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Welcome to the Inaugural MyResearch Newsletter

MyResearch Ethics is the first component of the MyResearch management system to be implemented at UQ. MyResearch came out of and was funded by, the Research Management Business Transformation Program (RMBT).

As with all vendor-supplied products, trying to tailor the system to meet the needs of all our researchers, ethics teams and reviewers was challenging. We thank you for your patience, feedback and understanding during this transition.

The support for users has now moved over to the Research Systems Team. As well as continuing to provide user support, the Research Systems Team will work to update and improve the system going forward.

The Research Systems team looks after other research systems that you will be familiar with, including UQ Research Data Manager (UQRDM) and Digital Research Notebooks (DRN provided by LabArchives).

Improvements to MyResearch

Since the launch of MyResearch in January 2021, we have received feedback from both the Research Ethics Office as well as the research community. Based on this feedback, we have prioritised fixes that directly impacted the workflow of the Ethics applications. There has been a lot of work done to the internal portal to ensure applications can be dealt with more efficiently.

There have also been a number of improvements that have enhanced the usability for applicants, these include (among others):

Team members
Previously, only 10 team members could be listed on a human ethics application, we have now removed this limit so all team members are able to be named on the project.

Timing out issues
Some users experienced timing-out issues when inputting multiple experiments, substances or team members within their animal ethics application. We have been able to redesign and improve the response time of the affected forms and this should no longer be an issue.

Autosave feature
When MyResearch Ethics first launched, some users experienced issues with losing progress on their applications if they left them too long without saving. This has been remedied with the addition of an autosave feature. There is also a countdown on the top right-hand corner to let you know how long you have left before the system logs you out. This is currently set for 2 hours (regardless of activity), after which you simply need to re-sign in if you are still working on your application.

Animal ethics applications
For animal ethics applications, we introduced the ability to search for animal species/strains by their common name making it easier to find and add strains to your applications. Additionally, the certificates now display the common name as opposed to its scientific name.

Approval certificates
We've made approval certificates visible on the MyResearch portal, so they are easily accessible should you need to download them or refer back to them at any point.

Login page notifications
You will notice a new notification box on the MyResearch login page. This feature allows us to inform you of any important updates and system outages that may temporarily affect access to MyResearch. We have also included some further information regarding account creation and log in requirements for those users who do not sign in via UQ SSO.

New Research Support form

Even though not directly an improvement in the MyResearch system, researchers having issues with MyResearch can now get a quicker response by filling out this form - by selecting the relevant category, you can ensure that your enquiry will get to the right person faster.

Coming Soon

We are continuously working to improve the MyResearch system and our resources based on the feedback we gather. Some notable new features to be launched very soon include:

Mosaic database integration

One of the most anticipated updates to the system for animal ethics applicants is the automatic synchronization of laboratory animal strains with those in the Mosaic database. Currently, the upload of new or updated strains is a manual process leading to some delays in users being able to submit their applications. With this process now automated, strains will become available in MyResearch the day after being added to the Mosaic database by UQ Biological Resources. This update is currently being tested by our team to make sure it is functioning correctly before we make it available to all users in Q1 2022.
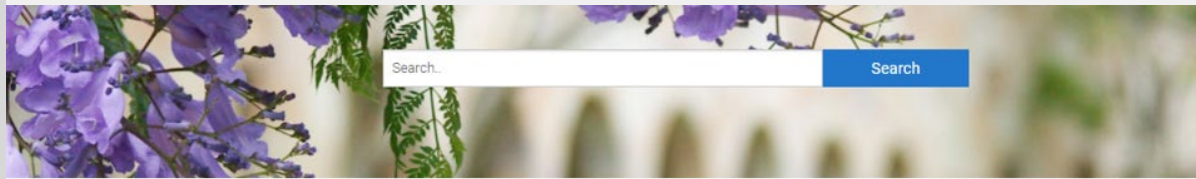
New landing page

To ensure that all our users can easily access our resources, or contact us when needed, we are creating a new landing page through which you will log in to MyResearch. Here you will be able to find:

- Log in instructions
- Links to resources
- Information about recent system updates
- FAQ's
- Help desk

Systems Training Hub

Did you know there is a designated site for all MyResearch resources?

The [MyResearch Training Hub](#) provides resources for researchers and ethics committee members on how to use the system.

Need more help?

If you have a question regarding the MyResearch system, you can contact our friendly service desk via our [Research Support Form](#).

For queries or guidance on how to fill out an ethics application, how to manage your existing approvals or when to complete milestones, please review the [Research Ethics and Integrity website](#) or contact the relevant ethics team:

Animal Ethics: animal.ethics@research.uq.edu.au
Human Ethics: humanethicsadmin@research.uq.edu.au