

Dr Brian Ballsun-Stanton

SOLUTIONS ARCHITECT (DIGITAL HUMANITIES)

Faculty of Arts, Macquarie University, NSW 2109

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Personal Profile

Solutions architect with over 8 years designing and delivering technical solutions for academic and student research projects at the Macquarie University Faculty of Arts and UNSW Australia. Chief Investigator in grants and prizes across the humanities and social sciences totalling over AUD\$2,610,000. These have included Technical Director for a field-data collection project, delivering 50+ field data collection modules since 2013. An internationally respected researcher in the Digital Humanities with eleven peer-reviewed publications, book-chapters, and conference presentations.

Education

UNSW Australia

PHD IN PHILOSOPHY

2012
Sydney, Australia

- Thesis: *Asking about data: exploring different realities of data via the social data flow network methodology*. Supervisor: Dr Anthony Coronos

Rochester Institute of Technology

MS IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

2007
Rochester, New York, United States

- Deborah Cahn Memorial Scholarship, Department Graduate Assistantship in Databases Scholarship
- Thesis: *The Manta Project: Conception, Implementation, and Reflections on a Cable Array Robot and its Interfaces*. Supervisor: Dr Jon Schull.

Rochester Institute of Technology

BS IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

2005
Rochester, New York, United States

- RIT Scholar (University Medal), Graduated with Highest Honors

Employment

Macquarie University

SOLUTIONS ARCHITECT (DIGITAL HUMANITIES) – PROFESSIONAL

2018 – Present
Sydney, Australia

- Worked with colleagues to design, develop, and deploy data pipelines and outputs for their research. Onwork.edu.au, ARC funded, twice featured in The Australian, is an ongoing collaboration with Prof JP Deranty, transforming a 1000+ citation database into a website.
- Developed Data Management standards and online courseware in compliance with the new NHMRC rules with the Macquarie University Research Integrity Secretariat.
- Organised and was a lead instructor for 10+ Software Carpentry and Carpentries Instructor Training workshops.
- Won a U.S. Challenge.gov Prize for designing a innovative offline-capable field data collection framework with A/Prof Shawn Ross.
- Brought Macquarie University on as a partner on Google Arts and Culture.
- Collaborated with Ubisoft and Google on the Hieroglyphics Initiative/Fabircius.
- Supported academics and students across the faculty to design, deliver, and deploy technical solutions to academic research problems.

Macquarie University

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR, FIELD ACQUIRED INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS (FAIMS) PROJECT – PROFESSIONAL

2015 – 2018
Sydney, Australia

- Supported a major code update and capability extension for FAIMS 2.
- Designed, edited, and typeset a grant-funded “User to Developer Guide”.
- Provided emergency remote support for teams using FAIMS in the field worldwide.
- Deployed 47 field-ready modules with custom data export capabilities into CSVs, shapefiles, JSON, ConTeXt, and KML.
- Maintained and supported virtual machines for all FAIMS infrastructure.

UNSW Australia

DATA ARCHITECT, FEDERATED ARCHAEOLOGICAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS (FAIMS) PROJECT –

2012 – 2015
Sydney, Australia

ACADEMIC/PROFESSIONAL

- Directed FAIMS development goals for a successful mobile app launch.
- Deployed seven field modules and exporters to convert data into CSVs and shapefiles.
- Developed a domain-key normal form data structure, XML and XSLT transforms for data specification, and appropriate database queries to convert XML into a spatially enabled SQLite database.
- Administered all FAIMS infrastructure, designing and managing project virtual machines and management infrastructure.

Selected Publications

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- 2018 Ballsun-Stanton, B., Ross, S. A., Sobotkova, A., & Crook, P. FAIMS mobile: Flexible, open-source software for field research. *SoftwareX*, 7, 47–52. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.softx.2017.12.006>
- 2018 VanValkenburgh, P., Silva, L. O. G., Repetti-Ludlow, C., Gardner, J., Crook, J., & Ballsun-Stanton, B. Mobilization as mediation: Implementing a Tablet-Based recording system for ceramic classification. *Advances in Archaeological Practice*, 1–15. <https://doi.org/10.1017/aap.2018.12>
- 2013 Ross, S., Sobotkova, A., Ballsun-Stanton, B., & Crook, P. Creating eresearch tools for archaeologists: The federated archaeological information management systems project. *Australian Archaeology*, 77(1), 107–119.
- 2010 Ballsun-Stanton, B. Asking about data: Experimental philosophy of information technology. *5th International conference on computer sciences and convergence information technology*, 119–124.
- 2010 Ballsun-Stanton, B., & Carruthers, K. # c3t the command & control of twitter: On a socially constructed twitter & applications of the philosophy of data. *Computer Sciences and Convergence Information Technology (ICCIT), 2010 5th International Conference on*, 161–165.
- 2010 Carruthers, K., & Ballsun-Stanton, B. # c3t an agreeable swarm: Twitter, the democratization of media & non-localized proximity. *Computer Sciences and Convergence Information Technology (ICCIT), 2010 5th International Conference on*, 166–169.
- 2009 Ballsun-Stanton, B., & Bunker, D. Philosophy of data (pod) and its importance to the discipline of information systems. *Americas Conference on Information Systems 2009*, Paper–435.

Grants and Prizes

SUMMARY

\$2,264,254	total external competitive grant income	2012 – Present
6	grants awarded	2012 – Present

RECENT GRANTS

Partner Funded Research

TIER 2 RESEARCH FUNDING

NULL

Lead: Collaborators from two universities.

2020 – 2021
AUD \$200,000.00
Macquarie University

Australian Research Council Linkage Project

(LP170100050) INDIGENOUS FOODWAYS IN COLONIAL CAPE YORK PENINSULA

Morrison, M., D. McNaughton, H. Burke, I. Moffat, S. Ross, A. Sobotkova, B. Asmussem, B. Ballsun-Stanton, and D. Claudie

Trace historical Indigenous foodways in colonial Cape York Peninsula, Queensland, through a program of collaborative community-based archaeological and anthropological research. Lead: A/Prof Mick Morrison.

2018 – 2020
AUD \$301,254.00
Flinders University

New South Wales Government Research Attraction & Acceleration Program

FIELD ACQUIRED INFORMATION MANAGE-MENT SYSTEMS (FAIMS) PROJECT

Ross, S., A. Sobotkova, B. Ballsun-Stanton

Continue development of the Federated Archaeological Information Systems Project, especially customisation and deployment at participating fieldwork projects. Lead: A/Prof Shawn Ross.

2016 – 2018
AUD \$400,000.00
Macquarie University

PRIZES

Challenge.gov prize: US Bureau of Reclamation, US Geological Survey

DATAAPP: A MOBILE APP FRAMEWORK FOR FIELD DATA CAPTURE - STAGE 1

Ballsun-Stanton B., S. Ross and S. Cassidy

2018
USD \$5,625
Macquarie University

Skills

Databases	SQL, Database Design, ETL, Data Warehousing, SQLite, Oracle, PostgreSQL, MySQL
Philosophy	Metascience, Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Technology, Philosophy of Data
Programming	Python, HTML, Javascript, SASS, CSS, PL/SQL, Java, R
DevOps	Bash, DNS, Restic, GNU Parallel, Imagemagick, ffmpeg, Jekyll, Git, Github, OpenStack, AWS
Typesetting and Design	ℒ _Ṽ TeX, ConT _Ṽ Ext, BibT _Ṽ EX, Adobe Indesign, Markdown and Pandoc, Inkscape, Photoshop
Teaching	Badged Carpentries Instructor Trainer, Badged Carpentries Instructor
Project Management	Requirements elicitation, Agile SDLC, Rational Unified Process, Waterfall
Geographic Information Systems	Spatialite, OSGeo(GDAL/OGR), GeoJSON