

Report to ARMS Committee: INORMS 2025 Participation

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Conference: INORMS 2025 - International Network of Research Management Societies

Overview

INORMS 2025 provided a dynamic and globally engaged platform for research management professionals to exchange ideas, showcase innovations, and foster international collaboration. The conference theme, “Global Research Management: Building Bridges Across Borders”, resonated strongly with the our research hubs efforts to align with international best practices in open science, data sharing, and research infrastructure.

I attended as a representative of the University of Melbourne’s MISCH Hub and the Australian Research Data Commons (ARDC), presenting on the Health Studies Australian National Data Asset (HeSANDA) and participating in a panel session on Open Science. My involvement aimed to showcase the co-design, development and implementation of a national clinical trials data asset to facilitate the access, sharing and reuse of health research data and contribute to global conversations on equitable and transparent research practices.

Presentation: HeSANDA – Enabling Clinical Trials Data Sharing in Australia

My presentation focused on the HeSANDA initiative, which is building a national infrastructure to support the sharing of clinical trials data in Australia. Key points included:

- **Background & Objectives:** HeSANDA is part of ARDC’s broader mission to make research data more FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable). It aims to improve transparency, reproducibility, and secondary use of clinical trials data.
- **Node Model:** I shared insights into the distributed node model, including our role of in supporting metadata capture, governance, and researcher engagement.
- **Progress & Impact:** I highlighted early successes, including pilot implementations, stakeholder engagement strategies, and alignment with international standards such.
- **Global Relevance:** The presentation was well received, with interest from international delegates in adapting similar models in their regions.



Panel Session: Open Science As a Global Initiative

The panel session chaired by Daniel Spichtinger on Open Science brought together panelists from Europe, Africa, and Australia to explore regional perspectives and global strategies for advancing open research practices. My contributions focused on:

- Australian Context: I outlined national initiatives such as HeSANDA, the NHMRC Open Access Policy, and ARDC's infrastructure investments.
- Ethical and Cultural Considerations in Australia: I emphasized how Australia's open science approach uniquely incorporates Indigenous knowledge systems through culturally respectful, community-led practices that prioritize ethical data stewardship and reciprocal benefit.
- Cultural Change: We discussed the need for incentives, training, and institutional support to shift researcher attitudes toward openness.
- Global Collaboration: The panel agreed on the importance of harmonizing policies and infrastructure across borders to support open science at scale.



(R-L) Katie Ozdowska, Jan Andersen, Allen Mukhwana

Reflections and Recommendations

Attending INORMS 2025 was a valuable opportunity to:

- Benchmark Australian initiatives against global best practices.
- Build relationships with international research managers.
- Raise awareness of HeSANDA and its potential for global collaboration.
- Contribute to shaping the future of open science through policy and practice dialogue.