HUMANITIES, ARTS & CULTURE DATA SUMMIT

Bert Roberts
ARC Centre of Excellence for Australian Biodiversity and Heritage

14-15 March 2018, Canberra

humanities.org.au | #HACDS2018

AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL

Centre of Excellence for Australian Biodiversity and Heritage (**CABAH**)

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Australian Government
Australian Research Council

CABAH COLLABORATING PARTNERS

- University of Wollongong Australia
- The University of Adelaide
- UNSW Australia
- Flinders University
- James Cook University Australia
- Monash University
- Australian National University
- University of Tasmania
- State Library of New South Wales
- BioPlatforms Australia
- Queensland Museum Network
- scarp archaeology
- Australian Museum
- Pusat Penelitian Arkeologi Nasional
- South Australian Museum
- University of Colorado Boulder
- The University of Papua New Guinea
- Papua New Guinea National Museum & Art Gallery
- Université Savoie Mont Blanc

Motivation and mission

- transform our understanding of Australia's natural and human history — STEM, HASS and Indigenous knowledge systems
- train transdisciplinary researchers with a culturally inclusive approach — reboot the research culture
- engage with people of all ages and cultures — communicate Australia's epic story to the world
- inspire the next generation of Australians — connect with schools and Indigenous communities
- help shape a sustainable future — incorporate lessons from the past in cultural and environmental heritage management

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CABAH partners

- university researchers
  STEM, HASS, education and Indigenous studies
- Indigenous communities
  on-country partners and education in schools (Tagai)
- public engagement
  GLAM and media organisations in Australia and overseas
- other collaborating organisations
  Australia (BPA, Scarp, KFA) and overseas (Future Earth)

→ total of 30+ organisations involved in CABAH
epicaustralia.org

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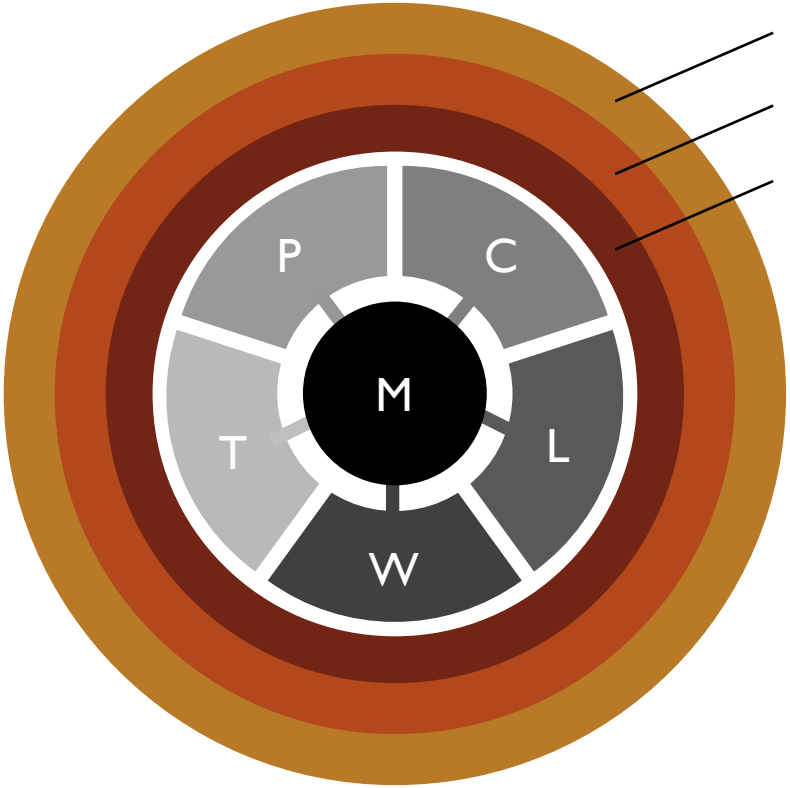
CABAH structure



Governance

Education and Engagement

Research Training and Ethics

Research Themes

P	People
C	Climate
L	Landscapes
W	Wildlife
T	Time
M	Models

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A Time Machine for Australia?

- **What would it do?** Provide an integrative platform for the past 65,000 years of Australia's human and environmental history — Indigenous cultures and 'country' (non-human kin) and later arrivals
- **What types of data would be included?** HASS, STEM and Indigenous knowledge — transdisciplinary, cross-cultural, multi-format
- **Who would be involved?** Universities, GLAM organisations, NGOs, NCRIS facilities, government agencies etc. — national, regional, global
- **What are the key challenges?**
  - **a)** Integrating all types of 'big data of the past', especially Indigenous knowledge and languages
  - **b)** Incorporating 'infinite archives' that are constantly evolving, especially environmental and Indigenous history
- **A history of the future?** Use past trends to improve predictions of environmental and societal trajectories

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