



## From the Chairman, Tim Scully.

The Data to Decisions Cooperative Research Centre (D2D CRC) is set to start operations on 1 July 2014. This is the culmination of 18 months of hard work taking us from an idea in 2012 through to final realisation of the Centre. Many people have been involved in getting us to this point, but Sanjay Mazumdar, our CEO, and Brenton Cooper, our CTO, deserve much credit. Their vision, motivation, tenacity and sense of humour (frequently tested) were key drivers for our success. Our industry, government and academia partners as well as the DSIC team also deserve praise for their contribution to our success. We definitely have the right team!

We have also created an impressive, skills-based Board of Directors, which will be formally constituted to join Sanjay, Niall Fay (Secretary/COO) and I upon completion of the Essential Participants Agreement and a resolution agreed by CRC member organisations. But our new board members haven't been waiting to contribute. Cath Ingram, Fatima Beattie, Suzanne Campbell and Kathryn Adams have provided valuable advice and guidance to help establish the CRC. Our first formal Board meeting is on 9 July.

On behalf of the Board, thanks for your help in getting us over the line. We look forward to working with you to "unlock the value of Australia's data".



## From the CEO, Dr Sanjay Mazumdar.

Welcome to day one of the Data to Decisions CRC. This highly anticipated day has been the culmination of a lot of hard work by a number of people. Given the challenging goals and impacts we have committed to deliver, we are very focussed on "hitting the ground running". To that end, the D2D CRC management team will be working closely with you to establish

1. The governance and management mechanisms to ensure we are an efficient and effective CRC
2. A tranche of projects to deliver capability to build a safer and more secure nation
3. An E&T program that will help us to develop a Big Data workforce
4. A framework for ensuring our activities deliver real value to all of the CRC's participants

I look forward to working closely with all of you over the next five years (and hopefully beyond) to ensure that the D2D CRC delivers on its promised impacts.

## Research.

The D2D CRC research and development effort will be targeted to meet the needs of the end users. To enable such targeted research, it is vital that we develop a solid understanding of the needs of the users.

The very first activities that will be undertaken within the research program include two "Future Studies" – the first targeting our application domain for Defence Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR), and the second targeting the application domain for Security Analytics in Counter Terrorism and Policing. The future studies will answer the following key questions: "what data-related capabilities and policy frameworks are required to enable analysts and operators to deliver against their counter-terrorism, policing and defence missions in an increasingly data-rich environment". The future studies will involve a series of interviews with key end-user stakeholders to elicit their data-related business issues, followed by a number of workshops to identify, validate and refine the capabilities that the D2D CRC may deliver to address these issues. The future studies will adopt the perspective of a five year timeframe. Combined, these future studies will deliver the capability roadmap for the D2D CRC.

In parallel to the Future Studies another initiative will develop and validate the D2D CRC technology roadmap – essentially the set of technologies that must be researched, developed and integrated to deliver the capabilities required by the end-users. This effort will be led by the program leaders as they develop a draft technology roadmap

and then incrementally review and validate the roadmap with all CRC participants from across industry, government and research providers.

### **FAQ – How do I propose a project?**

Anyone from within the participant community can propose a project. We have adopted a simple three stage process for project proposal, selection and approval. The first stage involves the development of project concept – a short two page description of the project, the participants and how it fits with the D2D CRC strategy. The second stage involves the development of project plan – a more detailed description of the research and development to be undertaken, along with specification of project outputs, milestones, deliverables and resources. The final stage involves review and approval by the Research Advisory Committee and then the Board.

In due course the policy and templates for proposing projects will be available on the D2D CRC website. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact Brenton Cooper via [brenton.cooper@d2dcrc.com.au](mailto:brenton.cooper@d2dcrc.com.au).

*Current Postdoc expressions of interest:*

- [D2D CRC Linked in advertisement](#)
- [IAPA advertisement](#)

### **Education and Training.**

The D2D CRC Education and training program will aim to train over 1000 data scientists and employ 50 PhD students and create the D2D CRC Data Analytics certification qualification with Deakin University researchers taking the lead on this project in conjunction with the Institute of Analytics Professionals of Australia (IAPA).

Over the next six months, we will advertise, select and enrol identified exceptional PhD candidates at our partner Universities Deakin, University of Adelaide, University of South Australia and UNSW Australia. Majority of our PhD D2D CRC scholarships will be top up's with a value of \$15,000 per annum tax free. The D2D CRC will also provide a limited amount of full scholarships at value of \$35,000 per annum\* for outstanding candidates. \*Additional conditions may apply.

If you know of any potential PhD candidates, please contact Jacqui Martin via [jacqui.martin@deakin.edu.au](mailto:jacqui.martin@deakin.edu.au)

### **FAQ How can I apply for a PhD scholarship?**

Expressions of Interest for the Data to Decisions CRC Postgraduate Research Scholarships are invited from outstanding students to undertake PhD studies with the Data to Decisions CRC (D2D CRC) at one of our partner Universities:

- Deakin University
- University of Adelaide
- University of South Australia, or
- UNSW Australia

The D2D CRC will develop new PhD-trained data scientists to meet the Big Data challenge for Australian Industry and Government and be industry job ready at their completion.

*Current PhD expressions of interest:*

- [D2D CRC Linked In](#)
- [Seek.com](#)

### **Calendar of Events.**

- D2D CRC Board Meeting 9 July, Canberra
- [Security in Government Conference 2014](#), 1-3 September, National Convention Centre, Canberra
- Official D2D CRC Launch, TBC October, Canberra

### **In the news.**

- D2DCRC Launch Media Release (attached)
- [University of South Australia media release](#)

- [UNSW Australia newsroom](#)
- [Deakin University media release](#)
- [The Hon Ian Macfarlane MP, Minister for Industry, Driving Research and delivering results Australia](#)

## D2D CRC Participants.

### Government



### Industry



### University and Research



## Contact us.

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