

Kororoit Institute will be immersed in, engaged with and leverage the exceptional growth of Melbourne's western metropolitan region.¹

The name Kororoit was chosen and domain names registered because it is distinctive and it applies to significant geographic and cultural features of this region, the heartland of current and future urban growth.

Across many scales we see regions as providing an important human and natural unit for focusing our research on communities of interest.

Membership and sponsorship enquiries welcome.

Kororoit Institute will seek to collaborate with other institutions and researchers where our special focus adds value.

¹ Our identification of this opportunity was confirmed by social demographer Bernard Salt's presentation of Victoria University's inaugural Chancellor's Lecture delivered 19 April 2011.

Kororoit Institute Proponents and Supporters Association Inc.

Our aim is to establish an independent and interdisciplinary research institute focused on complex systems, from theory to practice.

A generation on, we look to the example of Santa Fe Institute which pioneered an interdisciplinary approach to the study of complex systems.

Establishing a fully fledged research institute in Australia which can work with, but is independent of, established universities is no trivial task.

The Kororoit Institute Proponents and Supporters Association was incorporated on 15 April 2011 with immediate objectives to facilitate and prepare for the establishment of "Kororoit Institute, however named":

1. Recruit participation of organisations and individuals.
2. Prepare and pursue a detailed strategy for establishment of the Institute.
3. Initiate and support research, training and consultancy services of the kind envisaged for the Institute at levels appropriate to a professional association.

The Association is making progress on each of these aims and anticipates being able to launch the Institute proper early in 2012.

Kororoit

The Association has been formed by academics from various universities and practitioners with wide industrial and community experience who have worked together in various combinations over several years.

These founders resolved that the Institute should have a "research focus crossing emergence, systems, complexity, organisation knowledge management, community consultation, service corridor and public land use planning, and facilitating information technologies."

Applying theory

Members of the Santa Fe Institute and others involved in the disciplines of physics, biology and sociology have identified complex and chaotic systems as self-organising.

The Kororoit Proponents seek to extend this work with multidisciplinary applied studies, informed by the general principles of complex systems through practical approaches to regional issues.

The Proponents seek a more holistic approach to avoid current tendencies in science to overspecialise, whilst retaining commitment to evidence based practice and transparent analysis.

TOMOK

Kororoit Proponents build on the work of an informal group concerned with the Theory Ontology and Management of Organizational Knowledge which had its origins providing knowledge management services for a large successful defense procurement project. Frameworks include Popper's three worlds and Maturana's autopoiesis.

Melbourne Emergence Meetup

The group which meets on the second Thursday each month brings together those interested in applying complex systems concepts to knowledge management and broader social sciences with those studying complexity from a math or hard science perspective. While separate entities, there is a close relationship with the Kororoit Proponents.

Advising PhD candidates

The Kororoit Proponents are already proving magnets for PhD candidates who need a knowledge management/complex systems perspective to add to their work across a range of specialised fields.

to improve practice

A pillar of plans for Kororoit Institute is to increase the value of community consultation by improving procedures for collecting, curating and citing information obtained from interested community members and groups.

Where such information relates to public space, it is to be made visible through a mapping layer so items which may be below a threshold for explicit citation in a planning document are still available for consideration as implementation details are developed.

Putting Community Knowledge in Place

Kororoit Proponents provided a special session "Putting Community Knowledge in Place" at the November 2010 Melbourne Knowledge Cities World Summit "From Theory to Practice" which examined planning issues at many levels.

Transport and land use planning

Kororoit Proponents want to extend foundational work done by the Victorian government with the Transport Integration Act and Planning Maps Online to widen real community participation.

Community outreach and enterprise systems training

An important goal for the Institute is to make available our members' theoretical and practical understandings of complex organisational systems as these apply across a range of levels from community groups to large industrial organisations.

We anticipate these outreach activities will range from organising talks and seminars at the community level to the provision of practical training courses in enterprise solutions architecture to meet requirements for passing The Open Group Architecture Framework (TOGAF 9) and other internationally recognised certifications.

