



Integrating Research in the Humanities: The HuNI Virtual Laboratory

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<http://huni.net.au/>

The HuNI project is funded by Nectar, led by Deakin University in Melbourne and is a partnership between VerSI, Intersect, the University of Western Australia, the Australian National University, RMIT University, the University of Queensland, the University of Melbourne, the University of Sydney, the University of New South Wales, Flinders University of South Australia, AIATSIS





Integrating the Humanities

- The humanities and creative arts cover a wide variety of disciplines, from archaeology and linguistics to film and media
- Existing discipline-based structures and organizations encourage specialization, and discourage collaboration between humanities disciplines
- The same approach has also resulted in a proliferation of discipline-specific digital resources and datasets
- This discipline-centred specialization tends to exclude the wider public and the staff of cultural institutions
- *And yet:* the “big questions” in the humanities require an interdisciplinary approach and an integrated pool of data
- Working with disciplines outside the humanities also requires an interdisciplinary approach and an integrated pool of humanities data to draw on



HuNI: Filling the gaps

- Humanities researchers need to be able to work with cultural datasets more efficiently and effectively, and on a larger scale: ***HuNI is aggregating datasets from disciplines across the humanities and creative arts***
- Research data in the humanities need to be made available for many types of users – researchers, the curators of cultural datasets, cultural institutions, and the community: ***HuNI is providing an environment where many different types of users can work together***
- Researchers need to be able to re-use data and share the results of their work: ***HuNI is building a Virtual Laboratory with a suite of tools for working with and sharing data***
- Humanities data need to be made available in formats which can support innovative methodologies and techniques like network analysis and visualization: ***HuNI is building a Linked Data service which provides data in a variety of reusable formats***



HuNI: Implementation

- HuNI (Humanities Networked Infrastructure) is one of the Virtual Laboratories funded by the National eResearch Collaboration Tools and Resources (NeCTAR) project
- HuNI is being built by a national consortium led by Deakin University:
 - ❖ Cultural data providers (10) – project co-operators
 - ❖ Humanities software developer (1) – project co-developers
 - ❖ eResearch organisations (2) – lead development agencies – VerSI and Intersect



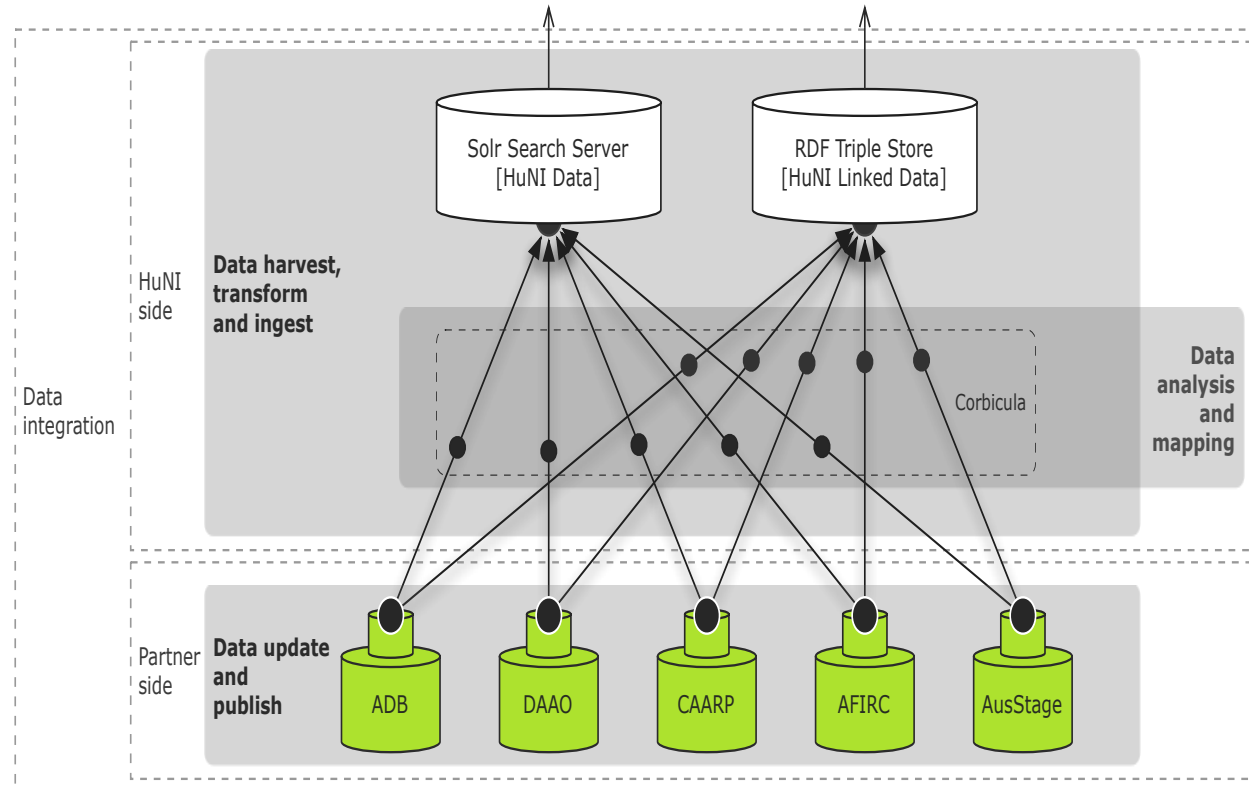
HuNI: Key Elements

1. **Integrating data:** bringing together 28 individual datasets across the humanities and creative arts
2. **Integrating meaning:** aligning the meaning and the semantic content of the discipline-oriented digital resources
3. **Integrating the research environment:** building a generic set of tools for users from a range of disciplines
4. **Implementation:** bringing together dataset custodians, researchers, and technical experts; developing a consortial approach; arriving at a common definition of project methods

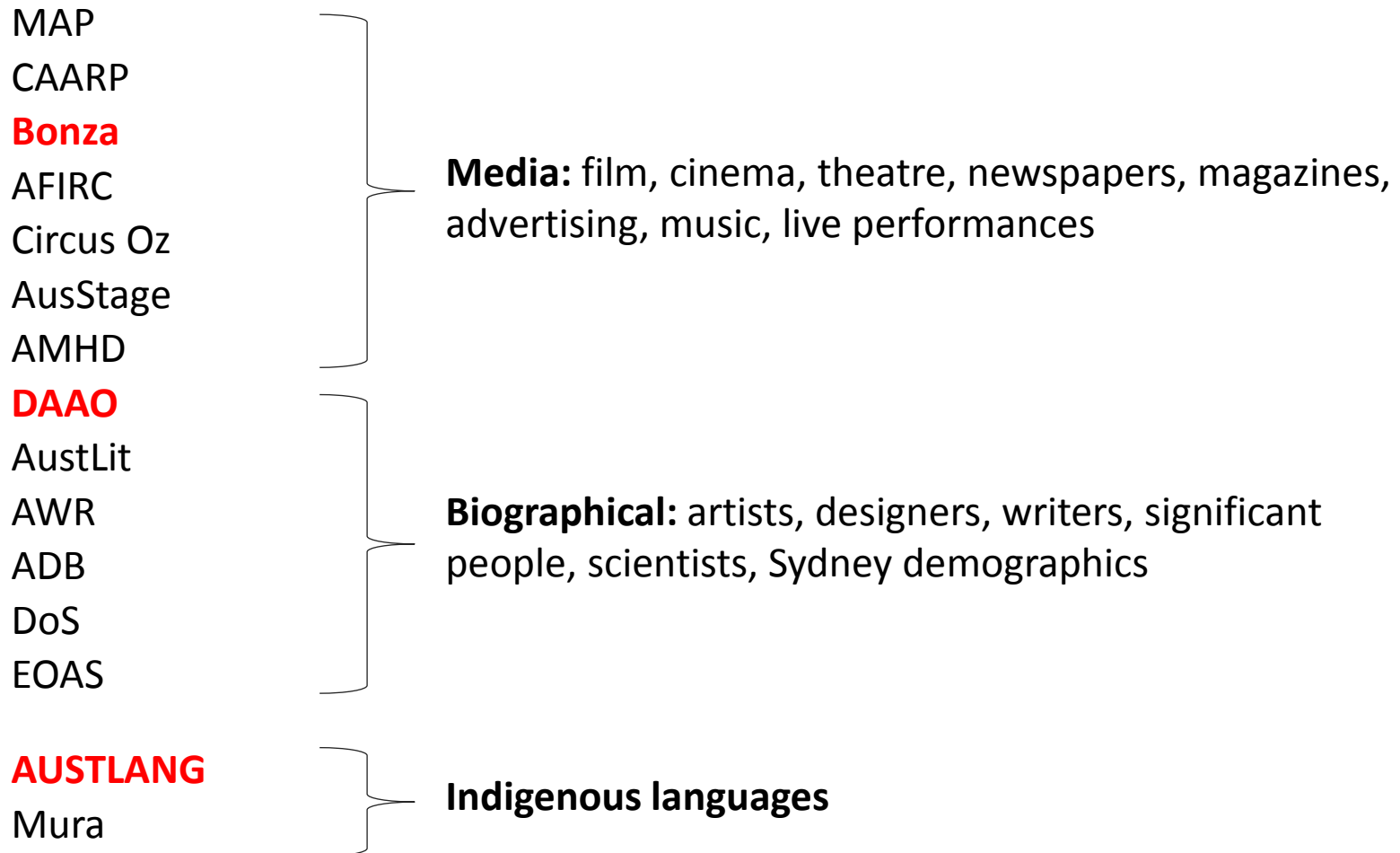
Integrating Data



- 28 Australian datasets are being harvested for integration into HuNI
- The partner sites expose their data as XML feeds
- HuNI gateway components are deployed on the NeCTAR Research Cloud.
- HuNI harvests the XML feeds and transforms them for ingestion into two data aggregates: a Solr search server and a Jena RDF Triple Store.



HuNI Partner Datasets



www.auststage.edu.au/pages/browse/

AusStage

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Events Contributors Venues Organisation Functions Map Works Resources

AusStage - Researching Australian live performance
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BONZA - National Cinema & Television Database



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Deborah Klein
Melbourne, VIC, 1951 -

Other featured artists:

Pran Aton
Barraba, VIC, 1943 -
women's wear

Joseph Lycett
Staffordshire, England, UK,
c.1775 - c.1828
convict, forger, New South
Wales, Newcastle

Corren Sylvester
Sydney, NSW, 1974 -

A printmaker whose woodblock and linocut prints have been widely published, Klein was Highly Commended in the 1986 Sir Gairdner Award for Linocut Prints. Her contribution to 'Alice 125', the 1990 exhibition celebrating Lewis Carroll's 'Alice in Wonderland' was a series of 23 woodblocks exploring the idea of the ... [read more](#)

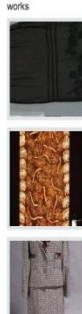
About the DAAG

Design and Art Australia Online (DAAG) is a collaborative e-Research tool built upon the

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Linkage Project
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AustLit aims to be the definitive virtual research environment and information resource for Australian literary, print, and narrative culture.

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Current News

AUSTLIT RESEARCHER DR CATRIONA MILLS REPORTS ON HER AFI RESEARCH COLLECTION RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP
Under the auspices of the 2013 AFI Research Collection (AFIRC) Research Fellowship, AustLit researcher Dr Catriona Mills has ...

NOMINEES FOR HELPMANN AWARDS ANNOUNCED
Kate Grenville's award-winning novel The Secret River has made a successful transition to the stage. The play itself, and

Projects

BLACKWORDS
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander writers and

COLONIAL NEWSPAPERS
Literary expression in newspapers 1838, 1868.

Obituaries Australia People Australia Women Australia Labour Australia National Centre of Biography



Australian Dictionary of Biography

text Search

Tip: Use double quotes to search for a phrase

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The Australian Dictionary of Biography is Australia's pre-eminent dictionary of national biography. In it you will find concise, informative and fascinating descriptions of the lives of significant and representative persons in Australian history.

The ADB is produced by the National Centre of Biography at the Australian National University.

What's New
28 August 2012
Digitised Biographies

AUSTLANG

austlang.aiatsis.gov.au/main.php

AUSTLANG
Australian Indigenous Languages Database

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Welcome to AUSTLANG

AUSTLANG provides information about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages. The core of AUSTLANG is a database which assembles information about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages from a number of sources.

The database contains the following information about each Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander language:

- alternative/variant names and spellings
- history of the number of speakers
- geographical distribution
- classifications from various sources
- resources
- documentation
- programs
- researchers

The search function can assist you to find a language of interest. Once you find a language, you can view information about the language and links to other online resources. Try searching on the Search page. Instructions can be found in the **Users' Guide** along with a comprehensive description of AUSTLANG.

The database is a work-in-progress. Users are strongly encouraged to **register** and comment on the data or send additional data for inclusion.

Some headings on this site have a 'pop-up' window which provides information about the headings. Pop-up windows appear

Map from Schmidt, Wilhelm 1919. Die Gliederung der australischen Sprachen : geographische, bibliographische, linguistische. Grundzüge der Erforschung der australischen Sprachen. Wien: Mechitaristen-Buch. Copyright by Mechitaristen-Kloster. This map is one of the earliest maps which show geographical distributions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages.

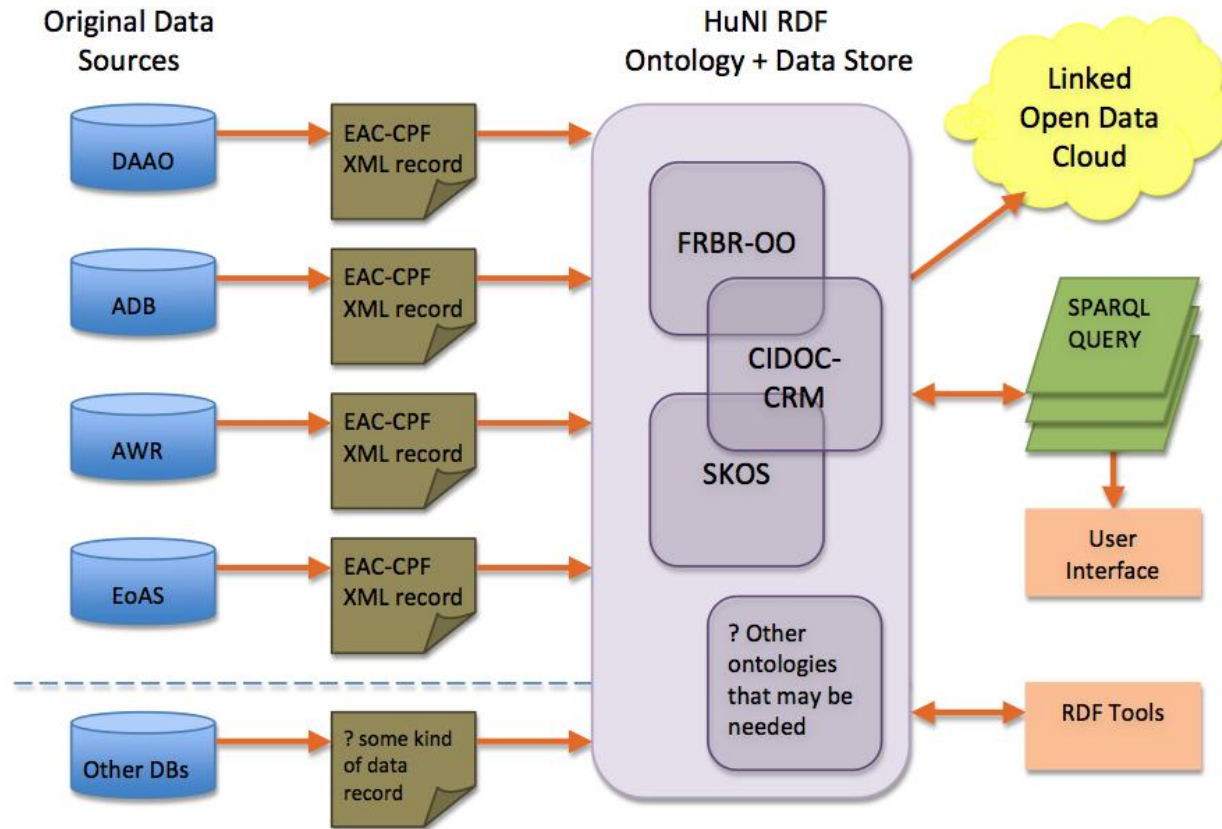


Integrating Meaning

- Align and link the contents of the partner datasets using reference ontologies and vocabularies
 - The characteristics of the datasets determine the ontological components selected and the major entities
 - Major common entities identified as: people, organizations, events, relationships, places, dates, resources, and subjects
 - Reference ontologies being used or considered: CIDOC-CRM, FOAF, FRBR, FRBR-OO, BibFrame and PROV-O
- Express the combined data as Linked Data in RDF format

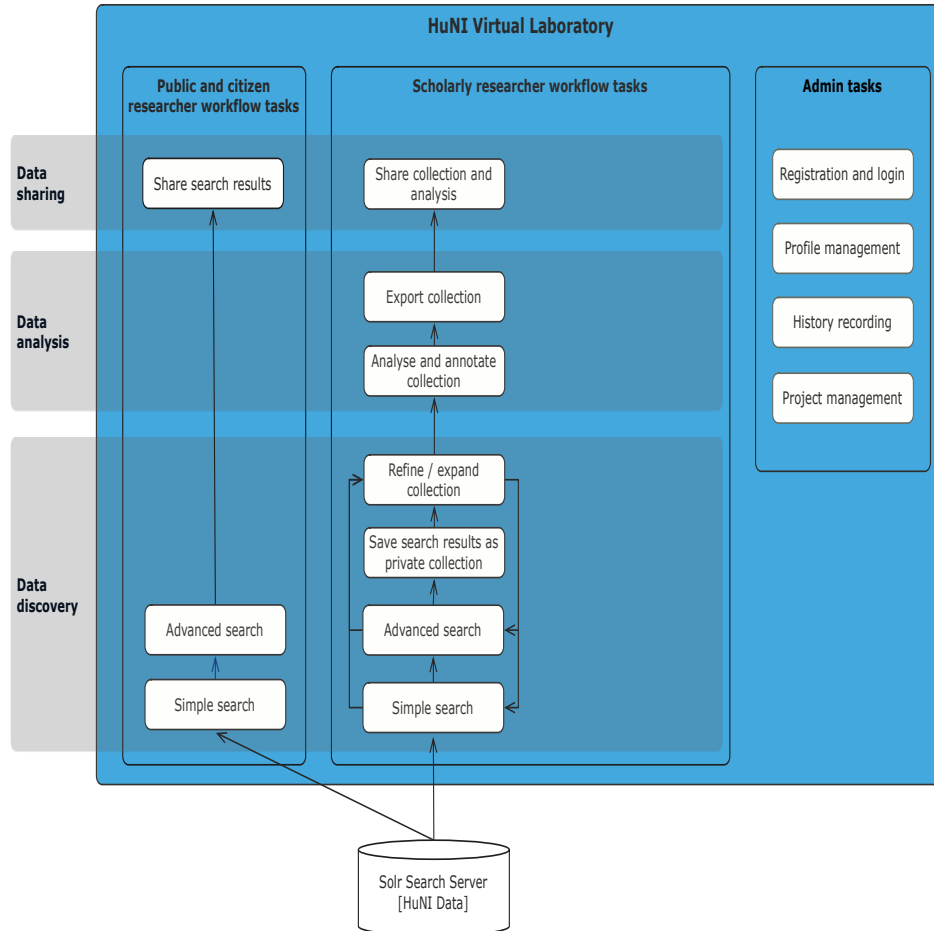


Integration Workflow



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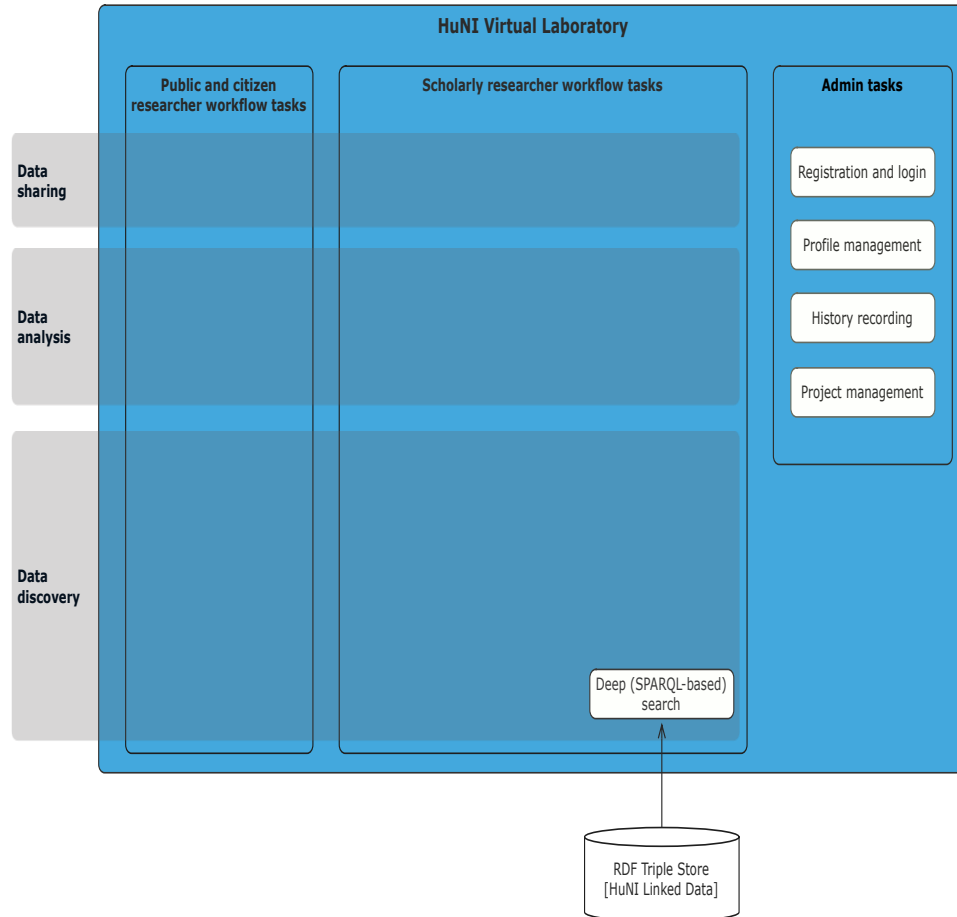
Research Environment (1)



A researcher with a HuNI account will be able to:

- Search the HuNI data
- Save their search results as a private collection
- Refine their collection through additional searches
- Analyse and annotate their collection with their own assertions and commentary
- Export their collection for further analysis
- Publish and share their collections and analyses

Research Environment (2)

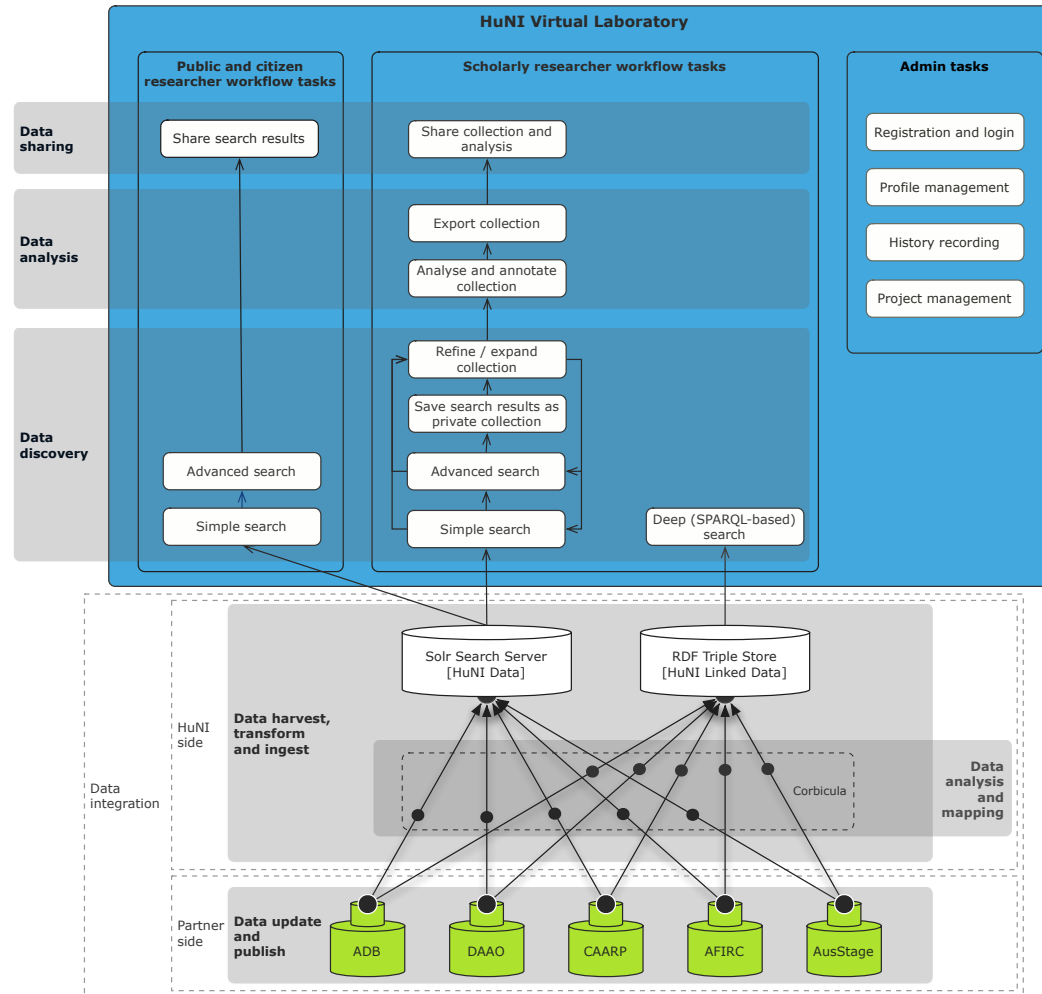


Researchers will be able to:

- perform a “deep search” of the graphs in the RDF Triple Store;
- browse by high-level facets.

The large-scale aggregation of Linked Data makes explicit the relationships and connections between records across all the partner datasets, enabling the researcher to construct more complex semantic queries.

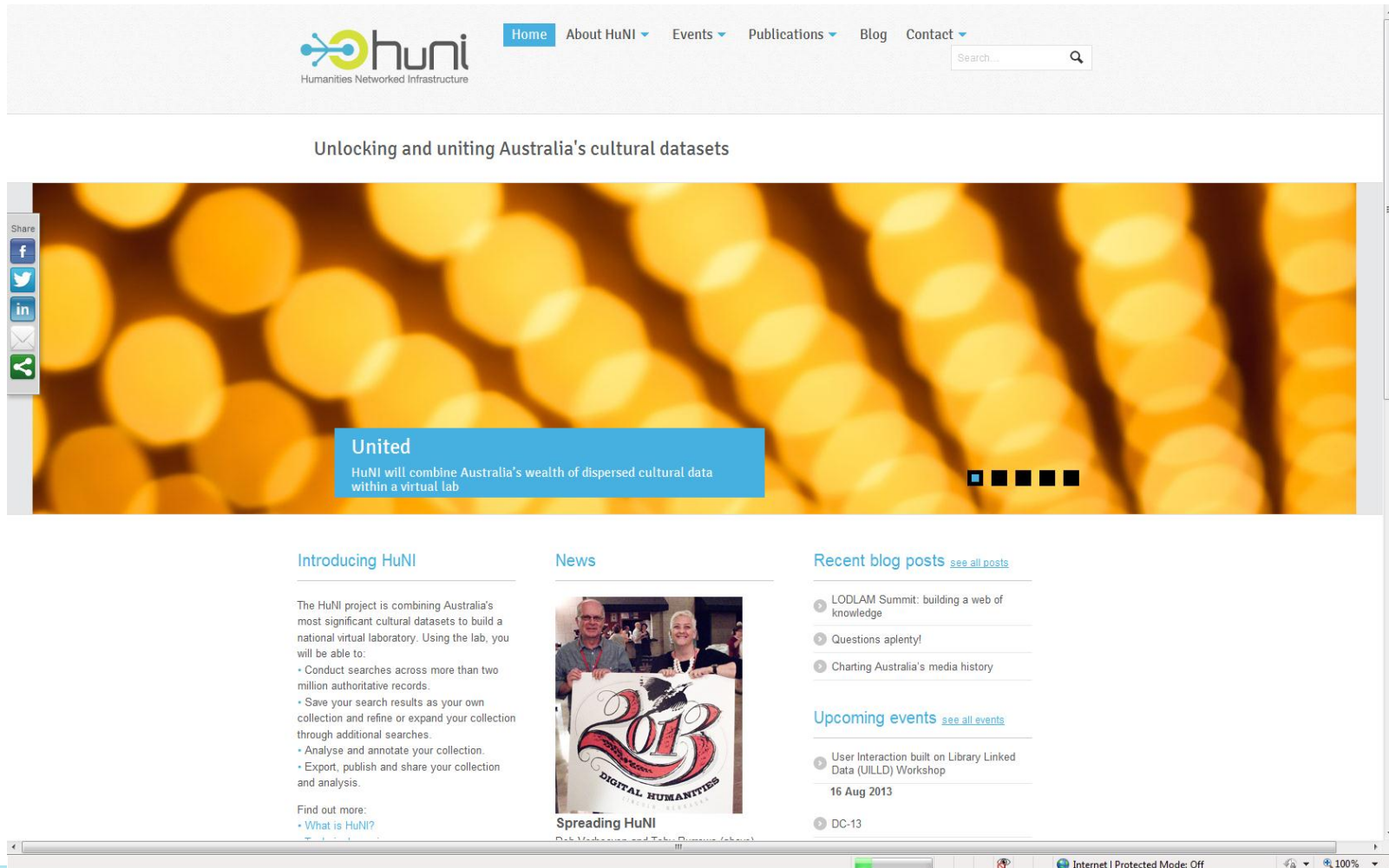
HuNI: Technical Overview



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More Information: huni.net.au



The screenshot shows the homepage of the huni.net.au website. At the top is a navigation bar with the huni logo, a search bar, and links for Home, About HuNI, Events, Publications, Blog, and Contact. Below the navigation bar is a large banner with a bokeh background of yellow and orange circles. The banner contains the text "Unlocking and uniting Australia's cultural datasets" and a blue box with the word "United" and the text "HuNI will combine Australia's wealth of dispersed cultural data within a virtual lab". To the left of the banner are social media share buttons for Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Email. Below the banner are three columns of content: "Introducing HuNI" with a list of capabilities, "News" with a photo of two people holding a "2013 Digital Humanities" sign, and "Recent blog posts" with a list of three posts. Below the news section is a section for "Upcoming events" with a list of two events. The website is displayed in a browser window with a status bar at the bottom showing "Internet | Protected Mode: Off" and a zoom level of 100%.

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Humanities Networked Infrastructure

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Search...

Unlocking and uniting Australia's cultural datasets

United

HuNI will combine Australia's wealth of dispersed cultural data within a virtual lab

Introducing HuNI

The HuNI project is combining Australia's most significant cultural datasets to build a national virtual laboratory. Using the lab, you will be able to:

- Conduct searches across more than two million authoritative records.
- Save your search results as your own collection and refine or expand your collection through additional searches.
- Analyse and annotate your collection.
- Export, publish and share your collection and analysis.

Find out more:

- What is HuNI?

News

Spreading HuNI

Recent blog posts [see all posts](#)

- 1 LODLAM Summit: building a web of knowledge
- 2 Questions aplenty!
- 3 Charting Australia's media history

Upcoming events [see all events](#)

- 1 User Interaction built on Library Linked Data (UILLD) Workshop

16 Aug 2013

- 2 DC-13

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