached to another big conference.

MCR. We have to fit in with hosts and their conventions.

PM. Possibility in 2009 of Prato conference.

CM: Palazzo takes 180 people in main conference room. Can accommodate up to 5 parallel sessions very well provided for. Reasonable situation. Just outside Florence. Could be very flexible. Important to showcase Australian research in Europe, and get to European people who are harder to bring here.

PM. We like the idea of late 2005 on confraternities and charities (NE’s idea.) Other symposia in 2006.

CM. Symposia should not be limited to just one institution in each city.

ST. Arts at Melbourne will want to see specific benefits for its money!
Session 3: Governance: Chair, Anne Scott, Introduction, Andrew Lynch.

Anne S: Introduces Andrew to speak on Governance document

Andrew: End result (hoped-for) is to be able to constitute the Management Committee today. Important, because we’re keen to get on and activate ideas.

Management Committee sits below:
• supervisory committee (probably 3-4 people from cash-paying institutions, meeting annually, required by ARC).

BUT today we are talking about the Management Committee, for more day-to-day management. This draft has been thrashed out in numerous meetings. Ideal is to be an amalgam of efficiency and representativeness. Would include important Officers, such as Digital Manager, Theme Leaders, Postgrad Representative, Business Partner, and some co-opted officers for talent and resources.

Based at UWA, meeting 4 times annually, one face-to-face, the others probably electronic (email or Motorola Access Grid).

Personnel:
Network Convenor—necessity to us and ARC; acts with advice of Management Committee. Based at UWA.
Digital Projects Manager: (described as not less than half time in the document produced).
Publications Officer—to oversee and co-ordinate refereed publications
Someone to represent Early Career Researchers (to encourage next generation).
Postgrad representative, for similar reasons.
4 Theme Leaders—spread around Australia, and luckily cover contributing institutions.
(Q: Constant Mews—can Monash offer money? If so does it guarantee a position on the board of management?)
Margaret C-R: cf. document on membership. Note: the original short time-scheme may have prevented institutions from contributing. Sydney is offering $20,000 over 3 years.
Constant: could one ask fixed rates for guaranteed membership on Management Committee? If so, the process should be fully transparent. Alternatively, institutions could contribute without any necessary link to Management.
Stephanie—contributing institutions are probably more interested in resources such as conferences/postgraduate funding than in management.
Anne S—the choice of four themes was a starting point, and then we looked for colleagues who could work and lead in those themes. No institutional favouritism was involved.
Margaret C-R: Yes, she understood this from the rather hasty request.
Pam: We never thought we would succeed.
Nick: and this in no way compromises the basic principle of NEER, which is to run round the themes, and spread the benefits as widely as possible. Sydney didn’t want to gain an imperial hold of NEER by giving money. Nor does a theme leader working out of a particular institution prevent NEER sponsoring events outside of Sydney.
(The discussion was temporarily suspended, while other issues were addressed.)

Anne: Next issues.
Four theme leaders on the Management Committee because of their role in activating Network activities.
Co-opted members inc. people at WA to lend energy and activity.
Partner representative to retain links with non-University organizations.
Network administrator: crucial to day-to-day running of the organization

Further points: Small version of committee can meet between full meetings, and all committee members must be notified.
Any NEER participant may attend and speak at Management Committee meetings, (but see discussion later).

Feedback suggested that there should be an international representative.
Q: Margaret C-R: would we have to fund them to come out once a year?
A: not necessarily

Ian: HRC has advisory board of 12 members, plus 2 overseas ones. Sent all papers before meeting, can comment beforehand, and come if possible.

Peter: Do they rotate?
A: HRC is going to set up a new system.

Peter H: good to set up international advisory body.

Stephanie: could be ex officio members, eg. director of Medieval Academy
Andrew: we might like to use our referees?

Could we approach 2 out of our 5 referees? (Short discussion of who they were).
Constant: sounds a very good idea.
Andrew: should we use all five?
Steph: rotate them over a 2-year period each?
Suggestion: ask them all to serve, but in overlapping periods of 2 years each.
Robert Curry: they are mostly from English and History—do we want a greater spread of disciplines?
Margaret C-R: we need a greater mix of disciplines.
Constant Mews: agrees.
Michael Bennett: we need a balance of themes. Could we go for quite a large international advisory committee, with the idea that a few of them might be given
hospitality in Australia over the next few years. Eg., people mentioned as coming to Canberra.
Stephanie: Advisory committee should be/ can be much wider than a governance committee.
Pam: don’t have international representatives on Management Committee, but have them on advisory board.
Andrew: Any rough ideas of how many people?
Stephanie: at least the 4 remaining international referees plus some other fields—Constant & Peter—eg, in visual arts, art history, music and philosophy, history of religion and including HPS, Jewish Studies, Islamic Studies someone with digital management. Not necessary all international.
Toby: digital management should be separate.
Philippa: fields should be suggestive and not exclusive.
Robert Curry: We should come up with people who are active, and prepared to put their activity and reputation behind the network.
Constant: and friends of Australia
Nick E: including Ronnie Po Hsia
Ian D: How will advisory committee relate to Management Committee?
Andrew: Would be asked to send comments.
Ian: would they get all the papers from the Management Committee?
Andrew: Perhaps to one or two willing souls, but not to a larger group. They could be sent outline of proposed activities and specified documents.
Stephanie: papers on academic and scholarly activities.
Constant: especially people we want to invite.
Ian Donaldson: Management Committee could identify particular issues we might want to refer to advisory group.
Anne: would the board be constituted at the start of the network and then changed?
Or determined by scholars we could afford to fund to Australia?
M C-R: we don’t need to look beyond 5 years.
Constant: suggests 2-year period for each member. We could always extend the tenure for one individual.
Nick: Analogy of advisory board for journal is good one.
Chris W: Network will be supported internally by a UWA Centre. One person from the CEER UWA might have some relationship with the Management Committee.
Margaret C-R: is CEER bigger than NEER?
Chris: No, but some relationship might need to be worked out. Pam might be wearing two hats, but this has to be worked out.
Michael Bennett: The only thing he queries is any registered participant being able to attend Management Committee meetings. Is that appropriate, given that some decisions might have to reflect on assessments or reputations of members?

Andrew: use normal discretion of a committee in relation to banning special pleading.
Michael: but what about issues of confidentiality?
Stephanie: Could we turn it around? Management committee might decide to invite?
Michael: can undermine representation.
Margaret C-R: Under p-g representative—do we mean ‘enrolled in an Australian University’ Do we want to limit it to MA Research or PhD. Replace with ‘Higher Degree Research’. [Answer was ‘Yes’.]
Andrew: Do people want to take out the right of members to attend?
Constant: Very delicate: because people do want time to speak. Could there be opportunities at local area meetings to have governance discussions? Could there be local Network meetings at which everyone in that state could attend? Every 6 months?
Anne S. In addition to the four meetings a year?
Constant: No, but they could be part of it. Capitalising on symposia.
David Lemmings: Publications rep; what is their role?
Andrew: In relation to NEER-overseen publications arising from symposia, Parergon, or possibly, an imprints series.
David: what about symposia badged under NEER, but not central NEER symposia?
Andrew: Yes, publications could arise from that.
David: Parergon is under ANZAMEMS, not NEER—will that remain so?
Andrew: Yes: we want to assist publications, not take over all publications.
Peter: Could that involve subventions for international publications.
Andrew: Probably, yes. (NB ARC regulations forbid Network funds being used for publication costs. Anne Scott 14 January 05)
Michael: That position needs to be looking forward to actual outcomes of the Network; Within that portfolio, an important dimension will be the oversight of publication in the fields, and production of data to support further applications.
Robert Curry: Re: publications, cf. L’Oiseau Lyre paper. We need to think of how we can capitalise on that connection. Its representation is primarily international. We can use its established reputation to market our network.

Anne: we need to revisit the ‘Cash for seats on Management Committee’ issue. It arose because of links with the membership document. An attempt to make acknowledgement to institutions which had actually put up cash. Stephanie has pointed out that Management Committee seats may not be the preferred option for those institutions. What do we think about this issue? Does the issue matter or not?
Margaret C-R: More flexible approach needed. Maybe we should uncouple the quid-pro-quo from the membership of the Management Committee. It might be unfortunate if ONLY individuals from contributing institutions could come from the Management Committee. Similarly with Theme Leaders. We would not like, for instance, to see Michael excluded.
Constant: agrees.
Michael: One approach might be that those institutions which have put up money in advance might get preferential funding for students. Other universities would get something, but might be expected to put in some contribution to their own students.
Constant: outcomes are rewarded, under our government structures.
PM: if we decouple membership of Management Committee from cash-producing universities, then how do we structure the Management Committee?
Andrew: Base it on themes?
Constant: There are these themes, and other great networks going on. Why not include person outside of the nominated themes? Would it be more realistic to identify themes rather than individuals?
Anne: Possibility of theme leaders changing is envisaged.
Constant: Though it’s not on a fixed-term basis.
Margaret C-R: Any change to Management Committee will entail change to membership document.
Chris Wortham: Apparent contradiction arises from the continually evolving state of developments. The documents have become somewhat out of kilter. All these changes can be consequential.
Toby: if we clarify the position with the Management Committee, then we can go back and change the membership dot points.
Andrew: We take it that we break the nexus between Management Committee positions and cash-producing institutions.
Sue Broomhall: Likewise between theme leaders and cash-producing institutions?
Stephanie: Right, because we might get more than five cash-producing partners.
Sue Broomhall: would have to be original contributors? What about hosting symposia?
Stephanie: We have enough symposia to go round.
Anne: We have an agreement on uncoupling both Management Committee membership and theme leaders from cash-contributing universities. There is also agreement that the committee should comprise, as well, the other stated members, chosen as suggested in the document.
Constant: why were co-opted members normally to be based at UWA? (Margaret C-R refers him to asterisk. He falls quiet.) Would like to raise the possibility other people, if we are going to support symposia outside the themes.
Andrew: we could co-opt from outside UWA.
Margaret C-R and Stephanie think the co-option from UWA is reasonable.
Andrew: could change co-optees to ‘one of whom should normally be based at UWA’
Constant: would be happier with that phraseology.
Andrew: we deliberately didn’t base theme leaders at UWA.
Constant: Yes but.
Margaret C-R and David Lemmings agree that it’s fair that UWA should have the bulk of the members.
Constant: Is speaking for those who are not here.
Bob White: The phraseology ‘At least one of whom should normally be from UWA’ would cover the problem. Would we be happy then if two were based at UWA?
Constant: Yes, especially since the co-optees are for one year only.
Stephanie: There are also research nodes, who might be represented by a co-optee.
Constant: Doesn’t like a node, but is interested in representation.
Stephanie: We can’t really vote on it: we’re not an organization yet; we’ll leave it as understood.
Break for lunch
Session 4

TB: Digital Early European Resources. NEER and DEER!

Paper summarises and fleshes out the kinds of things envisaged in application. “Everything I could think relevant to a research community from a digital angle.”

Why we want to do these things, given that a digital angle was ARC-essential.
Long list of issues and questions:
Things to be addressed in setting it up.
Two aspects:
  • Access to commercial data bases.
  • Creation of our own web resources.

Envisaged EEBO and Brepols selection (medieval)
Some universities have access to one or more already. Not going to undercut that.
In application, we worked it on access to 50 individuals. They may renegotiate. We shouldn’t throw a lot of money at this area. Expected that universities will fund this (with government money).
How best to distribute limited access across network? How do we get criteria?
Who wants it? How to manage it?
Brepols data bases: we can afford 3/9 only. How select? Email?

Creation of web resources.
Need to make it all hang together.
Promote communication. Promote Australian research output.
Make Early European holdings in research collections more accessible.

“Deliverables”. Have tried to specify the product in 3 sections.
1. Info about and for NEER partners.
   Database; Website; we are not a web gateway to Early European studies;
   Website hosted at UWA. Probably in FAHSS. Content delegated to Convenor and Administrator by Management Committee. Need to authorise content.

2. Australian publications and papers
   e-Parergon (if ANZAMEMS agrees). We can offer to host and manage subscriber access. Subscription-based or free to ANZAMEMS. If by subscription, then NEER will manage access.
   Repository/database of conference papers, articles, e-prints, by NEER participants. Issues of peer review, quality control, other publications (prior, subsequent) have to be managed.
Good centre-point for promoting NEER work, but not an open slather. Would we have a refereeing/review process? Research data on web? Who will be responsible for storing/managing data? Suggestions; stats? Libraries interested in structures to preserve and share such data. Would extend the promotion of NEER research. Subject to copyright, always an issue.

3. Australian collections
PEER. Portal for EER.

Research interface. Collection of digitised images, but not all housed on the network’s site. If possible we wouldn’t copy all across. Can build a search mechanism, not necessarily store. We would store what we paid to digitise, what was only done because of us. The NLA, eg, has search mechanism, but images are on other Australian computers. ‘Federated distributed’ set-up. Looks integrated. As in application, NEER would commission new digitisation, and offer to house on our machine. Issues with that: most complex technically of areas. Close collaboration with partners, and other universities, galleries, etc.

Q. of relationship of PEER to existing print lists. How do we link electronic with print? Should network set up its own computer base, or be part of UWA-wide set-up? Might affect money, IT support.

Information landscape. Data must not be impossible to find. Must build it so it conforms to standards and be linked internationally, and be coherent within itself. Integrate what we’re doing into wider scheme of things. Not ‘a place to hide things’. Must promote.

Finally, will need a group of experts we can draw on. Reference group, Australian/International people, with expertise, especially technical. Interoperability.

Brett H: What is the scope of digitisation?
TB: good question. We must survey field. Funding only goes so far. Early European artefacts and documents in Australia. Need order of priority. More unique internationally first?
Brett H. good not to duplicate.
TB. yes, we certainly would be unlikely to digitise EEBO stuff.
ST. catalogue of what there is would be good. Eg what’s in Fisher, integrating. CM. Real treasures are in private hands. Eg Gordon Anderson collection. Lots of Corpus Christianorum sets in seminaries in Melbourne, Lutheran seminaries in Adelaide. These things must be made known. Corpus Christianorum will change your life.
Also, Medieval Academy of America gives you access to IMB for $50.00 extra. Brepols, etc, want maximum number of people and discount through economies of scale. This is the way to approach.

ST. ANZAMEMS discussed with Brepols but it fell through.
CM. Talk to president of AMA, working through ANZAMEMS, about subs on individual basis with discount.

AMS. Brepols wanted to be in more Australian libraries first before they went for individuals.

RC. Music Australia, keen to disseminate holdings. But NLA weren’t interested in Australian reference work on early music (Gordon Anderson), not in their purview.

NEER could do that, and then make NLA archive it, as they promised.

MCR. Necessary to prioritise the list. What is doable?

First category. Info for NEER participants is most useful and doable.

E-prints unlikely to work. 1. Usefulness not as great. Most will publish in refereed journals already accessible. 2. Copyright will be a stumbling block.

TB. Copyright issue is important. Theses too. Would not envisage NEER paying to republish things. Nature of agreement that author signs with publisher is crucial. *Parergon* doesn’t ask for copyright; author retains right to other formats.

TB. Cataloguing. Larger collections already on national bibliographical database. Could ask to extract a subset of that. Value of that?

Cataloguing manuscript collections. NLA has grappled with this. Would NEER want to commission that sort of cataloguing? Would have to be within NLA framework and their database. How improve access to that? Anderson catalogue: will take individually as possibility.

RC. NLA see medieval as no priority. Australian content is their aim.

MCR. AAH has discussed this for a long time. They have wanted to do these things. Can it be done by NEER?

VARIOUS An infrastructure (LIEF) grant using our strength.
CM. Use state level. Rationalise access through a group of universities. Gordon Anderson could attract scholars from overseas to here.

PM. Need for DEEP to be articulated with other programmes. We don’t reinvent. Could possibly set up a framework of protocols in which co-operative applications could be made, eg LIEF grant, and to house it with NEER.

Compatibility. Because we want resource to keep going, then we have to articulate it with long-lived institutions. Don’t purchase own server. Much better to negotiate with, say, UWA library to get server space, so it’ll be maintained.

ID. This could be a money-pit. No point in copying across of material already available. Forward strategy needed, and thinking where things will go. UWA has no long-term policy here (TB, yes), and NEER should see if UWA can do it themselves, not out of our grant.

TB. UWA will respond to the demand.

MCR. Good idea to consult Angus Martin (Emeritus. French, Syd.), chaired Round Tables on national communication strategies.

Contact executive officer of AAH, John Byron, who can inform of AAH’s progress.

PH. Computer cost is how much?
PM: budgeted for EEBO/Brepols; servers; positions in IT; paying for digital content (new). The latter was costed at $23,000 per year, independent of other resourcing, infrastructure. Budget will need to be done.

PH. Blow-out?
PM; regular budget reporting. Minutes on web. Members can object.

JM. 2009?
PM. Real budget heads are the things to concentrate on, and show they have been done to ARC.

TB. Management Committee will allocate budget line to Digital Manager and keep him within that. Responsibility of Management Committee.
Session 5. Advanced training seminars & e-consult

Session to split for 20 mins.
Anne Scott intro: There are two proposals for advanced training seminars—Anne and Michael
The 20 mins session should decide on some principles on which to run the first year’s seminar. Questions sheet provided (see attached).

Lesley O’Brien intro:
The way we’ve approached the system is to address the question of how we develop relationships between scholars (basis of a successful network). This system is designed to provide the infrastructure to enable individuals to inter-relate.
The spectrum of relationships/enquiries might go from individual enquiries on matters of particular short-term interest to long-term career guidance.
We have tried to ensure that the relationships do not trespass on existing supervisory relationships.
The system would be based on the NEER database.

Session 1: Advanced Training Seminar:

I: We like Michael’s model
But note: till now, there has not been a continual programme, so NEER could help regularise the existing summer schools.

Criteria for funding postgrads?

Basically:
1) Academic merit, based on proposal, and accompanied by letter from supervisor
2) Need, based on:
   --distance travelled
   --relevance to project
   --amount of funding available from their own institution.
• how much funding can they access from their own institution?
(Note: problem may be that funding is for conferences at which paper is presented, rather than for training workshops. Michael suggests that we could build in student presentations).
• distance postgraduate has to travel
• some priority to members of cash-participating institutions
• academic merit and track record? What criteria would we use? A short proposal (see below) Note: publications may be problematic.
• need to attend that particular workshop
Note: postgraduates could be funded at most only once in any one year; so students could decide in advance when to apply for which seminar.
Peter Holbrook; should NEER write to Faculties stressing the value for completion rates, the possibility of presentation, and asking Faculties therefore to be generous in their support to NEER-funded students.

Nick and Olivia suggest a proposal, nominating what they need to work on, and why it is important to their proposal.

Who’s going to judge these proposals? (Perhaps the seminar organisers).

2. Should funding be full or partial?
A range of partial to full, depending on availability of individual institutional funding.

Topics for study:
Michael: dependent on range of topics.

Whom do we survey?
The 150, and find out about topics they would wish to see included in advanced training seminars.

Nick—compose a questionnaire and distribute Australia-wide to Faculties—how many students they have in Early European studies; what are topics, and the academics’ research interests.

Latin has wide relevance.
Visual culture.
Statistical methods for medievalists
Palaeography (of various forms)
Languages
Editing
Numismatics? (possibly linked to museums)
Generic skills—(possibly the responsibility of universities?)

Already offered:
Tasmanian workshops
UWA late-medieval palaeography
Sydney—John Ward, Latin reading group (probably not appropriate for Advanced Training Workshops).

E-consult

Basically participants were happy with the proposal as written.
The aims would be to provide specific expertise and career advice (ie areas distinct from supervision)
Though the original plan might have been for postgraduates to make contact with senior scholars, in practice its use could be much wider.

Two sets of guidelines should be set up: one for advisors, and one for consulters. A report should be presented after the first year of operation, showing how the scheme has worked.

In relation to 14.6—limited samples of written work might include extracts from prospective ARC grant applications. Much will depend on the discretion of the users of the network.

The problem of managing excessive workload on some participants was raised, but no solutions were suggested. The annual report might act as a review of such issues.

Margaret C-R: Was the ‘limited examples of written work’ issue discussed?
Answer: yes; the distinction should be between advice that a supervisor might give, and advice on, say, the accuracy of a particular passage or argument.
Stephanie notes that if we start to legislate against particular cases, we might destroy the spirit of the project.
Note, that according to the guidelines, the supervisor must be informed. This can be done by the consultee checking the ‘cc.’ line of the email asking for advice. (If there were no supervisor copied in, the consultee should simply reply that no consult can take place until the supervisor is copied in.)

Final questions:
Constant: This could become a very time-consuming thing, but the workload could become problematic, and could in fact support bad supervision.
Pip and Andrew: but the guidelines specifically state that the system is not to be used as alternate supervision.
Brett: Could the supervisor be involved? Could the supervisor and the consultee start up communication?
Session 6: Professor Ian Donaldson: Summing up, & issues of running large humanities research centres/grants.

Professor Donaldson.

Will come back to points for further reflection.

Thanks the Network for inviting him, and congratulates the network for winning this fantastic grant. Was very impressed with the way the whole thing had been put together. It is no easy matter to draw in large sums of money to Early Modern European studies, which may be regarded publicly as remote for the everyday. Cf. The ‘Renaissance’ year of the Humanities Research Centre (some years ago). The press phrase was ‘about as far back as it is possible to go’ (in comparison to Gondwana land, et al.)

Australia, therefore, is a country heavily involved in Deep Time (ancient indigenous and Pacific migrations); but very blind to the time immediately pre-enlightenment. Amazingly, our application managed to show how many modern issues have pre-enlightenment roots, and hence the mapping of these topics is crucial to reflection on the modern Australian condition.

It was also good that we managed to bring Europe into the loop of Australian thinking. It is important to direct attention to Asia and the Pacific; but it has been difficult to prioritise funding for European Studies. It is very pleasing to see the Prato Centre flourishing. The HRC spent 8 years trying to establish a centre in Rome, which received a Prime Ministerial change of mind at the point of implementation; the Prato Centre is, in a sense, the heir to that project.

It is good to see people in the Humanities getting large grants, and beginning to be visible, though funding is still comparatively small (cf. The $11m telescope recently funded for ANU). People from Humanities are now lobbying regularly at Parliament House, through CHASS.

The grants now are on a scale which was inconceivable only a few years ago. This change is now also noticeable in Britain. Until 5 years ago, the British Humanities Research Board operated to disperse a total budget of c£5m per year. It has since been upgraded to the Arts and Humanities Research Board controlling a £70m budget, and is on the point of becoming a Council rather than a Board (and hence in company with other large Scientific Research Councils, able to sit at table and have a voice in the distribution of research funds). Hence, in the UK, people are suddenly finding, to their astonishment, that there are substantial funds available for research in the Humanities if they can get their acts together fast. Prof. Donaldson was fortunate to have a large research need, (the complete works of Ben Jonson project) just at the operative moment, when humanities researchers were suddenly staggered by advertisements calling for applications for research grants of up to £0.5 million. That grant has just come to an end; the task would have been unachievable without so large a grant.
There are lessons to be passed on. Two closely-related factors have led to our
new ability to ask for large grants:

1) the advent of digital resources => large grants for digitisation, and also global
digital communication. This last has changed the kinds of work we do in the
humanities.

2) we are no longer solitary scholars, toiling over monographs, but increasingly
work in teams spread out nationally and internationally. Two different
models of collaborative work are:

• The Oxford Dictionary of National Biography (the single largest collaborative
project in the Humanities ever, involving 10,000 international contributors,
writing 50,000 articles, producing 10,000 images, comprising 55 million words of
text. Prof D. was overseeing the literary biographies, 1500-1800. It was an
intensely exciting collaborative task, but was also intensely private, with a curtain
of silence on many matters (eg. names of contributors, etc). The reasons were
largely commercial. Editors and publisher (OUP) were most concerned that the
information should not spill out early. This secrecy made it a frustrating
intellectual exercise; one seminar took place, but that was all.

• The Cambridge Ben Jonson project is on an entirely different model of
consultation. The members of a team of 50 (30 contributing editors, plus
consultants and advisers) are in daily electronic contact, with much cross-
consultation. The result is an international network of extremely helpful and
collaborative people. The whole team has had a series of conferences, two before
the grant application was put in, and one since.

How do we propose to handle the unexpected wealth of such grants? Humanities
researchers are often not used to having large amounts of research money (as
compared to scientists’ habits of grant application and management, and the
established administrative experience of grant-handling in Humanities areas.)

In consequence, some mistakes were made (in Prof. Donaldson’s experience).
Some tips:

1) it is always worthwhile looking towards the end of the project. However large
the sum of money, it is finite, and vanishes astonishingly quickly. It is easy to
overspend at the end. A second risk is to underspend, and have too much left
at the end of the period.

2) It can be difficult to look ahead, and think what the needs will be, at the end
of a project. Eg. Prof Donaldson and his group were told that at the end of a
project, secretaries might be necessary to cope with increased inrush of
material; in fact they found they needed research assistants,

The most important single thing the network now needs to do is to prioritise. We
have heard wonderful ideas, and all the schemes proposed are worthy. But Prof.
Donaldson’s feeling is that we won’t be able to do all of these things, nor please
everyone. There are a number of groups intensely interested (eg. at ANU) who
are not yet formally members. There are many research interest groups who may
need and deserve research support. But it is necessary to establish the priorities
for what we need as an outcome at the end of 5 years; and (hopefully) proceed to further funding.

To recapitulate former remarks:
Of course everyone in the field is delighted at the result; but we perhaps should not be too philanthropic.
1) We should look to establishing obligations from, as well as privileges for, people who join up. We have been talking in the last session about the incentives for advising students from other universities. What would make one do that? The feeling that one was getting direct benefits back (eg. access to EEBO, membership of Management Committee, opportunity to host conferences). We need to build in incentives, and balance benefits and obligations.
2) We should ride off the back of other organizations when we can. This may be particularly relevant to the digitisation projects (eg at the National Museum, the Maritime Museum). See if we can use their resources, rather than our own. There is an application going in from ANU, Sydney and Queensland for a Centre for Digital CHECK. Should that application come off, the centre might be interested in doing some of our proposed Digital work.
3) We should look to the availability of European Union money to Australian organizations (in relation to training seminars).
4) Priorities again: in relation to postgraduate training, we may start with broad ideas, but we may need to concentrate on getting a few crucial needs met.

Questions:
Chris Wortham: Where would you place the priorities?
A: These must emerge through discussion and agreement. You have themes already, which sound terrific. A question might be, do they guide all of your work, or just part of it?

Constant Mews: Your experiences were very focussed towards a defined outcome. The Network is much less so; presumably the responsibilities and outcome of such a Network are not yet quite clear to the authorities. We have the responsibility of being pathfinders. Could we identify a specific outcome, where there is a physical monument towards which we can work? One of the things Australia can do, from outside of Europe, is to see things as a collective. He would like to think that part of our outcomes could be a synthesis of an Australian perspective on Early European studies, in two or three volumes. It could be a way of reflecting on what we’re doing. The Australian perspective on Early Europe could embrace our themes. The themes are very worthy, but could we focus on an original outcome.

A: Prof. D is sure that it’s right that we are creating a very interesting model and precedent. We should not lose sight of the question, ‘is there a network of networks?’ The new Research Networks can probably learn from each other. In future, it might be worthwhile having someone from the ARC, Mandy Johns, attend.
The idea of a tangible outcome is a wonderful idea; we may need something tangible to show.

Margaret C-R: there’s nothing in the proposal about publication.

Pam S: that is because we the scheme is not directed towards tangible research outcomes, but towards facilitation.

Margaret C-R: has a gut feeling that without tangible outcomes, we would be less likely to be looked on favourably.

Stephanie Tarbin: Surely if parts of NEER put in competitive grant applications, that will be an outcome.

David Leemings: And there will be a raft of publications.

Robert Curry: Who will publish these outcomes? It would make sense to use L’Oiseau Lyre.

Philippa: We should look to making contacts with more than one publisher—L’Oiseau Lyre, UWA Press, Centre for Medieval Studies imprint, Melbourne Scholarly imprints (Stephanie Trigg).

Also, one of our very material outcome aims is the DEEP Portal.

Chris: There is a precedent in the ANZAMES imprint with UWA press.

Stephanie Trigg: Symposium publications must be fully refereed.

Andrew: planning well ahead will help to produce well-refereed publications to time.

Robert Curry: What can we do to raise the profile? What can we do to get into the Press? The public eye. Raising the profile can also be an outcome.

Margaret C-R: We can get free coverage in discipline-specific newsletters and venues such as the Medieval Academy newsletter.

Peter Holbrook. We may need to think in terms of a publicity officer to address the interests/concerns of the wider community. We need to build bridges with the wider public.

Prof. ID: Has there been any publicity?

Pam: yes a radio interview.
Olivia: we’ve also had contact with a Radio national producer with a view to potentially producing radio documentaries. We have spoken to SBS, but they have only 5 hours of English-language programming per week—we might have to go multilingual. Radio national is our best way.

PM and Stephanie Trigg; and Chris Wood of ASA is very keen to help promote the Network to a wider public by means of video and DVD documentaries. (Nick Eckstein has produced a documentary with them.)

Robert Curry: Such products as David Tunley’s research, which produces live performances and CDs. Such work should be badged with NEER. We all benefit from raising our network’s profile.

Constant Mews: The Australia-European connections theme also involves making Europe aware of the Australian perspective. Prato is a vital site here. The particular theme of Australia and Europe might be very appropriate to have at an international conference in Italy. Such a conference might produced a really fine publication, of great interest in Europe. The Prato staff can help organise practical elements; the organization of papers, etc. can be done by NEER. Prato can act as a portal into the European perspective.

Chris Wortham: such a symposium could use the Melbourne Map collection and the Woodside Map collection.

Constant Mews: One could run a two-sided program—one in Europe and one in Australia.

ID: the HRC had a theme on Australia and Europe leading up to 1988. It would be of great interest to revisit those issues.

Pam Sharpe: endorses the ideas of Australia and Europe.

Constant: in terms of timelines, Prato is booked up till September ’06, but beyond that. When would be the strategic moment?

Peter: What about 2009? (Constant: can we think of some anniversary or major public event?)

Chris W: Cultural reconstruction would be another aspect of the Australia/Europe theme.

1. L'Oiseau-Lyre (Robert Curry)
Despite that fact that Louise Hanson-Dyer funded the press handsomely 70 years ago, it is still relatively unknown in Australian academic circles. Most of the project were European in focus, but the Lyrebird imprint published Australian works. The Press is coming back to Australia this year, and will come under control of Melbourne University.

What does have it have to offer us?
It has an excellent reputation.
It publishes extensively in early music, and early motets.
The press is looking to diversify, and to entrench itself into the Australian academic climate.
It is keenly aware that the Network funding gives it added impetus to widen its directions.

Robert would like to see us find a mechanism whereby our Network can benefit from L'Oiseau Lyre’s international reputation.
We might contemplate the possibility of L’Oiseau Lyre publishing some of our research which is not specifically music.
It would be a great pity if we found no way to benefit from their reputation.

Constant: Robert’s theme fits in very nicely with the theme Australia/Europe. How about 2 linked conferences on Australia/Europe:
June-July 2007 Prato
January-February 2007 Australia

With contributions from music and the visual arts.

If we want to reapply for funding, we need to have publications deriving from 2007 in order to reapply in 2009.

Pam: We changed the leader from Team Leader to Theme Leader; but Stephanie Trigg did point out that a Team/Theme Leader needs a team!

We need to think about how the Theme Leaders and organisers of international conferences operate a team to do it.

Robert C: Are there wealthy Australians out there who would be interested in supporting our research. Prato might be an opportunity to find wealthy Australians living in Europe and get them on side, publicising Hanson-Dyer.
Constant: What is the role of Turkey? Turkey is very keen on joining Europe; there is an Australian link with Gallipoli. Jewish and Islamic research and research networks should be considered.

Stephanie Trigg: Intriguing, but we should keep in mind Ian’s point about prioritising.

Constant: agrees.

Robert: What is our mechanism for making the decisions we haven’t made today.

Andrew: We have to constitute the Management Committee; filling the three positions of Network Convenor, Digital Manager, Publications Officer. That committee then calls for nominations to the co-opted positions.

Terri-Ann; Another planning day might need to take place in the early part of next year.

Additional parties? Prioritising? Focus?

Stephanie Trigg and Chris: The Jean Monet foundation. The European University Institute (Florence). The Australian Business Arts Foundation

Constant: Have we been in contact with Mandy Thomas, the new person at the ARC in Arts/Humanities?

John Melville-Jones: Possible partners—among the diplomats? The present Greek consul in Perth and the Croatian ambassador in Canberra are interesting, and though they might not have direct funds, they may have networks.

Peter Holbrook; This raises the possibility of tapping into communities generally. Some of the local communities (Greek/Italian, in Melbourne) have put money into universities. But that is a huge task, and might need a co-ordinator.

In terms of governance and structure, do we need a Community Liaison or Publicity Officer?

Stephanie Trigg: But might this lead to a lot of effort going to raising small sums of money. The time will go quickly; our resources of energy are not infinite.

Pam Sharpe: But in terms of long-term support, we will need to try to build up partnerships over a long time.

30
Margaret C-R: Agrees that time is short, but the liaisons set up may be useful for other things beyond a network (eg. Linkage grants, or yet unimagined ARC schemes).

Chris Wortham: We do have some space, since the funds have not yet arrived…

ID: Are we going to form at least an interim committee today?

Andrew: Our expectation has been that Pam will be the Network convenor (by acclamation).

Our other expectation is that Toby will be digital manager (by acclamation)

Andrew for Publications re: (by acceptance, followed by nomination and acclamation).

Theme leaders are in place.

The principle will be to call for nominations for the ECR and postgraduate representative on the web.

When they are in place, two co-optees can be chosen by the committee.

Robert Curry: Would like to support proposal for a publicity person. We want as much awareness and public delight as possible.

Constant: Could be a co-optee.

Chris: Plus the network administrator (appointed by committee?)

Andrew: The Management Committee could be instructed to direct attention to publicity and fund-raising.

For digital management: Bernard Muir? Other suggestions? Constant is interested, as is Lawrence Warner. Cf. Mark Ormrod

PM: Should a key role of the Network be to have a number of group research projects starting or ready for application to take forward after 2009? Generally thought to be core role of Network.

Stephanie Trigg: What happens at the big International Conferences and how are they different from symposia?
Nick: Conferences cover multiple themes, and interpenetrate them: eg. at Prato, which would embody elements of cultural memory, science, social fabric.

The day concluded with thanks to the organisers.
Draft e-consult document 15 October 2004 from Lesley O’Brien and Anne Scott, incorporating suggestions made by the UWA Round Table:

Background and introductory comments.

1. NEER’s proposal originally outlined an e-mentoring scheme which would be of particular benefit to postgraduates. NEER also proposed to develop a searchable database of scholars working in Medieval and Early Modern Studies (MEMS). The scheme outlined below, draws together these two features.

2. The e-consult scheme outlined below (Uses of the database) is a communication system, which can be utilised by everyone within NEER. Specific guidelines have been included for postgraduates, taking into account concerns about the necessity to avoid conflict with supervisors, or any compromise of potential thesis examiners.

3. In developing guidelines for users we have preferred to concentrate on the positive aspects of the system, rather than the things participants are not allowed to do.

4. Some aspects of the proposed system will depend upon what is possible in terms of the actual mechanics of the web-site and cannot be finalised until the development of the web-site and the database have progressed further.

5. It will no doubt be possible to augment this system with more features. One suggestion has been a bulletin board for the posting of general enquiries.

6. Some discussion may also be necessary on the kinds of mechanisms we can implement to encourage potential users to visit the web-site and use the facilities on a regular basis. This is of course relevant to the NEER web-site in general. A regular newsletter via an email list has been suggested.

7. We have decided on a shift in emphasis away from a formal mentoring scheme, in which individual postgraduates are assigned to an experienced scholar who would act as a role model, to a communication system, which can be utilised by the whole of NEER, not just postgraduates. While it may be possible for formal mentoring activities, like the provision of support, encouragement, and constructive feedback, the sharing of professional experiences, skills or knowledge, or assistance with career development, to occur within the proposed system, it may be difficult to develop and maintain such structured relationships through the relatively impersonal medium of the internet. In addition, the basis of the system on a searchable database of MEMS scholars means that everyone is a potential resource for the consultation of others. This is reflected in the name change from e-mentoring to e-consult.

8. The shift away from a formal mentoring scheme, to a more inclusive communication tool, while nevertheless having the potential to be generally beneficial to the development of Network relationships, may have lessened the specific benefits this system can offer postgraduates, which is a particular aim of NEER. These aims - the creation of career and research support systems for postgraduates - can perhaps be shifted successfully to the planned program of postgraduate symposia, which is also to be discussed at the planning day.

Uses of the database

9. To overcome the geographical spread and isolation of Australian researchers, a database of Australasian and International researchers will be created. This database will create a scholarly network of researchers at all levels of their careers, will provide a forum for initiating discussion, and will enable them to become familiar with each others work.
Discussion point: Who is to be part of the database? Is it for NEER members only? For Australasian researchers and NEER international members? For any scholar, worldwide, who wishes to become part of it? The last may be the best, bearing in mind the need of postgraduates to consult experts in their fields, who may not necessarily be part of NEER.

10. An e-consult scheme which depends upon the successful creation of a searchable database of scholars at all levels, will be implemented. E-consult is a particularly innovative scheme to create links between younger researchers (here designated as ‘students’) and senior academics (here designated as ‘advisers’). It will extend the informal network which many academics provide for their doctoral and postdoctoral students and will assist Early Career Researchers to make themselves and their work known to the significant Australian and international scholars in their field. This scheme is intended to facilitate communication horizontally among peers, whether established scholars or PGs/ECRs, and vertically, between students and advisers. E-consult will link senior researchers directly with postgraduates and Early Career Researchers in order to provide advice and transfer generic and specific skills.

11. E-consult is intended to provide structured conversations on specific and limited academic issues within the criteria set out below (14). It is therefore an adjunct to, not a replacement for the statutory activities of a supervisor. While care should be taken not to prejudice the chances of a senior scholar becoming a potential examiner of a student’s thesis, the scheme may also be used to foster fruitful collaboration between younger and more established scholars in the long term.

12. A second advantage of the database is that it serves as a portal, through which a number of mechanisms for communication, e.g. bulletin boards, e-workshops, e-newsletters, e-discussion forums, can be set up.

13. Used well, e-consult will underpin and support scholarly relationships and collaborative enterprises which can be either initiated or consolidated in face-to-face encounter at symposia, conferences and postgraduate workshops.

Criteria for e-consult

14. E-consult should be demand-driven by the student according to the following criteria:

   i. Advisers and students participate on a voluntary basis.
   
   ii. Those making approaches should explain that they are working within the network where the recipient’s details were located.
   
   iii. Advisers who agree to participate should indicate their willingness by ticking the appropriate box within the database proforma.
   
   iv. Advisers who wish to withdraw either temporarily or permanently, should remove themselves from the database by unselecting the tick-box and informing the Network Administrator.
   
   v. Advisers may be asked for assistance specific to their particular area of expertise, such as advice on resources, directing to other scholarly networks, directing to more appropriate scholars, drawing attention to other work which the adviser is familiar with, information about journals, conferences etc.
   
   vi. Advisers may be asked for feedback on limited samples of written work on topics directly related to the adviser’s research interests, with the caveat that both adviser and student should mutually respect issues of intellectual property, confidentiality and privacy.
vii. Requests for assistance should be reasonable, respecting the workload of the adviser.

viii. No obligations are placed on any participant advisers except the expectation that they will be ‘easy to approach’. Email approaches should be acknowledged promptly, even if the adviser is unable to help at the present time.

ix. A caveat should be included within the database to ensure that supervisors are informed about their students’ communication with advisers.

x. A student may consult more than one adviser.

xi. The adviser does not replace or duplicate the activities of the student’s supervisor.

E-workshops

15. All members of the network may contribute to and make use of an e-workshop scheme which will consist of an interactive bulletin board with pages of information and links to authoritative sites on such matters as:

i. Publishing: Essential information about the publishing process, turning your research into an article or book publication, and the essential features of preparing a journal article or a book proposal for a commercial publisher.

ii. Grant Applications: Understanding the grant writing processes, for example the ARC in Australia, the Royal Society of New Zealand, Marsden Fund, and various funding sources for international research.

iii. Career Planning: Aimed at postgraduates and early career scholars, this would be a discussion by senior scholars and professionals about diverse employment opportunities and career paths, as well as how to write a curriculum vitae.

iv. Other matters as determined from time to time.

16. The e-workshop scheme will be host to other types of e-communication such as e-newsletters, e-discussion forums and further innovations as opportunities arise.

Monitoring

17. The Network’s database will provide the entry point for all the above aspects of the e-consult scheme, and will give authority for scholars to approach one another under the aegis of the Network. The system, when it is developed, should have some sort of ‘badging’, so that scholars know they are being approached within the network.

18. In order to protect participants, access to the database should be password protected within the context of what is permitted by membership of the network, and potential users vetted.

Discussion point: how would vetting be achieved?

Problem-solving

19. Problems concerning the administration of the database will be addressed to the Network Administrator who is responsible for keeping participants’ data up-to-date.

20. Technical problems with the interactive database will be referred to the Digital Manager.

21. Suggestions for the more effective use of the e-consult and e-workshop schemes, as well as complaints about unreasonable expectations, misappropriation of intellectual property, or inappropriate conduct will be referred to the Network Convenor.
ARC NETWORK FOR EARLY EUROPEAN RESEARCH.

Governance [Draft. Revised 11/10/04; provisional arrangement.]

The ARC Network for Early European Research (NEER) will be administered by a Management Committee, consisting of 12 voting members and one non-voting member, as follows. The full Management Committee must meet at least once every calendar year, but may meet more often. (The core of the Management Committee will be provisionally set up by the interim Steering Committee at the NEER planning day on November 12, 2004.)

1. Network Convenor.

   Responsible for the overall management, research directions, budgetary commitments and reporting requirements of NEER, acting with the advice of the Management Committee. Chair of the Management Committee. Subject to UWA employment conditions, academic staff.

   - The position of Network Convenor may be full-time or fractional, but will not be less than a 0.5 appointment, funded from NEER's budget.

   - The position of Network Convenor will be held by NEER's Chief Investigator. If the Chief Investigator requires leave of absence, the Management Committee will choose an Acting Network Convenor for the stipulated leave period, from amongst NEER Participants based at UWA. Normally, the Digital Projects Manager will be the Acting Convenor in the temporary absence of the Network Convenor.

   - The position of Network Convenor will be held for the ARC-funded life of the Network, unless the Convenor wishes to resign it earlier, at some convenient time. In that case, a new Network Convenor will be chosen by the Management Committee from amongst NEER registered Participants based at UWA.

2. Digital Projects Manager.

   Responsible for overseeing and co-ordinating the digital resources, projects and infrastructure of NEER. Subject to appropriate UWA employment conditions.

   - The Digital Projects Manager will be based at UWA. He or she will be directly responsible to the Network Convenor, acting with the advice of the Management Committee.

   - The Digital Projects Manager will hold the position for the ARC-funded life of the Network, unless he or she wishes to resign it earlier, at some convenient time. In that case, a new Digital Projects Manager will be appointed by the Management Committee.

   - If the Digital Projects Manager requires leave of absence, the Management Committee may choose an Acting Digital Projects Manager for the stipulated leave period.
• The position of Digital Projects Manager may be full-time or fractional, but will not be less than a 0.5 appointment, funded from NEER's budget.

3. Publications Representative.

   Responsible for overseeing and co-ordinating all refereed publications of NEER.
   
   • The Publications Representative will be based at UWA. He or she will be a registered NEER participant, and directly responsible to the Network Convenor, acting with the advice of the Management Committee, for any activities undertaken on behalf of NEER.
   
   • The Publications Representative will hold the position for the ARC-funded life of NEER, unless he or she wishes to resign it earlier, at some convenient time. In that case, a new Publications Representative will be appointed by the Management Committee.
   
   • If the Publications Representative requires leave of absence, the Management Committee may choose an Acting Publications Representative for the stipulated leave period.

4. Early Career Research Representative

   One Australian registered Participant in NEER who is an 'Early Career Researcher' as defined by the Department of Education, Science and Training.
   
   • The Early Career Research Representative will be chosen by the Steering Committee after a call for nominations, and will normally hold the position until he or she is no longer an ECR, but no ECR Representative will be chosen for a period of less than one full year.
   
   • If the ECR Representative resigns for any reason, the Management Committee will choose another ECR Representative, after a call for nominations.
   
   • The ECR Representative will be funded to attend an annual Management Committee meeting, and may appoint a proxy if not able to attend in person.

5. Postgraduate Representative

   One registered NEER participant who is a postgraduate student enrolled in Australia for the degree of MA (Research) or PhD in some area of medieval or early modern studies.
   
   • The Postgraduate Representative will be chosen by the Steering Committee after a call for nominations, and will normally hold the position until he or she is no longer enrolled as a postgraduate in Australia, but no Postgraduate Representative will be chosen for a period of less than one full year.
   
   • If the Postgraduate Representative resigns for any reason, the Management Committee will choose another Postgraduate Representative, after a call for nominations.
• The Postgraduate Representative will be funded to attend an annual Management Committee meeting, and may appoint a proxy if not able to attend in person.

6-9. Four Theme Leaders.

The four registered Participants of NEER currently named as Theme Leaders for its Research Themes-Cultural Memory; Social Fabric; Science, Medicine and Environment; Early European/Australasian Connections—will be members of the Management Committee, and will remain so until they cease to be Theme Leaders.

• New Theme Leaders will be chosen as required by the Management Committee, after a call for nominations, and will be ex officio members of the Management Committee.

• If a Theme Leader requires a significant leave of absence, a replacement Theme Leader may be chosen by the Management Committee, after a call for nominations.

The further role of Theme Leaders is

• to organise symposia in their themes, with the help of a sub-committee from the institution where each symposium takes place. The Network Convenor, or an appointed delegate, will be an ex officio member of the symposia sub-committees.

• to form part of an organising committee for each international conference

• actively to seek extra funding for symposia and conferences

• to promote collaborative research in their theme, and to encourage and help members to apply for further research grants in the area, either from the ARC or from other funding bodies.

10-11. Co-opted Members

Two further NEER registered Participants, normally based at UWA,* will be co-opted by the Management Committee as voting members. Co-options will be for one calendar year, with the possibility of renewal.

*If in the future one or more of the Theme Leaders should be based at UWA, one or both of the Co-opted Members will be chosen from NEER Participants outside UWA. Whenever possible, there should always be not less than five members of the Management Committee from outside UWA.

12. Co-opted Partner Representative

One member representing a government, industry or community organisation, but not a university, which is registered as a Network Partner offering financial and/or in-kind support to NEER.

• The Partner Representative will be co-opted by the Management Committee, and will normally hold the position for one year, unless the organisation he or she represents ceases to be a NEER Partner. A Partner Representative may be co-opted more than once.
• If the Partner Representative resigns for any reason, the Management Committee will co-opt another Partner Representative.

• The Partner Representative will be funded to attend an annual Management Committee meeting, and may appoint a proxy if not able to attend in person.


Secretary to the Management Committee. Responsible for day-to-day financial and human resources management, as well as for assisting with the annual symposia and biennial conferences, co-ordinating the postgraduate mentoring and exchange programmes and other visits and exchanges, updating the list of Participants, assisting in updating the website and relevant databases, and generally assisting the Network Convenor. The Network Administrator will be based at UWA and directly responsible to the Network Convenor, acting with the advice of the Management Committee.

• The Network Administrator will be appointed by the inaugural Management Committee for the ARC-funded life of the Network. Subject to UWA employment conditions, general staff.

• If the Network Administrator requires leave of absence, the Management Committee may choose an Acting Network Administrator for the stipulated leave period.

• The position of Network Administrator may be full-time or fractional, but will not be less than a 0.8 appointment, funded from NEER's budget.

Further points

• Any three or more voting members of the Management Committee may be convened to meet with the Network Convenor as an Executive Committee to consult and take action in the intervals between full Management Committee meetings, but all the Management Committee members will be notified of such interim meetings and entitled to attend them.

• The Management Committee of NEER may set up further sub-committees and working parties, and may delegate particular tasks to individuals, and employ people with NEER funds, as it sees fit in accordance with NEER policy. Members of sub-committees and working parties, delegates and employees need not be chosen from members of the Management Committee or registered NEER Participants.

• Any registered Participant in NEER may attend and speak at Management Committee meetings as a non-voting observer.

• All members of the Management Committee will be regularly briefed and consulted electronically. The dates, agenda and minutes of Management Committee meetings and reports of interim meetings will be posted on the NEER website.
• Annual reports will be required from the following members of the Management Committee: Network Convenor; Digital Projects Manager; Publications Representative; Theme Leaders. A financial report will be required annually from the Network Administrator.

• This document setting out guidelines for the governance of NEER may only be altered by a two-thirds vote of the full Management Committee, after proper consultation with NEER Participants.

Question for consideration: Should there be an international representative on the Management Committee?
At our governance and further planning symposium scheduled for 12 November 2004, there are matters relating to the planned Theme Symposia and conferences, which we should discuss.

1. Background:

1.1 In our application, we said we would:
   • promote and sustain research around the 4 key themes of cultural memory, social fabric, science medicine and environment, and Early/European/Australasian connections
   • hold three symposia in each theme during the life of the project, each involving an international speaker, each symposium funded at the rate of $7200.
   • hold an international conference, every second year of the project, bringing together all research themes, and attracting two international speakers, each conference funded at the rate of $33,000.
   • try to ‘host’ symposia and conferences with existing conferences, eg., with ANZAMEMS or the World Shakespeare Conference (2006).
   • earmark money for bursaries to enable postgraduates to attend and present papers at NEER symposia, conferences, and attend residential research training courses.

1.2 However, since the ARC has granted us only $1.6 million of the $1.934 million we asked for, some savings in the areas of symposia, conference, and research training will almost certainly have to be made.
2. Major issues to be discussed:

2.1 When and where should symposia and conferences be held?

2.1.1: When should symposia and conferences be held? We originally proposed the following timetable:

Schedule A:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Events</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Year 1: 2005 | Symposium in cultural memory  
Symposium in social fabric  
Symposium in science, medicine and environment,  
Symposium in Early European/Australasian connections |
| Year 2: 2006 | **International conference**                                         |
| Year 3: 2007 | Symposium in cultural memory  
Symposium in social fabric  
Symposium in science, medicine and environment,  
Symposium in Early European/Australasian connections |
| Year 4: 2008 | **International conference**                                         |
| Year 5: 2009 | Symposium in cultural memory  
Symposium in social fabric  
Symposium in science, medicine and environment,  
Symposium in Early European/Australasian connections |

But in view of cost constraints, and the time involved to organise and attend symposia/conferences, we might consider reducing the number of symposia, and/or spreading them more evenly over the years.

One possibility **presented purely for discussion or amendment** might be to cut the number of symposia for each theme to two over the five years. Also, to maximise attendance and minimise travel expenses, we might consider linking symposia and conferences to existing conferences in the early modern and related fields.

The following schedule gives one possible timetable of symposia and conference—for discussion and amendment!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Schedule B:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Year 1: 2005**              | Symposium in cultural memory  
                                | Symposium in social fabric                                                                           |
| **Year 2: 2006**              | Symposium in science, medicine and environment,  
                                | Symposium in Early European/Australasian connections                                                   |
| **Year 3: 2007**              | **International conference**  
                                | Symposium in cultural memory                                                                           |
| **Year 4: 2008**              | Symposium in science, medicine and environment,  
                                | Symposium in Early European/Australasian connections                                                   |
| **Year 5: 2009**              | **International conference**  
                                |                                                                                                         |

**Questions:**

1. When do we want symposia to run? How many symposia should run? How much funding should each receive? Roughly how long should they be (1, 2, 3 days, or longer?) How much funding should be allocated to bursaries to assist postgraduates to attend?  
2. When do we want International Conferences to run? Can they be ‘piggy-backed on to other conferences? How much funding should each conference receive? How much funding should be allocated to bursaries to assist postgraduates to attend?  

2.1.2: **Where should symposia be held?**

Presumably we want a good geographical and chronological spread of symposia, so that not all of them, (and not all of the ones on one theme) happen in the same place. We might also prefer that symposia take place both in Eastern and in the more Westerly parts of Australia. Note, too, that we may decide that institutions which have contributed in cash or in kind to the Network should be guaranteed to host some symposia/conferences. So:

**Questions:**

1. What institutions might host the first round of symposia?  
2. Can we adumbrate, even vaguely, where second and succeeding rounds of symposia might be held, and where international conferences might be held?

2.1.3: **Which international speakers should be invited?**

If we are going to invite international visitors to symposia, we should start preparing for the first round of symposia right now!
ARC NEER
Draft document on Postgraduate Advanced Training Seminars

Preamble: In the ARC NEER application the following commitment was made:

“The Network will provide world-class training for NEER postgraduates within Australia, drawing on the experience of the European ‘Ester’ program. It will offer at least two annual residential seminars in advanced theoretical and methodological approaches, given by experts of international standing. Seminars will also address such generic topics as designing research proposals, applying for grants, and preparing material for publication. The seminars will also be supported through the resources of the e-mentoring Web site.”

In view of funding constraints, it seems likely that we will have to reduce the number of seminars to one a year.

**Change of Name:** Advanced Research Seminars instead of ‘research training workshops’

**When, where and how should the resident Postgraduate Advanced Research Seminars be held?**

1. **Timing**

   Either mid-year or early in December; or in conjunction with a NEER symposium.

2. **Length and format of workshops**

   Building on the experience of the European ESTER courses, it was thought that an annual workshop of up to ten days would be suitable. Bearing in mind financial constraints, five days would seem to be NEER’s most economical option.

   A main topic of advanced theoretical or methodological study should be addressed in morning sessions, and a suite of ancillary courses should take place in the afternoons.

   The format of the main sessions should follow that of the UWA IAS and the ESTER postgraduate schemes, with prepared papers by postgraduates receiving feedback from a senior academic and from a small group of other postgraduates.

   The ancillary courses should cover skills such as diplomacy, palaeography, Latin, Old and Middle English for non-literary students and short courses on how to use such specialist resources as visual culture, or poetry in research. (See 5 below)

   In addition to workshop sessions, visits to galleries and museums, and private collections of MEMS artefacts should be arranged where students can have hands-on experience of research methodologies appropriate to materials held in these institutions. These should occupy at least one full day, and will ideally involve the staff of the institutions, particularly those who are partner members of NEER.

3. **Location**

   In order to fulfil the requirement for gallery and museum work, workshops will need to be held in locations such as Melbourne, Canberra, Sydney and Adelaide and Perth, involving, where relevant, partner members of NEER.

4. **Co-ordinators**

   If we are hoping to emulate the ESTER seminars, a number of expert academics will need to be employed. An annual team of at least four scholars should be set up to plan and carry out the annual seminars. These may change on a yearly basis, though one person should act as overall co-ordinator, for the sake of continuity. This may/should? Be the Network Convenor.

5. **Material to be covered**

   a) Topics such as those covered by ESTER as quoted in this year’s programme on how to design, construct and formulate the doctoral thesis: ‘issues such as the construction of historical narratives, the relationship between the historical narrative and more social-
structural analyses of historical phenomena, the use of concepts and language in historical explanation, or the construction of the “plot” in a historical inquiry. The aim of this type of reflection is to investigate the scientific procedures that historians in actual fact undertake to reach scientific explanations and to combine all analytical elements into a synthetic and coherent historical account.’ Quoted from the ESTER international programme website at: 
http://www.rug.nl/posthumus/eSTERInternationalProgram/applicationFormsAndInstructions/index

b) The use of visual culture in historical and literary research

c) Understanding theoretical issues such as reception, the idea of the text, manuscript transmission, the importance of culture and ideology in shaping literary texts

d) the identification and impact of new theoretical approaches in the field of Early European research

e) The identification and formulation of collaborative research projects which can be carried out in Australia and which can lead to post-doctoral work

ii. For the ancillary courses:

a) Refresher courses in languages: e.g. Latin, Old/Middle English, Renaissance Italian

b) Palaeography

c) Diplomastics

d) Numismatics

e) Finding and using Early European web resources

f) The teaching of MEMS

g) Preparing work for publication

h) Designing research proposals,

i) Applying for grants,

j) Use of statistics for MEMS students

6. Eligibility

Any postgraduate student is eligible to attend when the advanced training seminars are held in their home university.

Criteria for the awarding of places for distant students will have to be decided.

7. Costing: NB all figures are tentative only

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NEER Training Seminars</th>
<th>Each Students Per day</th>
<th>Course duration: days</th>
<th>Lecturers Per day</th>
<th>total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>airfare</td>
<td>650</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>13000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>accomm</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>960</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>6000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>board</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>480</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>3000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>honorarium</td>
<td>150</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above costing assumes an overall average airfare of $650; college board and accommodation for all; $150 daily honorarium for tutors, funding for 16 students and 4 tutors.
Postgraduate training seminars: alternative proposal by Michael Bennett

The model proposed offers one major residential course each year covering broad theoretical issues and 'ancillary' skills. The budget set aside is quite considerable.

I wonder whether one big course is the way to go. Our postgraduate community is fairly diverse, and students are at different points in their careers. A comprehensive, 'one-size-fits-all' approach may not serve needs very well. In any case I feel that in history at least it is the 'ancillary skills' that need to be a major focus. Even relatively small universities can provide students with theory and method and give them the opportunity - through conferences - to meet relevant people, hear about other approaches, and gain experience giving papers. What is more difficult for us is to provide technical training and expert guidance in medieval languages, palaeography, codicology and diplomatic.

I would propose that the money would be better spent by funding a series of smaller workshops (or symposia). The ARC network would encourage universities to put on such workshops through modest subvention, and encourage students from other centres to attend by subsidizing their travel costs. To give a concrete example:

Proposal for a two-day study school on 'Manuscripts and Records of Medieval England' in Hobart in late June.

With Liz Freeman, I supervise eight postgraduates working on medieval English history. We have monthly meetings, some of which are more practical in orientation, looking at manuscripts etc. We are fortunate in having in the department Emeritus Professor Thomson who has unrivalled knowledge of English medieval libraries and manuscripts, and who has considerable expertise in palaeography and editing of texts. He gave a very successful workshop for my students this year, and we propose another next year. Fortuitously I am currently arranging a visit to Hobart by Bob Swanson, Professor of Medieval Ecclesiastical History at the University of Birmingham. The author of four books on the medieval English church and religion, Bob has archival training, has edited two bishop's registers, and probably knows more about church records than anyone. When he's in Hobart he'll be giving a conventional paper, but I've sounded him out about conducting a workshop on palaeography and records. It occurs to me that if we team him with Rod, and if Liz and I also do something, we have the makings of a workshop that could be of value to postgraduates from other universities as well.

The costs of such a workshop would be modest. If NEER were to adopt it, its contribution would depend largely on the numbers of rhd students from other universities attending. I would see the cost-structure to NEER something like:

Contribution to costs and expenses of tutors not employed by University of Tasmania

Initial NEER sponsorship and badging 500

Further support - $50 x 10 [estimated] rhd students from other universities 500
Contribution to travel and accommodation for rhd students

Airfare subsidies for 10 interstate students (5 from Melbourne @ $200, 5 from further afield @ $400) 3000

Contribution to living costs

Subsidies for two nights accommodation for 10 students 1000

Advantages and disadvantages of this model

The Hobart workshop will be of value only to a proportion of rhd students working in the field - though its range could be expanded if other scholars were willing to join us.

Its relative cheapness, though, means that within the network it would be possible to offer four or five such workshops each year instead of one. One might imagine similarly structured workshops on other topic organised by other clusters.

Modestly scaled workshops are relatively easy to run, and NEER can make use of local initiative and local sponsorship. We should assume that some of the base costs will be borne by the host university, and that universities will assist to some degree in funding their students travelling to such events.
MEMBERSHIP and ENTITLEMENTS

The overriding aim of the Network for Early European Research is to encourage the broadest possible participation from universities and industry and community partners. As far as possible, the programmes and activities of the Network will be publicly available to all interested researchers and scholars, and the Web resources developed for the Network will be freely available on the Internet. Nevertheless, there will be some Network activities, services and resources which will only be available to Network members and participants. This document sets out the eligibility criteria and entitlements which will apply in those circumstances.

Individual membership: registered NEER participants

Eligibility:
- Academic staff, postgraduate students, and administrative and general staff from Australian and international universities
- Independent scholars resident in Australia
- Research staff in industry and community partner institutions

Entitlements:
- May apply for grants and subsidies from NEER programmes
- May participate in the e-consult scheme
- May submit their work to the NEER on-line repository
- May nominate for representative positions on the Management Committee
- May nominate for positions on advisory committees and other bodies established by NEER
- May apply for access to NEER commercial databases [see below]
- May attend NEER conferences, symposia, and events which are not public activities

Obligations:
- Must register their names in the NEER database
- Must be willing to be included on the NEER participants mailing list

Institutional membership

Contributing partners (universities): Queensland, Melbourne

- Membership of Management Committee
- Coordination of NEER research nodes
- Guaranteed base for a theme leader, and guaranteed symposium (including an overseas visitor)
- Priority for postgraduate funding, proportionate to contribution, for attendance at advanced research seminars in other states
- May nominate to host NEER events and activities
• May apply for support from NEER for relevant events and activities

Other universities (Australian and international)
• May nominate to host NEER events and activities
• May apply for support from NEER for relevant events and activities

Contributing partners (industry and community): named on ARC application
• May nominate for representative position on the Management Committee
• Travel costs for Management Committee member
• Membership of advisory committees relevant to NEER community and industry programmes
• May nominate to host NEER events and activities
• May apply for support from NEER for relevant events and activities

Contributing partners (industry and community): additional partners
• Membership of advisory committees relevant to NEER community and industry programmes
• May nominate to host NEER events and activities
• May apply for support from NEER for relevant events and activities

Access to commercial databases

The ARC application envisaged that NEER would provide access to several relevant commercial databases. The costs used in the application were based on the following calculations:
• EEBO: UWA purchases EEBO, with additional access for “approximately 50 named individuals and another 50 or so changing project participants”.
• Brepols databases: individual passwords for a fixed number of scholars. This number can be increased by up to 10% over the five years without additional cost. The number used in the application was 50.

The actual extent of this access will need to be negotiated by NEER and the publishers in the light of the actual budget for NEER.

The access provided by NEER will supplement access already available in Australian universities. This means, for example, that no registered network participant from the universities which already own EEBO (such as Queensland and Sydney) should need to apply for access to EEBO through NEER. As a contributing partner, Melbourne will have priority places in the use of EEBO.

27th October 2004
NETWORK for EARLY EUROPEAN RESEARCH

DIGITAL SERVICES PROGRAMME

DIGITAL EARLY EUROPEAN RESOURCES

Two main programmes

- Access to commercial Early European databases
- Creation of Early European Web resources

Access to commercial Early European databases

The ARC application envisaged that NEER would provide access to several relevant commercial databases. The costs used in the application were based on the following calculations:

- Early English Books Online (EEBO): UWA purchases EEBO, with additional access for “approximately 50 named individuals and another 50 or so changing project participants”.
- Brepols databases: access to at least three of a total of nine databases, with individual passwords for a fixed number of researchers. This number can be increased by up to 10% over the five years without additional cost. The number used in the application was 50.

The extent of this access will need to be re-negotiated by NEER and the publishers in the light of the actual budget for NEER.

The access provided by NEER will supplement access already available in Australian universities. This means, for example, that no registered network participant from the universities which already own EEBO (such as Queensland and Sydney) should need to apply for access to EEBO through NEER. As a contributing partner, Melbourne will have priority places in the use of EEBO.

Issues

- How best to distribute access across the NEER participants – what criteria should be used?
- How to manage this access – i.e., keeping track of who has access, liaising with publishers about individual access, keeping list of participants up to date.
- How to select the Brepols databases – which can NEER afford, and which will be most useful to NEER participants?

Creation of Early European Web resources

Overall aims:

- to promote communication between NEER participants and the international community
• to promote and distribute Australia’s research output in Early European Research
• to make more accessible the Early European holdings in Australia’s cultural heritage collections

Main programmes:

1. Information about and for NEER participants
2. Australian publications and papers in Early European Research
3. Australian collections for Early European Research

1. Information about and for NEER participants

Deliverables:
• A database of NEER participants, with details of research interests, grants and publications.
• A NEER Web site, with appropriate links to events and sites elsewhere.
• NEER news and activities, e.g. conferences, symposia, research training workshops.
• Links to the Web sites of NEER partner institutions.

Issues:
• Is there a need for an online forum?
• Should there be an automated sign-up page for e-mail lists? Should messages be archived on the NEER site?
• Will the Web site accept sponsorship?
• Should training materials (e.g. in palaeography) be included on the NEER Web site?
• Should NEER develop its Web site as a gateway to other Web resources with material relevant to Early European Research (e.g. Duyfken Foundation Web site, digital theses…)? If so, how and to what extent? Should this be limited to Australian resources?

2. Australian publications and papers in Early European Research

Deliverables:
• e-Parergon: an electronic version of Parergon, accessible by subscribers over the Web.
• e-Prints: a repository of conference papers and articles by NEER participants, freely available on the Web.

Issues:
• How should access to subscription-based resources be managed – will individual passwords be required, or just access by IP address range?
• Is a secure shopping cart required for Parergon subscriptions?
• How can NEER ensure that copyright law is being observed?
• What is the relationship between e-Parergon and Parergon in printed form?
• Should the repository also include e-books?
• Should NEER also provide access to research datasets and digital resources, rather than just publications? These might include lists of texts, copies of texts, statistical data, mapping data / digitized early maps, video of music / opera / drama performances, audio recordings of poetry / literature. Should this be limited to materials from NEER participants?
• Should commercial materials other than e-Parergon be made available?

3. Australian collections for Early European Research

Deliverables:
• A “Portal” for Early European Research, i.e. a search interface to locate and link to digitized items from Australian collections.
• A digital object repository with digitized items from Australian collections. This might include digital facsimiles of manuscripts and maps, images of artworks and artefacts, and 3-D views of artefacts (e.g. early musical instruments at UWA).

Issues:
• What role will partner institutions (libraries, galleries, museums) play in developing these services?
• What additional partners are needed here, and what contribution should be sought from them?
• Are commercial joint ventures a possibility?
• How tightly should the scope of these services be defined? In particular, should they include or exclude digitized resources which relate to non-Australian collections, but have been created by Australian researchers?
• Are there other types of Web products which might meet the overall aim of this programme?
• Should existing printed lists and catalogues (e.g. Sinclair's manuscript catalogue and Manion's illuminated manuscripts catalogue) be converted to digital form? How can they then be linked to the search interface and the repository?
• Should NEER develop and maintain its own digital object repository, or would it be sufficient to negotiate suitable space on a UWA digital object repository (e.g. managed by the Library)?
• To what extent should the NEER repository actually host digital objects created by other institutions? Will it be preferable to link or point to digital objects hosted by the institutions themselves, where this is possible?
• To what extent should NEER commission digitization programmes in partner institutions? How should the priorities for this kind of work be determined?
• How should NEER integrate its resources into the general information landscape? How can NEER ensure compatibility and interoperability with relevant international Web resources and services? How can NEER integrate its own Web products into a coherent whole?
Advisory Panel

Establishing a Digital Services Advisory Panel with Australian and international members is strongly recommended. The Panel’s role will be to ensure that the Network’s digital services adhere to international standards and best practice.

Toby Burrows
28th October 2004
This brief paper is aimed at drawing the attention of NEER participants to the international publishing house, Éditions de l’Oiseau-Lyre (EOL), that is soon to begin operation in Australia. Currently based in Monaco, EOL is principally devoted to music of the periods contemplated by NEER. Considerable potential exists for collaboration between NEER and EOL to their mutual benefit, and to scholars in Australia and internationally.

EOL was founded by the Australian philanthropist Louise Hanson-Dyer in 1933 and her contribution to early European research, in monetary terms alone, is immeasurably greater than the ARC’s $1.6m. Of all Australian contributions to early European research there can be few whose initiatives were as foresightful, whose range of projects as broad, and yet whose legacy to the world of scholarship remains as unsung as that of Melbourne-born, Louise Hanson-Dyer. To cite but three areas of early European research that benefited from the largesse of her sustained philanthropy: the corpus of fourteenth-century polyphonic music, the poetico-musical genre of the thirteenth-century Parisian motet, and the collected oeuvre of François Couperin. As is well understood, securing funding to pursue research is one thing, while finding a suitable publisher for the results is quite another. This is precisely where Hanson-Dyer made her greatest contribution. After more than 70 years, Editions de l’Oiseau-Lyre, appropriately named to reflect her country of birth, still thrives.

The Faculty of Music at the University of Melbourne has a historical connection with Éditions de l’Oiseau-Lyre through the generosity of Hanson-Dyer, and has been an active participant in the press for the last twenty-five years. In 2005, the process of repatriating the press from Monaco to Australia will begin. To be based at the University of Melbourne within a dedicated music research centre, the Lyrebird Press will carry on the press’s proud tradition of scholarly publishing. An international Board is to be established and exciting new projects will be initiated.

It is surely propitious that the opening up of a new chapter in the life of Editions de l’Oiseau-Lyre should coincide with the ARC’s major initiative in support of research into the very period to which this press has itself made such a distinguished contribution. In preliminary discussions, the musicologist signatories to NEER have identified initial ways in which a synergy between NEER and EOL might be developed, merely on the basis of the work with which they are currently involved and without yet considering other research work being conducted in Australia.

EOL already has a strong internet presence, particularly aimed at advertising and marketing its own publications. It is planned to complement the e-commerce operation by making the website the home for a suite of resources that intersect with the ambitions of NEER. This site has the potential to become the host of the medieval music web resources currently hosted by La Trobe University developed by John Stinson and that resulted from various ARC funded research projects in the 1980s and 1990s. This database currently provides complete sanctoral and temporal cycles of medieval liturgical chant—including facsimiles of medieval MSS in Melbourne and Sydney libraries— as well as a complete inventory of fourteenth-century musical sources, and scholarly bibliography on the subject. This Medieval Music Database is one of the premiere international sites for medieval music. See: http://www.lib.latrobe.edu.au/AudioVisual/Stinson/medmusic.htm
In the context of these developments with Éditions de l’Oiseau-Lyre, several possibilities are arising to involve work being done by members of NEER. These include

- Collaboration with the ARC project of Professor David Tunley’s concerning performance, recording and editing project on of the seventeenth- and eighteenth-century French music
- Development of additional web resources extending from the Oiseau-Lyre edition of the twelfth and thirteenth-century Parisian repertory, the Magnus Liber Organi (Dr Robert Curry)
- Collaboration with the Landesbibliothek (Dresden) in the provision of web-based databases of seventeenth- and eighteenth-century German sources and the publication of facsimile editions of key holdings (Dr Jan Stockigt)
- Publication of Spanish and Neapolitan instrumental manuscripts and editions (Prof. John Griffiths)

Among other databases contemplated for hosting through this website is the resource created on repertory of the nineteenth-century Melbourne Liedertafel. This could be expanded to provide further resources concerning the history of performance of early modern European music in Australia.

From this base point we are eager to assist achieving the ambitions of the NEER project. John Griffiths will be closely associated with the establishment and operation of EOL in Australia and will be able to provide the necessary organisational linkage. In the development of these resources and projects, it should also be stressed that they have the potential to foster closer collaborative relationships between music and other disciplines.

Prof. John Griffiths, University of Melbourne
Dr Robert Curry, Edith Cowan University
10 November 2004