

MURPA Seminar: Friday 7 September 2012, 9am

Advancing Environmental Understanding; the Role of eScience

Speaker: Dan Fay

Venue: Seminar Room 135, Building 26, Clayton Campus, and Seminar Room H7.84, Caulfield Campus, Monash University

Abstract:

Our understanding of the world around us is evolving, and with evolution comes the need for adaptation. Environmental scientific research is increasingly having to adapt—from dealing with increasingly large and growing datasets, to trying to credibly inform the public and policy makers. There is a need to have new types of applications grounded in scientific research to move from raw discovery, to knowledge, to informing practical decisions. Understanding environmental changes from the levels of neighborhoods, to regions, to the globe is the focus of scientific study and policy decisions. Technology reinforced by computing is demonstrating the capacity to improve our environmental understanding. This talk contains examples of environmental changes and the challenges that are the focus of scientific investigation; it also identifies technologies and tools that can make an impact on these understandings.

Biography:

Dan Fay is director of the Earth, Energy, and Environment effort at Microsoft Research Connections and works with academic scientists on related topics. Previously, he handled North America as part of the Technical Computing Initiative. Dan serves as a member of the Purdue University Computer and Information Technology Industrial advisory board. He is a graduate of Northeastern University.