

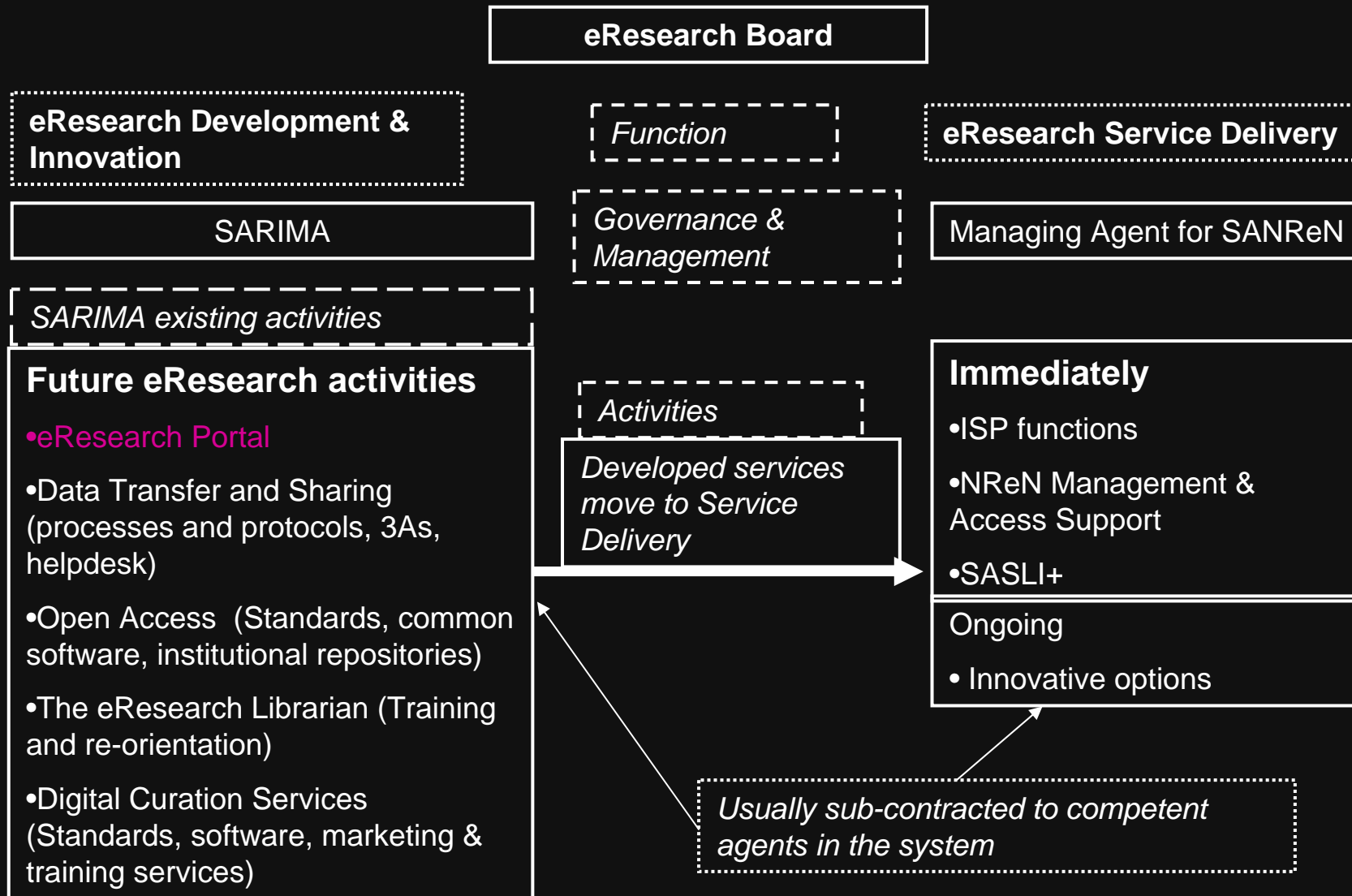
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# What can a real Research portal offer Research South Africa

## Content:

- eResearch portal as an element of SARIS
  - Objective and services of a eResearch portal
  - Practical example of such a portal
- Implications for the library and information profession?

# Proposed Structure for eResearch Service for SA



# eResearch portal definition, objective, advantages

**What is a portal:** a Web site that offers a broad array of resources and services, such as e-mail, forums and search engines with a high level of personalisation and customization

**Objective:** To provide a framework whereby all SA researchers receive support in accessing eResearch components and services; augmenting any services provided institutionally

**Advantages:** Provide a national tool for researchers to manage their academic information and knowledge; a way to centralize library information management activities

# eResearch portal services

- ★ Authentication & authorization
- ★ Institutional repository facility
- ★ Access to online commercial & free resources
- ★ A pay for view facility to accommodate isolated researchers
- ★ Global/federated search engine
- ★ Online Communities of Practice facility
- ★ Upload facility to Digital Curation database & other researchers via National Research Network
- ★ Online research support tools eg for reference management
- ★ Research management information

# eResearch portal aspects

Clients: all SA researchers

Beneficiaries:

- ★ Researchers and institutions that do not have a portal
- ★ Institutions can incorporate this facility into own portals

Modus operandi:

- Portal could be developed in conjunction with an established portal
- Researchers can access portal directly
- Authentication and authorization in collaboration with institutions
- Open standards

Practical example

# **infoportal.up.ac.za**

UP INFOportal was designed to support academic work: from search and retrieval of information, indexing of personal databases to publishing. The system is supported by communication through virtual groups.

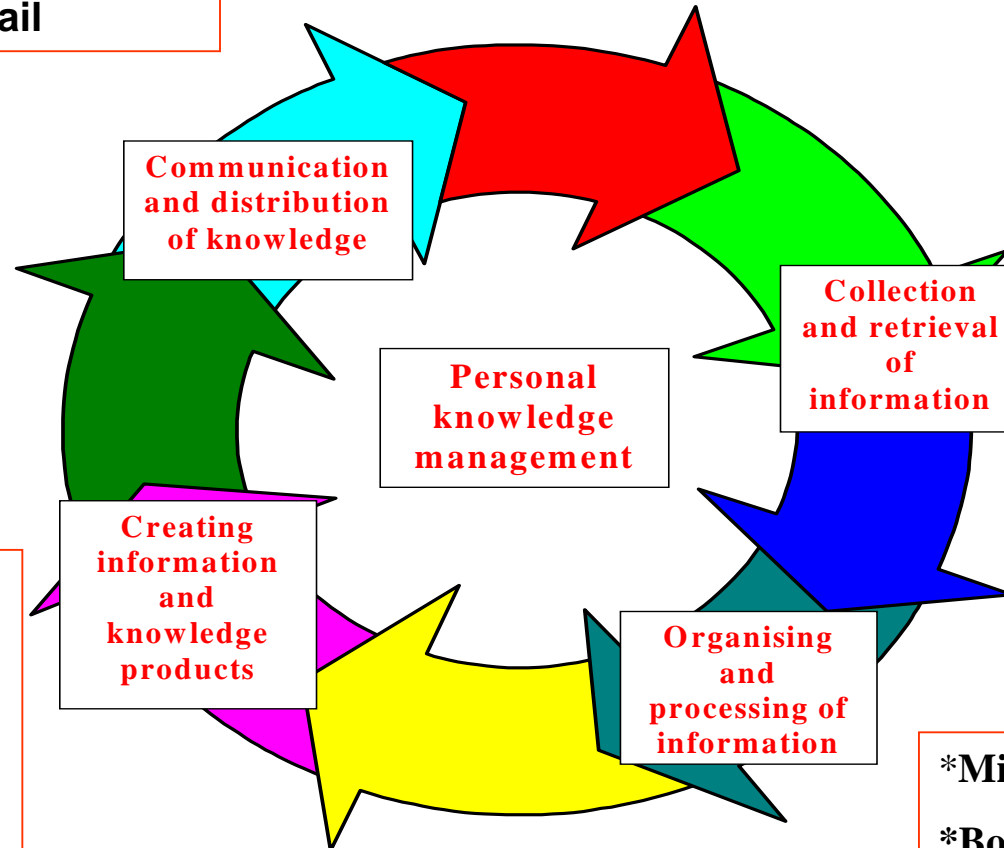
## ADVANTAGE-

INFOportal supports personal academic knowledge management for UP academics and students.



<http://infoportal.up.ac.za>

\*Virtual groups  
\*E-mail



\*Electronic publishing:  
\*\*UP e-theses and dissertations  
\*\*Electronic peer evaluation of conference papers

### \*E-resources

\*\*Resource types: web sites; e-journals; databases; conferences; e-books

\*\*Subject indexing according to academic departments

\***Alert service** (new relevant electronic resources)

\***Search** (internet: google, yahoo, altavista; library catalogue; UP website; e-resources)

\***Microdatabases**

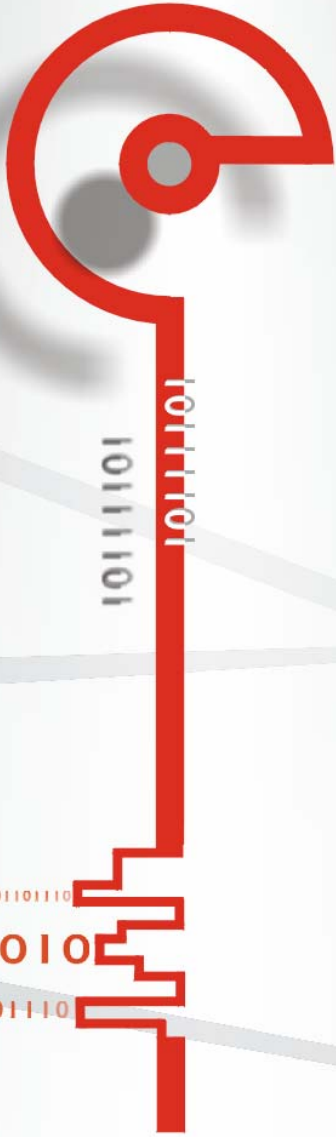
\***Bookmarks**: internet; electronic resources

\***Digital collections**

# INFOportal main functions

- Login and Customization
- Virtual Groups
- Electronic Resources
- Microdatabases
- Electronic Publishing

# Login & Customization



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Login



LOGIN

UP Home

UP Portal

LOGIN

UP Portal → LOGIN

### E-mail

Please login [here](#) to view your email.

### Micro Databases

Micro Databases is an application which was developed to assist in the management and sharing of small collections of data. It allows users to create an online database, manage it's data and to share the data with other users. [login Here](#) to join Micro Databases!

### Electronic Publishing

Use *Electronic Publishing* to publish your *thesis or dissertation* online or to view work that has already been published online.

[Login here](#) to use *Electronic Publishing*.

### Feedback

#### We Listen!

Feedback is an important part of improving your Portal experience. Please let us know what you think [here](#)

### Lecturers Online

Lecturers Online provides you with all the information you need to manage your courses online.

### Virtual Groups

Virtual Groups provide users of the Portal with the opportunity to create online groups and to collaborate with their peers through a simple to user web interface.

### Virtual Groups News

Virtual Groups messages for this week [Login Here!](#)

### Virtual Groups Calendar

Your upcoming Virtual Groups events for this month: [Login Here!](#)

### Internet Bookmarks

[login here](#)

### Search Electronic Resources Portlet

#### Search The Internet

[Google](#)

[Yahoo](#)

[AltaVista](#)

#### Search UP

[Search the UP Website](#)

[Search Library Catalog](#)

[\(UPExplore\)](#)

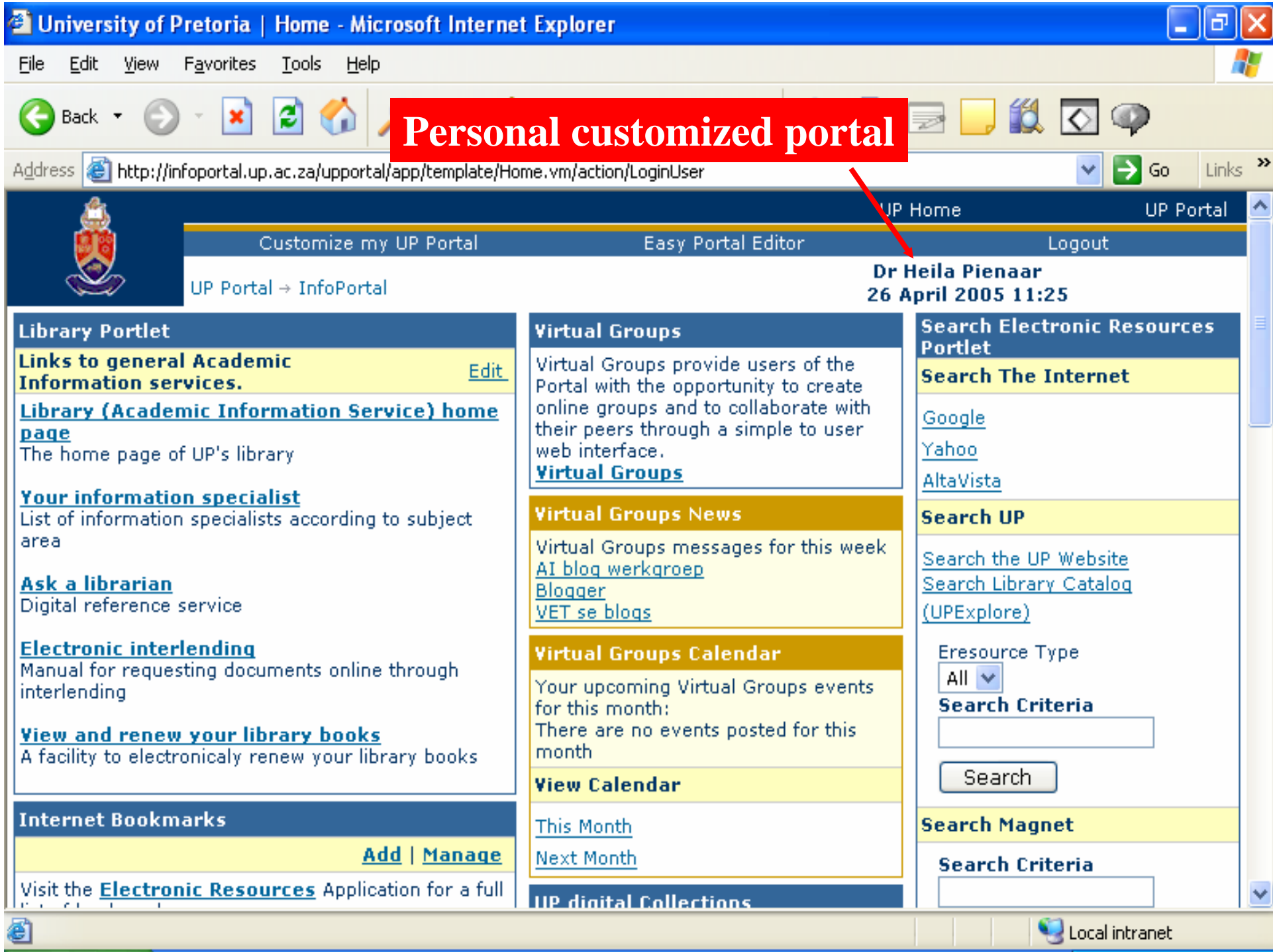
[Login Here](#)

#### Search Magnet

### New Electronic Resources

A list of the Electronic Resources most recently added to your Favourite

<http://infoportal.up.ac.za>



Personal customized portal



Library Portlet

Links to general Academic Information services. [Edit](#)

[Library \(Academic Information Service\) home page](#)  
The home page of UP's library

[Your information specialist](#)  
List of information specialists according to subject area

[Ask a librarian](#)  
Digital reference service

[Electronic interlending](#)  
Manual for requesting documents online through interlending

[View and renew your library books](#)  
A facility to electronically renew your library books

[Internet Bookmarks](#) [Add](#) | [Manage](#)

Visit the [Electronic Resources](#) Application for a full

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[Virtual Groups](#)

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Virtual Groups messages for this week  
[AI blog werkgroep](#)  
[Blogger](#)  
[VET se blogs](#)

Virtual Groups Calendar

Your upcoming Virtual Groups events for this month:  
There are no events posted for this month

View Calendar

[This Month](#)  
[Next Month](#)

UP digital Collections

Search Electronic Resources Portlet

Search The Internet

[Google](#)  
[Yahoo](#)  
[AltaVista](#)

Search UP

[Search the UP Website](#)  
[Search Library Catalog \(UPExplore\)](#)

Eresource Type

All

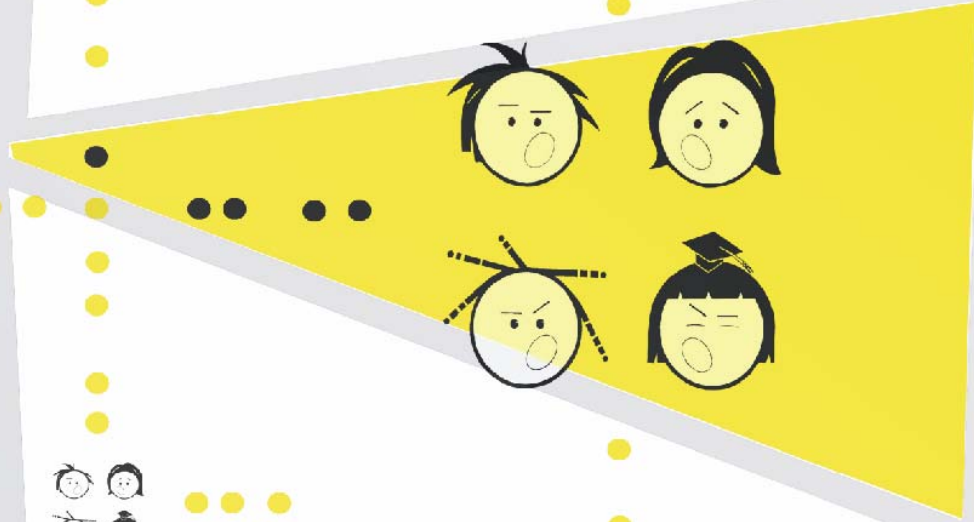
Search Criteria

Search Magnet

Search Criteria



# Virtual Groups



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## Advantages-

- Electronic collaboration:  
research, administration,  
learning, projects
- Applications: e-mail,  
bookmarks, uploading of any type  
of document



Library Portlet

Links to general Academic Information services. [Edit](#)

[Library \(Academic Information Service\) home page](#)

The home page of UP's library

Your information specialist

List of information specialists according to subject area

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[\(UPExplore\)](#)

Eresource Type

All

Search Criteria

Search

Search Magnet

Search Criteria



UP Portal Search the UP Website

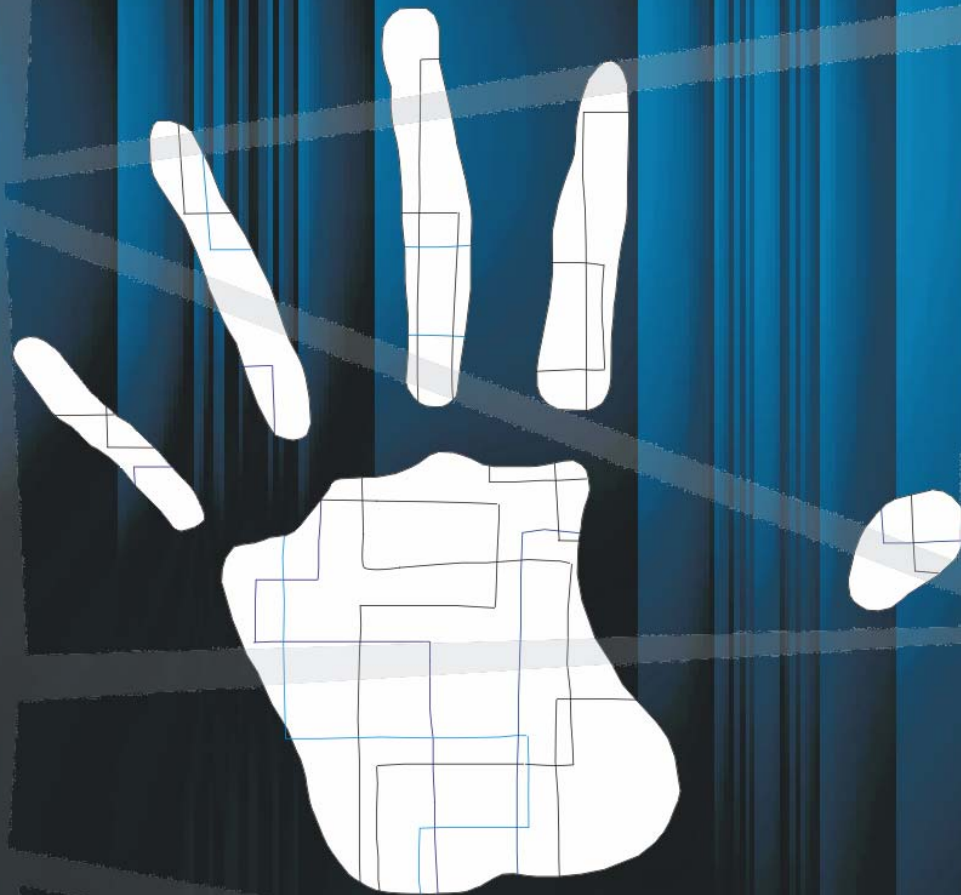
Help1 Logout

UP Portal → InfoPortal → Virtual Groups **Dr Heila Pienaar**  
26 April 2005 11:45

**Virtual Groups > AI blog werkgroep**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <a href="#">AI blog werkgroep</a></li> <li> <a href="#">What's New</a></li> <li> <a href="#">Messages</a></li> <li> <a href="#">Events</a></li> <li> <a href="#">Bookmarks</a></li> <li> <a href="#">Categories</a></li> <li> <a href="#">Documents and Resources</a></li> </ul>	<p><b>Title</b> AI blog werkgroep</p> <p><b>Description</b> Om blog, RSS en wiki toepassings vir die AI te ondersoek, mee te eksperimenteer en implementeer. Sluit inligtingsessies, bemarking en opleiding in.</p> <p><b>Quick Link</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Most Recent Messages</li> <li><a href="#">VET se blogs</a></li> <li><a href="#">Blogger</a></li> <li><a href="#">AI blog werkgroep</a></li> <li>Most Recent Events</li> </ul>
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# Electronic Resources



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## Advantages-

- Information specialists from the AIS organise **Electronic Resources** for every UP department
- New and relevant resources are brought automatically highlighted
- **Search function:** Internet search engines links and university and library catalogue searches (UP Explore).
- Journal, database, web sites, e-book and conferences searches

visit the [Electronic Resources](#) Application for a full list of bookmarks...

- [Heilas Webindex](#)
- [Heilas cv](#)
- [Design experiments](#)
- [KM:conceptual shift](#)
- [Infoportal tutorial](#)
- [Caught in between weblog](#)
- [MIT's Dspace](#)
- [DSpace artikel](#)
- [Public knowledge project](#)
- [The Ship that Sailed to Mars](#)
- [Geegaw weblog](#)
- [E-informationtrends presentation](#)
- [AIS web page](#)
- [Virtual communities](#)
- [heilasinfoblog](#)
- [Blogger \(heilasinfoblog; heilainfo\)](#)
- [Amazon soekenjin](#)
- [AI DSpace](#)
- [Ina dspace webblad](#)
- [Ina se fedora webblad](#)

**E-mail**

Please close any other active mail application (Outlook / Netscape) before using this application to read your email.

Folder	New	Total
Inbox	3	94

[Read your email via the web](#)

**UP digital Collections**

**UP Greenstone Digital Collections**

[ArchUP digital collection](#)  
**Owner:**[Department of Architecture](#)

Build your own digital collection with the Greenstone Software:  
[www.greenstone.org](http://www.greenstone.org)

Do you have a digital collection that should be on this list?  
[Click here!](#)

**UP Library Digital Collections**

[Van Warmelo Collection](#)  
A collection of photographs and documents of the 19th century cultural anthropologist, Dr. van Warmelo.

**Performance Management**

This portlet provides users of the Portal the opportunity to complete performance management online.  
[Perform Management](#)

**Students Online Services**

Student Online Services provides you with all the information you need for your studies.  
[Go to Students Online Services](#)

Search

**New Electronic Resources**

A list of the Electronic Resources most recently added to your Favourite Subjects.  
No new Electronic Resources

**Electronic Resources**

The Electronic resources portlet provides access to an electronic library.

**Electronic resources**

**Browse By All Resource Types**

- [Journals](#)
- [Databases](#)
- [Web sites](#)
- [Conferences](#)
- [E-books](#)
- [Courses](#)

**Browse By All Subjects**

- [E-Learning](#)
- [Information Science](#)

**My Electronic Resource Bookmarks**

# Implications of a national eResearch portal for the library profession?

- ★ What will the role of research libraries and librarians be in a national academic information environment where researchers can “help themselves”?
- ★ Will eResearch librarians be necessary and what will they do?
- ★ Suggestions for new roles:
  - Members of eResearch teams
  - Facilitate virtual Communities of Practice
  - Manage institutional digital repositories
  - Take ownership of certain services of the proposed eResearch portal eg research support tools, digital curation ..

# Credits

- Presenter: dr Jakkie Pretorius,  
Director, Dept IT, UP
- ePortal concept: SARIS team
- Design and development of UP academic  
portal: Dr Heila Pienaar, Academic  
Information Service, University of  
Pretoria
- Development of UP portal software:
  - Frank Conradie, Opticode
  - Leon Messerschmidt, Psybergate