



GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY

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Division of Information Services

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24 April, 1991

Mr T.J. Mullarvey
Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee
GPO Box 1142
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Mr Mullarvey,

Re AARNet Project Funding

Due to an oversight the University has not been able to meet the required date for submissions on the above matter.

As a number of people are aware Dr Brian Cook of the University and Mr Geoff Allen of Curtin University have been working on a proposal. That is attached for consideration.

Given the circumstances the University hopes that the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee will consider its proposal which is fully supported.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G.E. Kearney'.

G.E. Kearney
Deputy Vice-Chancellor

c.c. Geoff Huston



Application for a grant for the purpose of the development of a process
and trial of this for using AARNet as a carrier of hard copy
transmissions from institution to institution

Aim of Proposal

To develop and trial a fast delivery process for using AARNet as a carrier of transmitted hard copy material between institutions. To test this against the use of Telecom FAX for costs.

Specific objectives being:

1. to develop the process/processes necessary to enable transmission of hard copy documents to occur.
2. to trial the developed process/es to:
 - i. ensure it/they will work
 - ii gauge the likely impact document traffic upon AARNet.
 - iii. make recommendations on the use of AARNet as a carrier of hard copy transmission.
 - iv. make recommendations re the type of uses/users that would benefit from using AARNet given the potential volume of material that could be transmitted.
 - v. make recommendations re the use of Telecom FAX where that is a possible alternative route for hard copy transfer. This will apply particularly where libraries are not connected to AARNet.

The establishment of AARNet make possible the transmission of documents between institutions connected to the network. However, to achieve this, a connect process would need to be developed that allowed encoding and decoding of materials. Technically this is possible and there is a number of options that would need exploring, verifying and testing.

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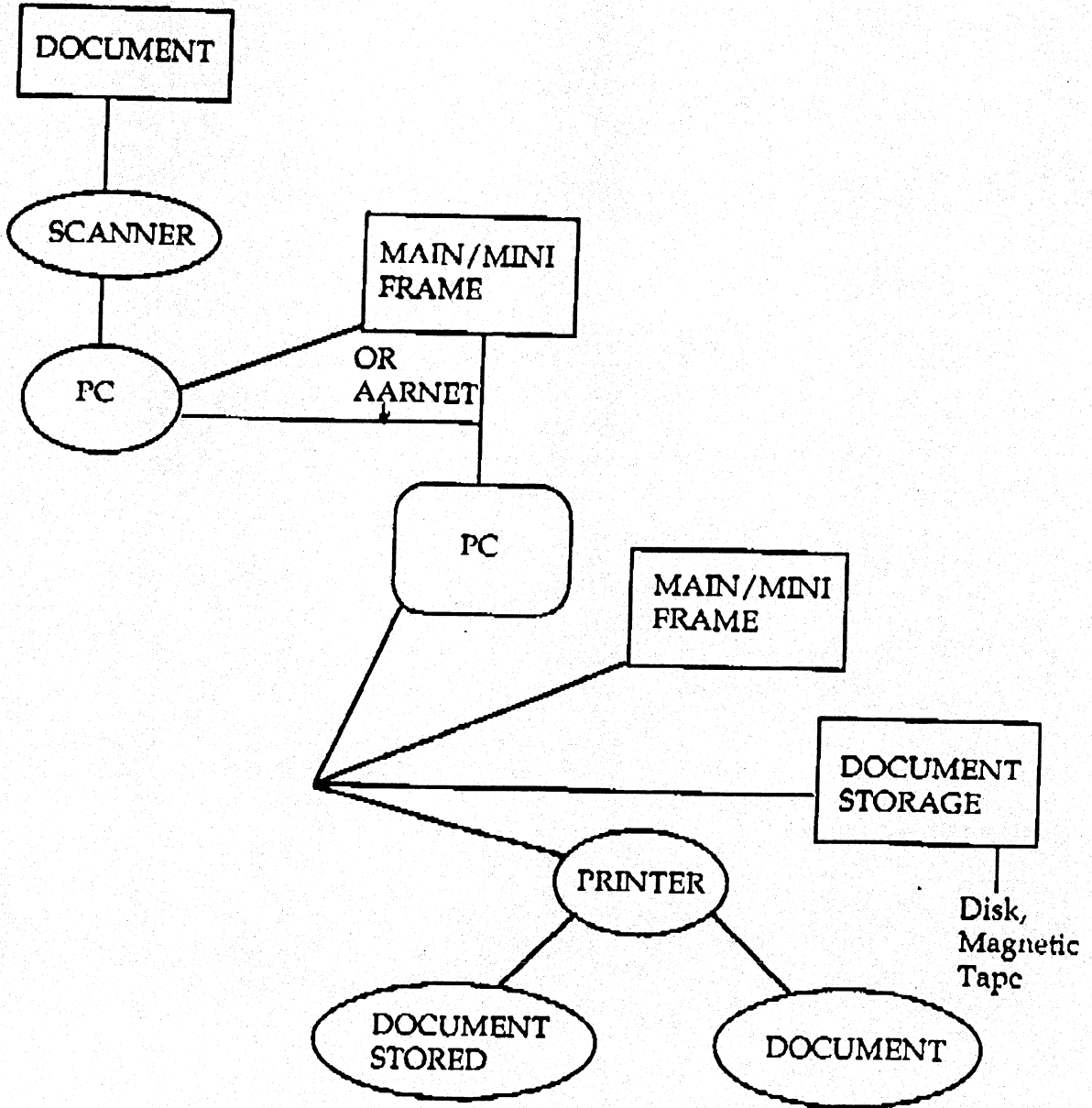
Advantages that would accrue to institutions if AARNet was used as a carrier

1. In the research area, to send:
 - proposals between locations thus enhancing the development, commenting upon, etc.
 - hard copy messages where needed.
 - reports on progress as required.
2. The potential enhancement of teaching because of quick, easy and cheap communications between sites.
3. improvement of communication between libraries especially in the area of interlibrary loan requests and despatch of urgently required materials.
4. the ability to send urgent agendas and other urgent administrative material without the high cost of using the current facsimile carrier.
5. other copy communication advantages.

It is recognised that, in the early stages of the development of AARNet, some restrictions might need to be placed upon what constituted urgent material and the types of hard copy messages that could be sent. The proposed trial of the facility/ies developed if this proposal is funded would look into this matter.

Proposed trial configuration

There are a number of possible solutions to the use of AARNet as a means of transmitting hard copy between institutions. One possibility is shown in the following diagram;



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Costs of proposal

The proposal has a number of unknowns in terms of actual costs. Notwithstanding this the final cost of the project would not exceed the costs outlined here.

1.	Personnel		
	• one person with systems/programming capabilities for a period of six months		\$18,000
	• one person per site for approximately one day per week for six months		6,000
2.	Hardware		
	• 2 x PCs with hard disk at \$2500 each	\$5,000	
	• 2 x scanner at approximately \$5000 each	\$10,000	
	• 2 x printers at \$4500 each	9,000	
	• 2 x network connections (est. at \$1200 each)	<u>2,400</u>	
			26,400
3.	Software		
	Estimated cost of software tools		2,000
4.	Consumables		
	Estimated cost		500
		TOTAL COST	\$52,900

Operation of trial

In the initial instance the trial of the process developed would occur between Griffith and Curtin Universities. This trial might be extended to include a third party such as CLANN Ltd in New South Wales. Finalization of the trial would occur within a period of six months

The principal researcher would be Dr Brian Cook, Director, Division of Information Services, Griffith University. Mr Geoff Allen, University Librarian, Curtin University would be deputy principal researcher.

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Others involved in the research program would be:

- from Curtin University
 - Ms Donna Ruda, Inter-library Loans Co-ordinator
 - Ms Carol Newton-Smith, Library management team
- from Griffith University
 - Ms Kerry Blinco, Systems Librarian
 - Mr Gregory Watson, Senior Systems Programmer

Brief bibliographic notes on the researchers:

- Mr Geoff Allen - MA; ALIA
- Experience**
extensive experience in library research, especially in the area of inter-library loans, senior library administrator since 1967
- Ms Kerry Blinco - B.Sc. (Hons); Grad. Dip Lib.; Grad. Dip. Comp.
- Experience:**
Tutor in mathematics, Technical Librarian, Librarian-in-charge, Systems Librarian
- Dr Brian Cook - MA; MEd; Grad Dip. Lib.; PhD.; FAIM
- Experience:**
Teacher, Lecturer, Administrator in three tertiary institutions
- Ms Carol Newton-Smith - BA; Grad. Dip. Lib.
- Experience:**
development of links between information systems, trainer and agent for SNT databases
- Ms Donna Ruda - MSLS, B.Sc.
- Experience:**
inter-library loans, library management
- Mr Greg Watson - B.Sc. (Hons)
- Experience:**
Computer programmer, Systems and Network Consultant

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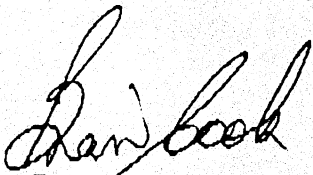
Management of the trial

Mr Geoff Allen and Dr Brian Cook will share responsibility for the development and oversight of the trial. Notwithstanding this Dr Cook will be responsible for reporting and using Griffith University's Business Management office maintaining a properly established account for the grant.

Outcomes

Preliminary work carried out in order to prepare this proposal indicates that the objectives of the proposed trial will be achieved within the six month period stated.

All work carried out will be documented. In addition, a separate booklet will be produced outlining specifications, costs and a user guide to the process/es deemed most successful to enable the use of AARNet as proposed.



Brian Cook
for the research team
24 April, 1991.