

# DATA TO DECISIONS CRC

UNLOCKING THE VALUE OF AUSTRALIA'S DATA

eNews Issue 3, June 2015

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## From the CEO



The last few months has been an extremely active period for the D2D

CRC culminating in the issuing of proposals for two major programs; Beat the News – indicators and warnings from open source and Apostle – a platform for open source intelligence. Getting to this point is a significant achievement and congratulations must go to the D2D CRC CTO, Brenton Cooper for leading this activity.

The CRC has been equally successful in achieving its goals of 16 PhD students commencing by June 2015. We had over 200 applicants for the 16 scholarships for this intake, so the recipients of the D2D CRC PhD scholarships are of an extremely high calibre - we are proud to welcome them to the D2D CRC team. Congratulations must go to the D2D CRC Education Manager, Jacqui Martin, and the research program leads for their efforts in securing these exceptional students.

Finally, we are pleased to announce we will be delivering Big Data: Architectures and Technologies workshops with the Software Engineering Institute at Carnegie Mellon University. The ability to draw upon the world leading expertise in this area is a significant coup for the CRC.

**Sanjay.**

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## **La Trobe joins the CRC as a participant**

La Trobe University officially joined the D2D CRC as an Other Participant on 12 March 2015.

La Trobe University is growing their data analytics capability and, as a result, have appointed Dammindha Alahakoon as Professor in Business Analytics. Dammindha will be continuing the D2D CRC project “Topic mining and temporal trend monitoring” with Genix Ventures in his new role at La Trobe.



**LA TROBE**  
**UNIVERSITY**

## **QUICK FACTS**

- Established in 1964
- First enrolments in 1967 – 552
- Provisional student load (EFTSL) in 2014 – 27,437
- Staff (full-time equivalent – provisional) in 2014 – 2,076
- More than 170,000 alumni
- Campuses in Melbourne (Bundoora and CBD), Bendigo, Albury-Wodonga, Mildura and Shepparton

- Faculties: Business, Economics and Law; Education; Health Sciences; Humanities and Social Sciences; and Science, Technology and Engineering.

Please join us in welcoming La Trobe University to the D2D CRC.

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## Key researcher profile

**Associate Professor Wayne Wobcke,  
UNSW Australia ›**

Wayne Wobcke is an Associate Professor in the School of Computer Science and Engineering at the University of New South Wales, specialising in Artificial Intelligence and Data Science. His research ranges from theory (intelligent agents), to practice (dialogue management, personal assistants, data mining and recommender systems).

His industry experience began at British Telecom Labs in the UK where he was part of a team that won a British Computer Society Medal for Innovation in Information Technology. Since joining UNSW in 2002, he has collaborated extensively with industry, serving for over 10 years as Programme Manager and Project Leader in two CRCs (Smart Internet Technology CRC and Smart Services CRC), leading a team of seven academic and research staff...

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## eResearch SA Supporting Research and Development

By Dave Blockow, D2D CRC

eResearch SA is a collaboration between the University of Adelaide, Flinders University and the University of South Australia. They maintain the SA node of the NeCTAR research cloud, providing eResearch capabilities to research projects across the State.



As a D2D CRC participant, eResearch SA contributes self-service compute and storage infrastructure, providing researchers with...

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## **National Research Infrastructure a Target for Hacking**

By Dave Blockow, D2D CRC

All Internet-facing application will experience a level of automated hacking attempts, ranging from simple password guessing to more advanced automated exploits. This is considered the Internet's "background noise" and can be easily mitigated with basic security controls. The D2D CRC is employing best-practice to protect applications and servers, including regular patching, encryption and robust monitoring.

**READ THE FULL ARTICLE ›**

### **RESEARCH**

The D2D CRC research and development effort has been busy over the past few months with a number of Calls For Participations (CFPs) released to our CRC Participants, most recently the Beat The News & Apostle CFPs.

The Beat The News program will deliver indicators and warnings from open source data. It will provide a capability for continuous, automated analysis of publicly available data in order to anticipate and/or detect significant societal events such as such as civil unrest, political election outcomes, or disease outbreak.



**READ THE FULL ARTICLE ›**

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### **D2D CRC Project updates:**

The Temporal-Geospatial Visualisation Project update  
By Professor Bruce Thomas, School of Information Technology and Mathematical Sciences, The University of South Australia.

**READ THE FULL ARTICLE ›**

Large-scale Image Classification Project update  
By Professor Anton van den Hengel, School of Computer Science, University of Adelaide

**READ THE FULL ARTICLE ›**

Exploiting contextual cues in large scale machine learning  
By Professor Anton van den Hengel, School of Computer Science,  
University of Adelaide

**READ THE FULL ARTICLE ›**

## EDUCATION & TRAINING

### **Big Data: Architectures and Technologies**

In August the CRC will be launching “Big Data: Architectures and Technologies,” a two day workshop in Canberra ACT and Melbourne VIC presented by Carnegie Mellon University (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania USA).

#### **Dates:**

- Canberra – Monday 14 and Tuesday 15 September
- Melbourne – Thursday 17 and Friday 18 September

#### **Topics covered in the two day workshop:**

- The major elements of big data software architectures
- The different types and major features of NoSQL databases
- Patterns for designing data models that support high performance and scalability
- Distributed data processing frameworks

If interested in preregistering for these workshops, please email [info@d2dcrc.com.au](mailto:info@d2dcrc.com.au) to join the waiting list.

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### **Training and Short Courses**

From June the CRC will be rolling out a series of short courses and training programs aimed at but not limited to PhDs, analytics and data savvy executives, senior managers, data scientists, technology experts, analytics domain experts, analytics project managers, interns and financial regulators and compliance officers.

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## PhD Program

The PhD program is almost a year in and we had a milestone to recruit 16 PhD students to commence studies before the June 30, 2015. The CRC had over 200 PhD applications for 16 scholarships for 2015 semester one commencement.

**[READ THE FULL ARTICLE ›](#)**

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

In the 2015-16 Financial Year, the CRC will be funding approximately 12 scholarships. 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:

**[READ THE FULL ARTICLE ›](#)**

## POSITIONS AVAILABLE

[Graduate Software Engineers ›](#)

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[Graduate Data Scientist/Data Analyst ›](#)

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[Data Scientists ›](#)

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[Post-Doctoral Researchers, University of Adelaide ›](#)

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### SEPTEMBER

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Monday 14th to Tuesday 15th September

Big Data: Architectures and Technologies two day workshop Canberra

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Thursday 17th to Friday 18th September

Big Data: Architectures and Technologies two day workshop Melbourne

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## IN THE NEWS

Latest edition of the AIIA Member Insight Series. Featuring Sanjay Mazumdar ›

“Big Data” views presented to Enterprise Magazine ›

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Past Issues

Transl

Talking to Point Magazine about Analysing Data ›

Semantic Sciences ›

National Research Infrastructure a Target for Hacking ›

The Temporal-Geospatial Visualisation Project update ›

Large-scale Image Classification Project update ›

Exploiting contextual cues in large scale machine learning ›

## Participants

Government



Industry



Pivotal



BAE SYSTEMS  
INSPIRED WORK

iapa

University and Research

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Carnegie Mellon University  
Australia



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Centres Programme





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