



## A sophisticated wiki environment, with a range of extra collaboration tools



### **Confluence**

Confluence has been designed to allow users to create public or private wikis, and to enable the collaborative editing and hosting of web-based content. It also has complete version tracking capabilities for complex updates to information.

Confluence is well suited to collaborative research and also specifically for the development of submissions as large numbers of people can provide their input.

Confluence also possesses a robust security model with content backed up daily to Monash Large Research Data Store (LaRDS).

To use simply login using your Monash authcate ID and password at: <https://confluence-vre.its.monash.edu>

Enquiries: [merc@adm.monash.edu.au](mailto:merc@adm.monash.edu.au)

## About Confluence

The Confluence Enterprise Wiki is one of the newest additions to the Monash University collaborative research space. Confluence is an enterprise wiki that provides a secure, stable and customisable wiki environment for users, and relies upon the Monash LaRDS research data store, to provide reliable long term preservation of data.

As a highly-developed and professional-level wiki Confluence provides access to a number of useful tools and features - which include the collaborative creation and modification of both internal and external web pages and wiki pages, and also:

- Work areas,
- Blogs,
- Bulletins,
- Notices,
- News posts,
- File storage,
- Versioning,
- Custom templates, and
- User-configurable skinning



The Monash instance of Confluence is provided 'as is' by Monash University for use by Monash researchers, and by their research collaborators at other institutions.

## Some Example Applications

- Preparation of Research Grant Applications: Researchers can directly contribute and make changes to a document. - All detailed changes can be tracked, and content is securely backed up to LaRDS.
- Researcher Collaboration: Confluence can be customised and the look 'skinned' for a sophisticated collaboration tool for data sharing and on-going project developments. Indexing and search features are available and Confluence also allows for image galleries, bulletins, news posts and the importing of MS Office documents into a web format. Links and access to specialised research tools/software can also be added, to create a central project work area, accessible from anywhere in the world.
- Virtual or one-off 'think tanks' can also be a useful application for Confluence. These could be comprised of a select group of academics and HDR students; intra-faculty; intra-University or opened up to the wider international community. Keeping a comprehensive record of the input of individuals can lead to new areas for research. 'Virtual groups' can naturally arise from contacts made at conferences, without a deluge of emails occurring.
- Collaboration with external experts on document proposals, or submissions, is an ideal application for Confluence, by using the sophisticated tracking of changes to documents. Special interest groups; business etc. All of these people can provide online input into a proposal, which may have a strict deadline. (This is of value to faculties whose researchers 'frequently' have significant reach and impact upon the wider community.)

## Getting Started

All Monash staff and students can access Confluence by logging in using their Monash authcate ID and password at url:

<https://confluence-vre.its.monash.edu>

## Support Information

The Monash Confluence site has extensive support information available:

<https://confluence-vre.its.monash.edu.au/display/mercdocwiki/Collaboration+Tools+Wiki+Index>

## Phone Support Team

For personalised support please contact:

Stephen Welsh on ph. 990 55183  
[Stephen.Welsh@monash.edu](mailto:Stephen.Welsh@monash.edu)  
- or  
Leon Kolchinsky on ph. 990 59560  
[Leon.Kolchinsky@its.monash.edu.au](mailto:Leon.Kolchinsky@its.monash.edu.au)

## Contact MeRC

MeRC support staff are available to discuss all your research needs.

\*Please email your general enquiry to:

[merc@adm.monash.edu.au](mailto:merc@adm.monash.edu.au)

- or phone:

**Anthony Beitz, Technical Manager, MeRC**  
on 990 58681

**Stephen Dart, LaRDS Service Manager**  
on 990 54786

**Wojtek Goscinski, Advanced Technology Analyst, MeRC** on 990 20715

**Debra Truin, Manager Outreach and Education, MeRC** on 990 20797