

Jodi McKay

Minister for Tourism
Minister for the Hunter
Minister for Small Business
Minister for Science and Medical Research
Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)



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NSW eRESEARCH INSTITUTE TO TAP INTO INNOVATION OPPORTUNITIES

The NSW Government is investing \$2.8 million over three years to help develop a world class eResearch institute to support innovation, Minister for Science and Medical Research Jodi McKay said.

The Institute for Transdisciplinary eResearch Services and Technology (INTERSECT) is a new peak body to coordinate expertise in eResearch across NSW universities and relevant public and private sector research agencies.

"Advanced ICT technologies and the spread of broadband internet provide excellent opportunities for electronic research (eResearch) applications that can cut across geographical boundaries," Ms McKay said.

"For example, a medical specialist located in Sydney could have the potential to perform surgery on a patient in an isolated regional area using advanced computer technologies."

Ms McKay said INTERSECT has been established by a consortium of NSW universities, the Securities Industry Research Centre of Asia-Pacific (SIRCA) and the NSW Government to promote eResearch technologies and skills.

"Dr Ian Gibson, one of Australia's leading private sector research and development experts and a former divisional general manager with Canon's Sydney-based R&D facility CiSRA, is the newly-appointed CEO of INTERSECT," Ms McKay said.

"NSW already has hubs of capability in eResearch but INTERSECT will provide coordinated leadership that can pull these together and drive e-Research expertise in NSW.

"eResearch is the way of the future, and the NSW Government wants to ensure we can be a world leader in this space."

Ms McKay said the INTERSECT collaboration will support the storage, sharing and analysis of data in a range of research areas including climate change modelling, disease research, minerals exploration, and on-line education.

“Participating universities are the University of Sydney, University of New South Wales, Macquarie University, The University of Newcastle, Southern Cross University, and The University of Technology, Sydney,” Ms McKay said.

“As NSW’s peak eResearch body, INTERSECT will help provide eResearch skills and training opportunities and allow both metropolitan and regional researchers to tap into global research efforts across scientific disciplines.”

NSW Chief Scientist and Scientific Engineer, and member of the INTERSECT Board Professor Mary O’Kane, welcomed the NSW Government’s support for this major project.

“INTERSECT will put leading NSW researchers at the forefront of global research efforts. It will allow them to be core partners in major international research and breakthroughs, and make it easier for them to engage with other world leading colleagues from around the globe.”

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