



DON'T USE THE M WORD

Tania Dastres and Marcus Ransom
RMIT University

Thanks to



Hashtag : **#xw14**

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Don't use the M word

Tania Dastres

MacWorks Technical Lead

and

Marcus Ransom

Lead Apple Technician

Don't use the M word

- RMIT University
- Old IT vs new IT. It's ALL about the user
- How are we moving towards the new?
- What next?

RMIT University

- Founded in 1887
- Australia's largest tertiary institution
- 82,000 students



RMIT University



- Campuses in Melbourne CBD, Bundoora and Brunswick
- 2 international campuses in Vietnam
- Research office in Barcelona



RMIT University

- Over 15,000 computers
- At least 2500 Mac OS X*



Using a Mac at RMIT

where we have come from

- Individual college based IT departments
- Mixed teams providing support across platforms
- Labs owned and maintained by colleges/schools
- Some knowledge sharing between colleges

Labs

- Nearly 1300 machines in over 60 Labs
- Monolithic images
- Individual customisation for different spaces
- Network logins
- Administration via ARD
- Moved to Munki and Deploy Studio in 2011

Staff Machines

- Over 1200 machines (exact numbers uncertain)
- Monolithic or no images
- No centralised management
- Local user accounts
- Mix of purchased and leased
- Poor asset tracking

2012

- Centralised ITS
- Client Computing

2013

- Advanced Technologies - Apple Team

Apple Team

- Third level support for Mac OS X and iOS
- Supporting Service Desk and Field Services with level 1 & 2 tasks
- Deployments outsourced
- Project support with experienced Apple technical knowledge
- Casper Suite used to manage 1200 lab machines in 2014

Why change?



What worked and what didn't

- No management = minimal restrictions
- Excellent specialised and localised support
- Poor skill levels in some areas
- No way of automating updates to staff
- We had NO idea how many machines we had

Managed Operating Environment

that's an M word right at the start isn't it?



Don't use the M word



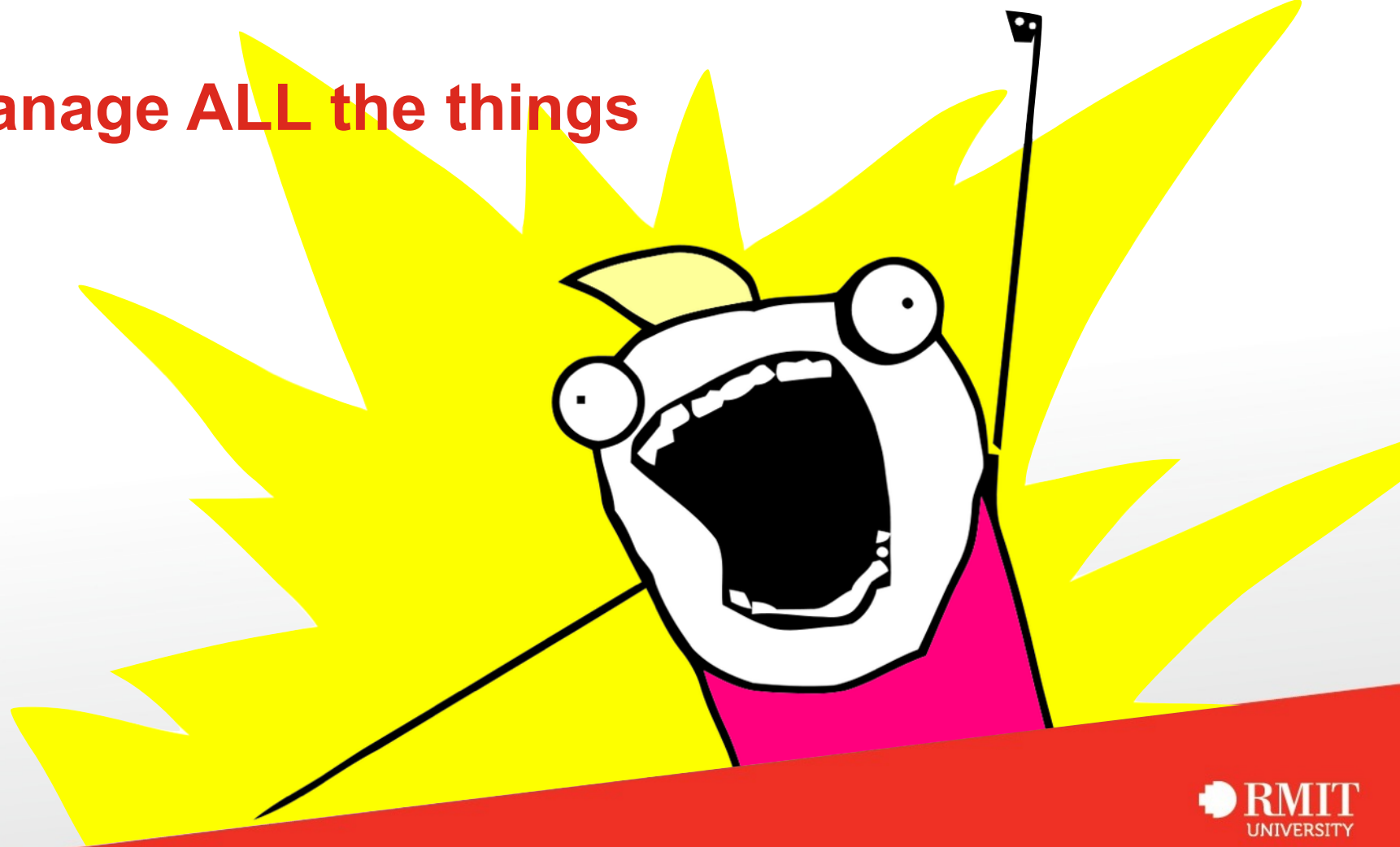
Old IT



Old style Macintosh management

- Monolithic image - make any changes - do it all again
- Manage configuration and preferences, software updates
- Golden Triangle/Directory Services/MCX/network home directories
- Restricted access to admin privileges
- Goal of consistency

manage ALL the things



The perfect storm



The storm builds



- yearly OS Updates
- installESD
- iCloud integration
- deprecation of MCX
- configuration profiles
- move from MIT to Hemdahl Kerberos
- rewrite of dscl
- document autosave and versions
- iLife app adoption
- client OS Virtualisation
- internet recovery
- recovery HD

Can you see a pattern?



- Free Upgrade
- Mac App Store for standard users
- VPP and DEP
- iWork app adoption
- plist caching

What is going to change next??

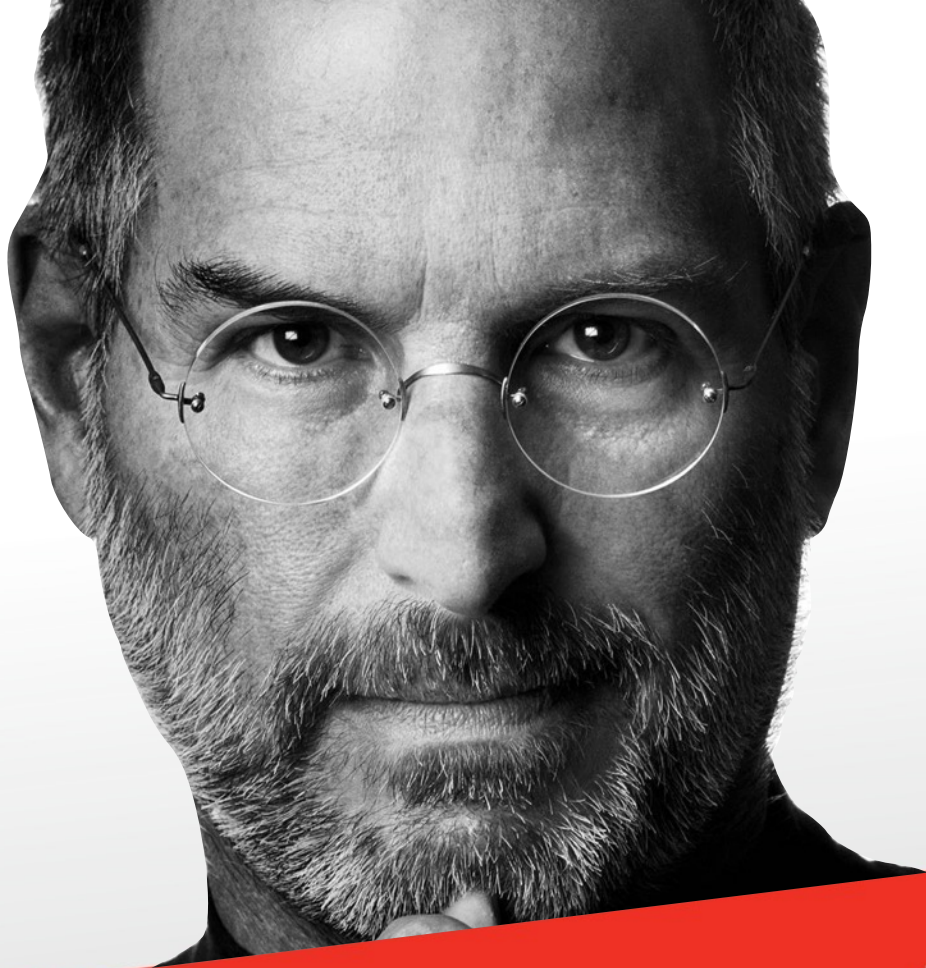


- Apple ID for local password
- iCloud Drive
- OS X Beta Program
- watch this space

The New IT

It's all about the User

“You’ve got to start with the customer experience and work back toward the technology - not the other way around”



We are all users

- How would we like our machines set up and administered?
- What would annoy us if someone imposed it on our machines?
- Users are just trying to do their job

Getting buy in from users

- Promote the augmented services
- Don't focus on the restrictions
- Give them something they have been asking for
- Lead by example

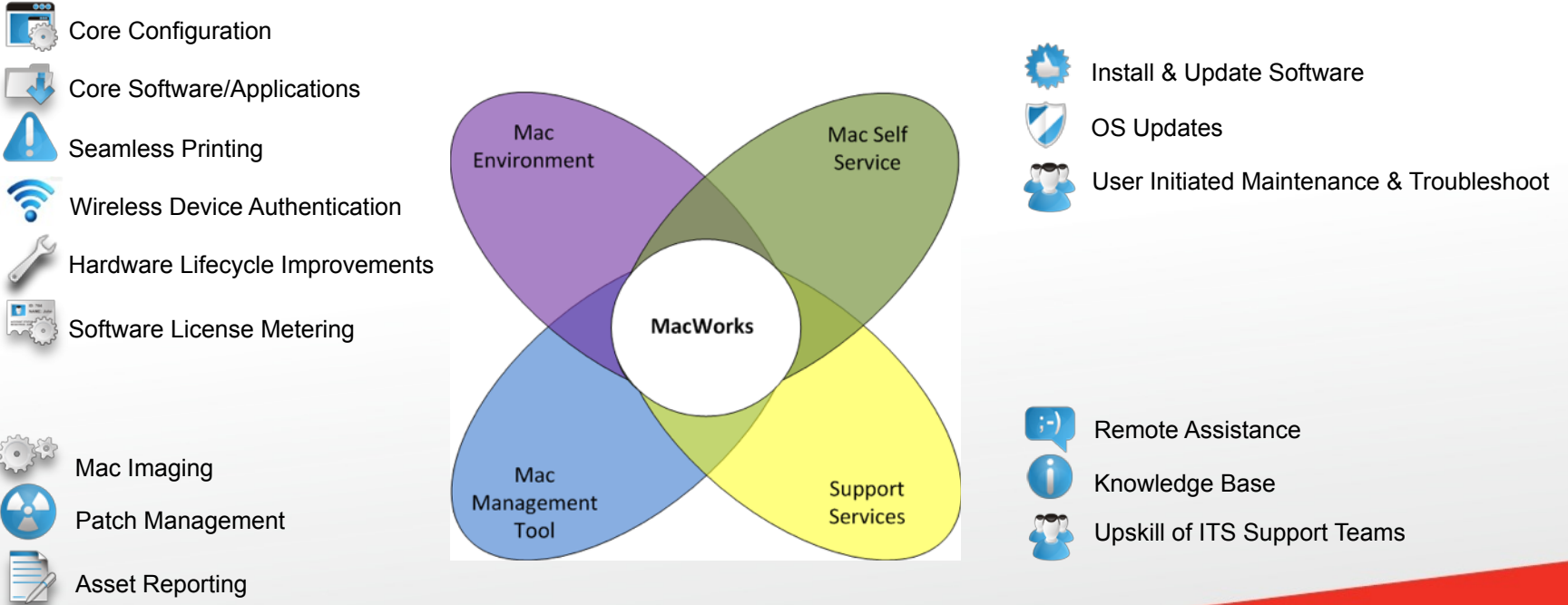
New style IT management

- Design based on needs, not consistency with other platforms or historical policies
- Embracing differences rather than enforcing consistency
- Educate other departments on the requirements of the Mac OS X platform
- Manage once, not always
- Thin provisioning, modular deployment & rapid adoption
- Self service

MacWorks



What is MacWorks?



Basic standard configuration

Staff machines are provided with only basic software installed.
Users can add anything else they require through self service

Microsoft Office

iLife + iWork

Google Chrome

Citrix Receiver

Casper Self Service

Fetch

VLC

Adobe Flash Player

Java Web Plugin

KeyAccess

Ricoh Drivers

McAfee

What configuration DO we perform?

Configurations that enhance rather than restrict

Global print queue

Preventing .ds_store

Local admin for tech support

Enabling click through at login

Basic network and local settings

Skip welcome screen in Safari

VNC to currently logged in user

Set Safari home page to RMIT

Disable iCloud setup prompt

Device wireless authentication

Transparency about restrictions

- Password protected screensaver timeout - 10 minute with 5 second grace
- Auto login disabled
- Enforced password policy - expiry, complexity and not recycled.

Active Directory

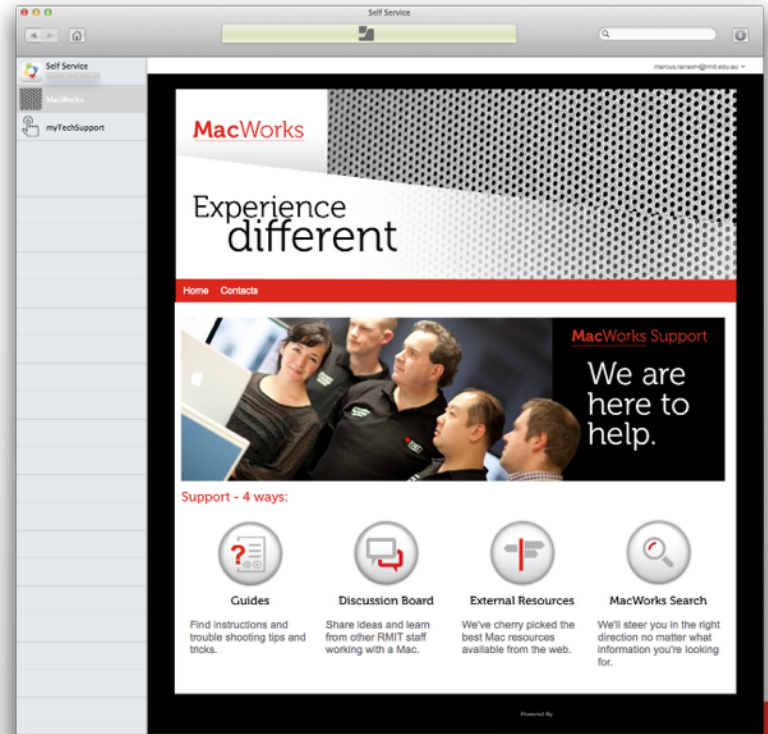
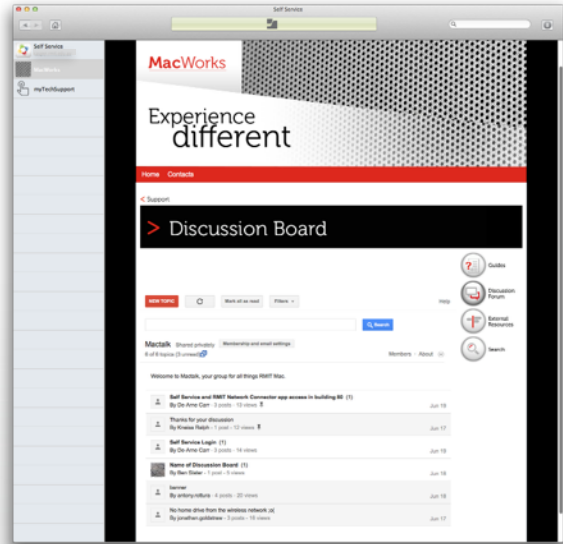
AD login on laptops posed several challenges

- External password resets
- Users seldom log off
- No password reminder at login window since 10.9 (or if FileVault is enabled)
- Introduction of Apple ID password reset
- Departmental shared drives

If we aren't managing, what ARE we doing?

- Providing services
- Configurations that enhance rather than restrict
- Building a knowledge base
- Providing automated tech support
- Simplified network connectivity
- Self service delivery of software, updates and configuration
- Championing for services to become compatible
- Hidden control with visible customisation

Build communities



Deployment workflows - Staff

- Why image a machine if it comes with a perfectly good OS already?
- No more updating net boot images to suit new hardware / forked builds of OS

Workflow

- Deployment tech boots to recovery HD and runs a script.
- Tech runs some setup policies in self service
- User installs remaining software

Deployment workflows - Staff

Boot to recovery partition and run the following command in terminal

```
/Volumes/Casper/bootstrap.sh
```

Contents of Bootstrap.sh script run from USB

```
#!/bin/sh
```

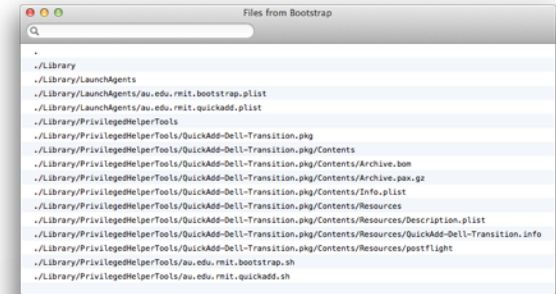
```
# Install Bootstrap package to Macintosh HD
```

```
/usr/sbin/installer -package "${0%*/}/Bootstrap.pkg" -target "/Volumes/Macintosh HD"
```

```
/usr/bin/touch "/Volumes/Macintosh HD/private/var/db/.AppleSetupDone"
```

```
# Restart
```

```
/sbin/reboot
```



Deployment workflows - Staff

Quickadd.plist

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<!DOCTYPE plist PUBLIC "-//Apple//DTD PLIST 1.0//EN" "http://www.apple.com/DTDs/PropertyList-1.0.dtd">
<plist version="1.0">
<dict>
  <key>Label</key>
  <string>au.edu.rmit.quickadd</string>
  <key>LimitLoadToSessionType</key>
  <string>LoginWindow</string>
  <key>Program</key>
  <string>/Library/PrivilegedHelperTools/au.edu.rmit.quickadd.sh</string>
  <key>RunAtLoad</key>
  <true/>
</dict>
</plist>
```

Deployment workflows - Staff

Quickadd script run from launchd

```
#!/bin/sh
# Get serial number
SERIAL_NUMBER=$(/usr/sbin/system_profiler SPHardwareDataType | /usr/bin/awk
'/Serial Number \(system\) / { print $4 }')
# Set computer name
/usr/sbin/scutil --set ComputerName "$SERIAL_NUMBER"
# Install QuickAdd-Transition package
/usr/sbin/installer -package "/Library/PrivilegedHelperTools/QuickAdd-Transition.pkg" -target /
until [ $? -eq 0 ]; do
    /bin/sleep 30
    /usr/sbin/installer -package "/Library/PrivilegedHelperTools/QuickAdd-Transition.pkg" -target /
done
/bin/launchctl load -F -S LoginWindow "/Library/LaunchAgents/au.edu.rmit.bootstrap.plist"
# Cleanup
/bin/rm -r "/Library/PrivilegedHelperTools/QuickAdd-Transition.pkg"
/bin/rm "/Library/LaunchAgents/au.edu.rmit.quickadd.plist"
/bin/rm "$0"
```

Deployment workflows - Staff

Bootstrap.plist

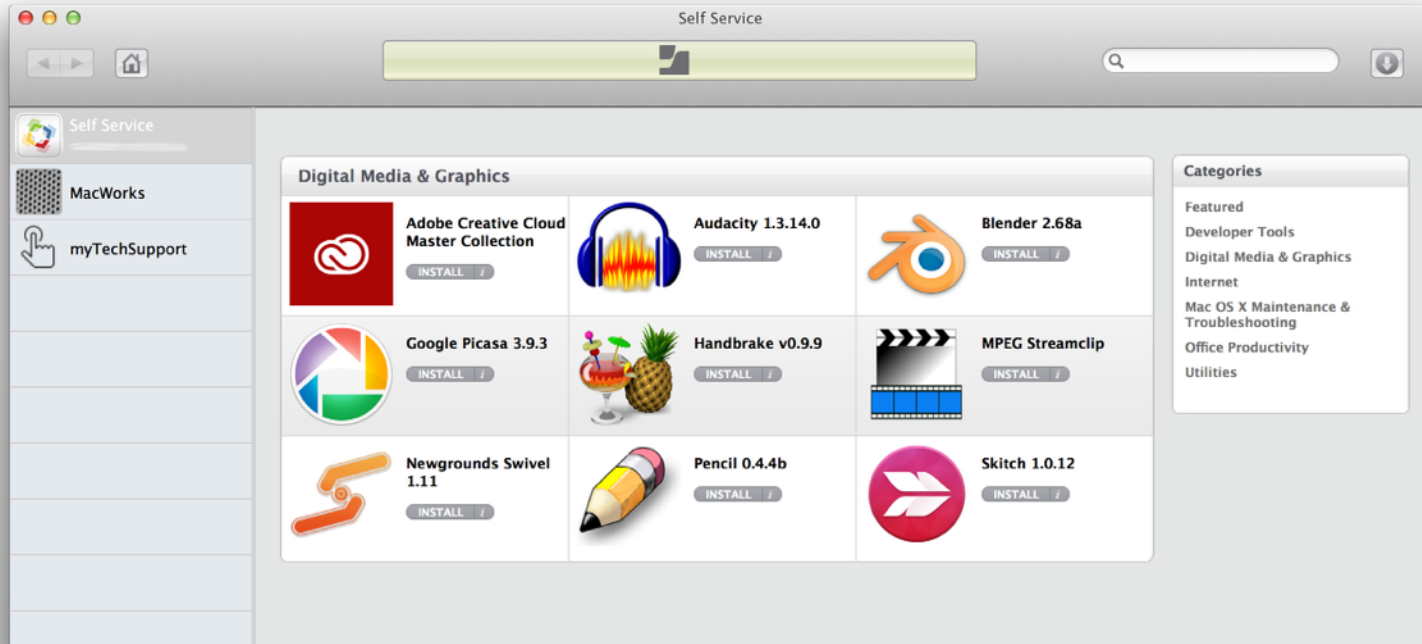
```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<!DOCTYPE plist PUBLIC "-//Apple//DTD PLIST 1.0//EN" "http://www.apple.com/DTDs/PropertyList-1.0.dtd">
<plist version="1.0">
<dict>
  <key>Label</key>
  <string>au.edu.rmit.bootstrap</string>
  <key>Disabled</key>
  <true/>
  <key>LimitLoadToSessionType</key>
  <string>LoginWindow</string>
  <key>Program</key>
  <string>/Library/PrivilegedHelperTools/au.edu.rmit.bootstrap.sh</string>
  <key>RunAtLoad</key>
  <true/>
</dict>
</plist>
```


Deployment workflows - Staff

Bootstrap policy trigger run from launchd:

```
#!/bin/sh
until [ -f /private/var/db/dslocal/nodes/Default/users/taa.plist ]; do
  /usr/sbin/jamf policy -trigger Bootstrap
  [ ! -f /private/var/db/dslocal/nodes/Default/users/taa.plist ] && /bin/sleep 30
done
# Cleanup
/bin/rm "/Library/LaunchAgents/au.edu.rmit.bootstrap.plist"
/bin/rm "$0"
```

Self Service



How are we trying to do this at RMIT?



Work smarter with the tools that we have at our disposal.

Build the kind of tools that users are going to want to use.

Improve the tools you create willingly and often.



Scripts are easy to develop and easy to deploy.

But how can we also make them user-friendly?

There are tools available that give your script a GUI as well as facilitate script-user interaction.



Platypus



CocoaDialog



Pashua

You don't need to be an expert developer or coder to use them!

When our users contact IT Service Desk they are usually asked a series of questions about their Mac.

To gather this information for the Mac can be time consuming and frustrating for both the customer and the IT support person.

How to create a script that displays a summary of this information in one easy to find place.

1. Retrieve information

```
system_profiler SPHardwareDataType  
sw_vers -productVersion  
networksetup -listallnetworkservices
```

2. Make a clickable app

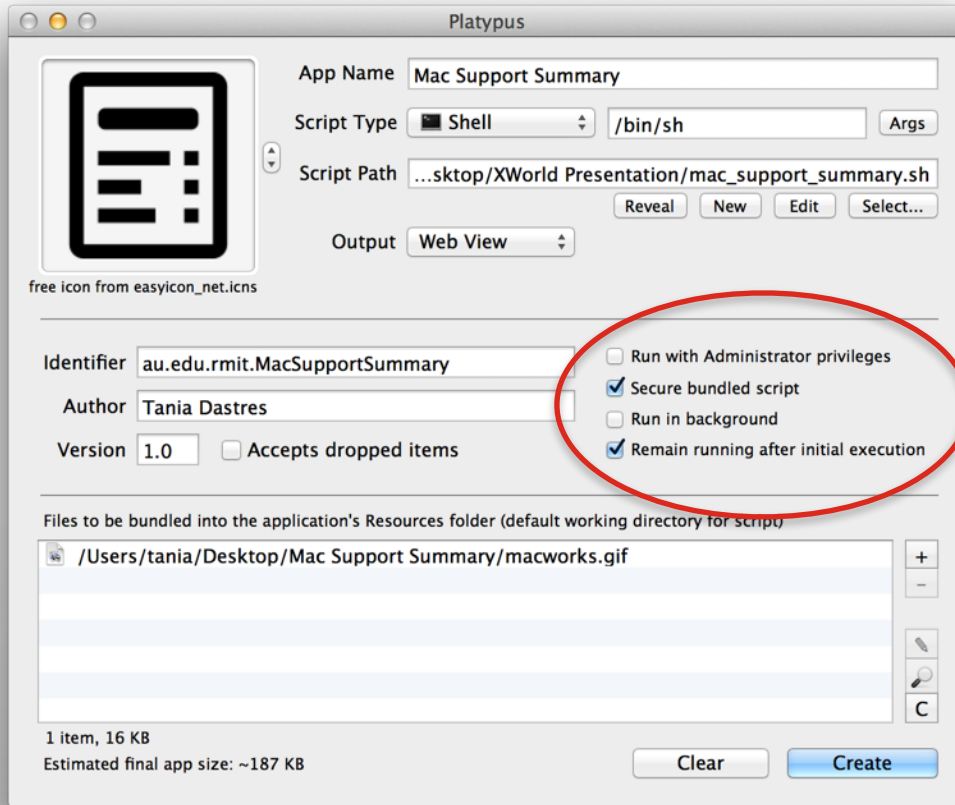


Platypus

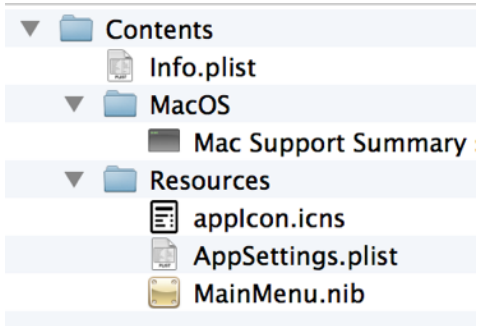
Platypus puts your script in an application bundle and creates the binary to execute it.

There are six output display options:

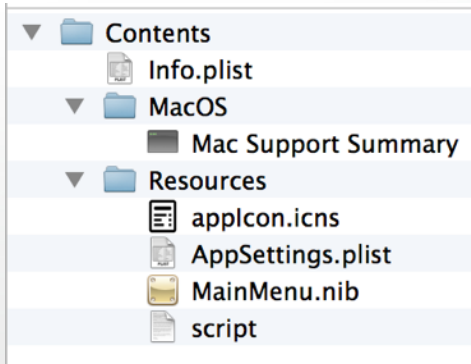
- None
- Progress Bar
- Text Window
- Status Menu
- Droplet
- Web View



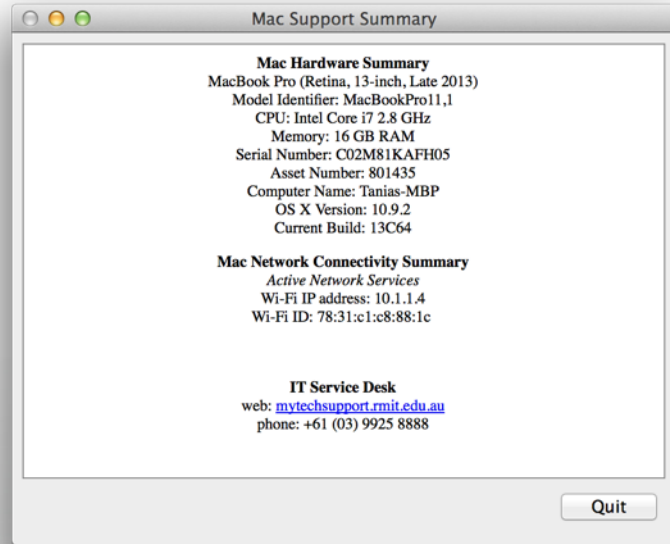
Secure Bundled Script:



Without a Secure Bundled Script:



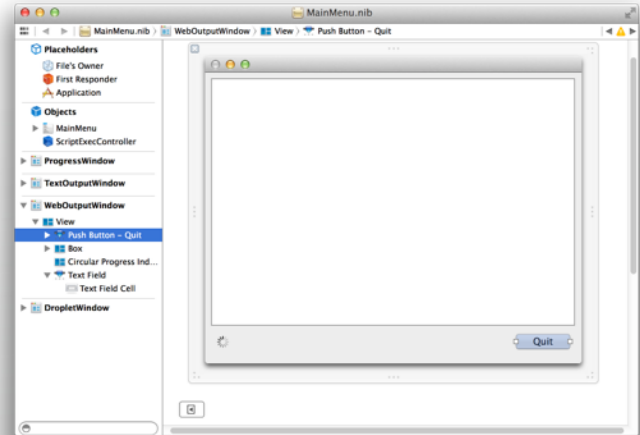
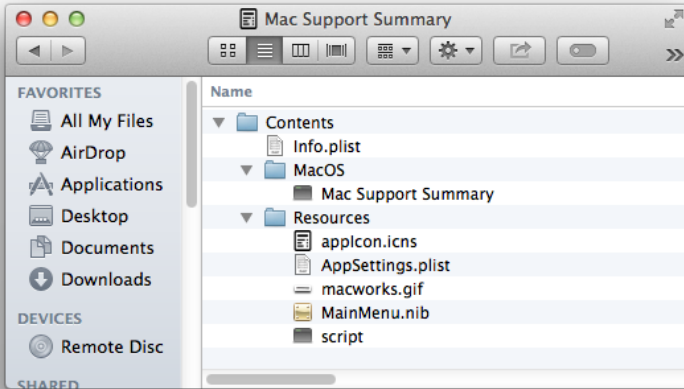
The result:



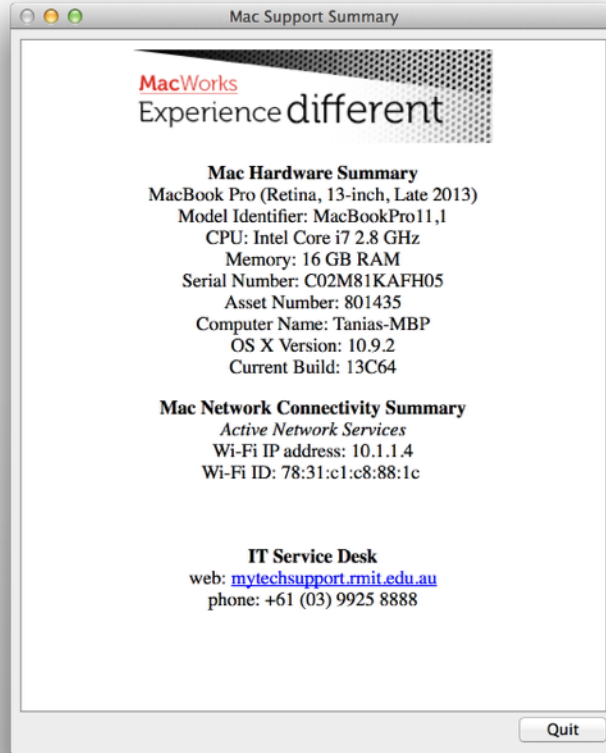
Create



- Development Version (symlink to script & files)
- Optimize Application (strip nib file)
- Use XML property list format instead of binary



Mac Support Summary



Platypus can let you do some other cool things

Output Type: Status Menu

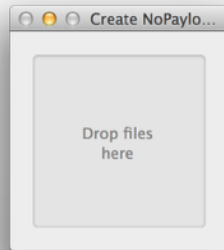
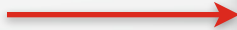
Eg. A script that displays your Mac IP address.

Output Type: Droplet

Eg. A script that creates a payloadless package.

```
#!/bin/bash
# Disables Open "safe"
files after downloading in
Safari
/usr/bin/defaults write
"$3/Library/Preferences/
com.apple.Safari"
AutoOpenSafeDownloads -
bool NO

/usr/sbin/chroot "$3" /
bin/chmod 644 "$Library/
Preferences/
com.apple.Safari.plist"
```



Problem

How to provide the benefits of AD without the user needing to log in to an AD-bound account?



Option #1: Pashua

Multiple GUI elements displayed in the one window

Separate display configuration file

Limited text formatting options (use “[return]” for a line break)

Pashua dock item appears by default

Some of Pashua’s 15 available GUI elements:

- Buttons
- Checkboxes
- Images
- Popup list...

For the full list - <http://www.bluem.net/en/mac/pashua/>

```
final_conf -- Edited
# Set window title
*.title = Update Location Details

# Display an image
img.type = image
img.path = /tmp/macworks.gif
img.border = 0

info.type = text
info.text = Thank you.[return]The
location for this Mac has now been
updated.
db.type = defaultbutton
db.label = Finish
```


Pashua - the basics

```
#!/bin/bash
BUNDLEPATH="Pashua.app/Contents/MacOS/Pashua"
PASHUAPATH="/usr/local/$BUNDLEPATH"
FIRST_CONF="first_conf"
```

```
first_conf
# Set window title
*.title = RMIT Network Connector

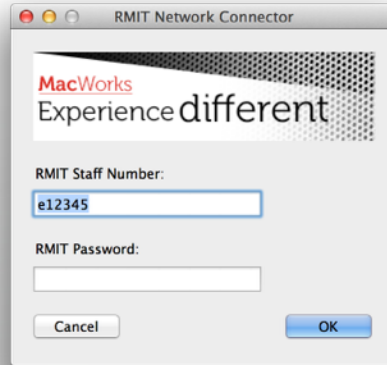
# Display an image
img.type = image
img.path = /tmp/macworks.gif
img.border = @

enumber.type = textfield
enumber.label = RMIT Staff Number:
enumber.default = e12345

password.type = password
password.label = RMIT Password:

db.type = defaultbutton
db.label = OK

cancel.type = button
cancel.label = Cancel|
```



```
pashua_run() {
# In this case, $1 is first_conf
pashua_configfile="$1"

# Pashua does its magic, and returns the
resulting user input as one long string.

result=`"$PASHUAPATH" $pashua_configfile
| sed 's/ /;;;/g'`

# pashua_run then parses this result
into variables with the same names as
the element name in the conf file
}
# User clicked the default OK button
if [[ $db -eq 1 ]]
then

# AD username
check_eNumber "$enumber"
fi
```



Option #2: CocoaDialog

Lets your script display one dialog type after the other.

Fourteen dialog types to choose from

Icons can added to some dialog types only.

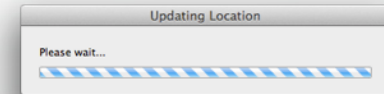
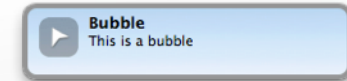
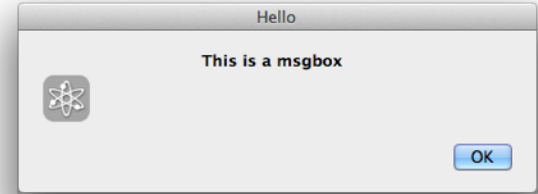
And they must be in .icns format.

And they can't be resized or moved around.

Text cannot include a line break.

Dialog type includes a progress bar

and bubbles.



CocoaDialog - the basics

```
CD_APP="/usr/local/CocoaDialog.app"  
CD="$CD_APP/Contents/MacOS/CocoaDialog"
```

```
e_number_input=`$CD inputbox --title "RMIT Network Connector" \<\  
  --informative-text "Enter your RMIT ID" \<\  
  --text "e-number" \<\  
  --button1 Select \<\  
  --button2 Cancel`;
```

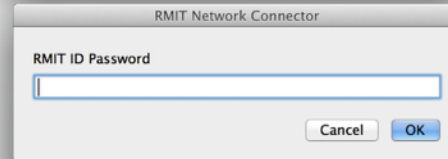
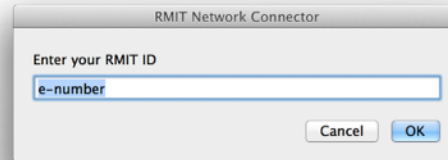
User input gets submitted as a string so you need to extract out the values you want

```
declare -a input=(${e_number_input});  
button=${input[0]};  
eNumber=${input[1]};
```

```
# User clicked button 1, the OK button  
if [ $button -eq 1 ]  
then
```

```
# So now ask them for their password  
password_input=`$CD secure-inputbox \<\  
  --title "RMIT Network Connector" \<\  
  --informative-text "RMIT ID Password" \<\  
  --button1 OK \<\  
  --button2 Cancel`;
```

```
fi
```



RMIT Network Connector. So what does it do?

1. Confirm that the Mac is on an RMIT network.

```
checkDatasource=`dscl /Active\ Directory/<Domain> -read Users/$1 | grep "Data source (/Active Directory/<Domain>) is not valid"`
```

2. Get the mount folders ready

```
if [[ ! -d ~/mount ]]
then
    mkdir ~/mount
    mkdir ~/mount/H
    mkdir ~/mount/K
fi
```

3. Make sure that the dock item Network Drives is there. If it's not, create it!

```
dock_item_exists=$(echo "$persistent_dock_items" | grep "file-label = Network Drives")
```

```
if [[ -z "$dock_item_exists" ]]
```

```
then
```

```
defaults write com.apple.dock persistent-others -array-add "<dict><key>tile-data</key><dict><key>file-data</key><dict><key>_CFURLString</key><string>/Users/$USER/mount</string><key>_CFURLStringType</key><integer>0</integer></dict><key>file-label</key><string>Network Drives</string><key>file-type</key><integer>18</integer></dict><key>tile-type</key><string>directory-tile</string></dict>"
```

```
killall Dock
```

```
fi
```

4. Use CocoaDialog to ask the user for their AD username and password.

5. Confirm that their username is a valid AD user.

```
error_check=$(dscl /Active\ Directory/<Domain> -read Users/$eNumber 2>&1 > /dev/null)
```

6. Generate the Kerberos ticket

```
kinit_result="$(echo "$password" | kinit --password-file="STDIN" "$eNumber"@<Domain> 2>&1 > /dev/null)
```

7. Do an LDAP query to get the user's H drive address

```
home_dir=$(ldapsearch -LLL -x -H ldap:///<Domain> -D "RMIT\\$eNumber" -b
```

```
"ou=Accounts,dc=rmit,dc=internal" -w $password cn="$eNumber" | grep "homeDirectory" | sed 's/
```

```
homeDirectory: /''/g')
```

8. Unmount the drives in case they're already mounted

```
diskutil umount ~/mount/H 2>&1
```

```
diskutil umount ~/mount/K 2>&1
```

9. And mount the user's H and K drive

```
mount_smbfs "$home_dir" ~/mount/H
```

```
mount_smbfs //<K drive address> ~/mount/K
```

10. Finally, call the function that displays a completion message

```
completionMessage "Complete! Your H ($eNumber) and K (University) drives are now available from the  
Network Drives folder on your dock."
```

Generate a completion message for the user – in this case, using CocoaDialog

```
function completionMessage()
```

```
{
```

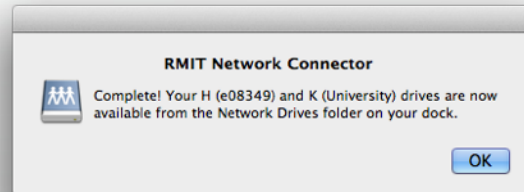
```
message=`$CD msgbox --icon network --text "RMIT Network Connector" \
```

```
--informative-text "$1" \
```

```
--no-newline \
```

```
--button1 "OK"`
```

```
}
```



Problem

How to we record RMIT specific information in the JSS?

Mac ID Setup, in four easy steps.

1. Retrieve information
2. JSS API to write this information to the JSS Computer object.

```
curl -X PUT -H "Accept: application/xml" -H "Content-type: application/xml" -k -u "$API_USER":"$API_PW" -d "<computer><purchasing><purchasing_account>$cc_confirmed</purchasing_account></purchasing></computer>" "${jssServer}/JSSResource/computers/udid/$udid"
```


RMIT Mac Setup

MacWorks
Experience different

Asset number:

Cost Centre Code:

Location (bxxx.yy.zzz):

What is the usage type of this Mac?

Next

The screenshot shows a 'RMIT Mac Setup' window. It has a header with 'MacWorks' and 'Experience different'. Below are four input fields: 'Asset number', 'Cost Centre Code', 'Location (bxxx.yy.zzz)', and a dropdown menu for 'What is the usage type of this Mac?' with 'Staff Mac' selected. A 'Next' button is at the bottom. Red arrows point from the 'Asset number' field to 'Hidden file', from the 'Cost Centre Code' field to 'General:Asset Tag', from the 'Location' field to 'User and Location: Department', and from the 'Staff Mac' dropdown to 'User and Location: Room' and 'User and Location: Username'.

Hidden file

General:Asset Tag

User and Location: Department

Cost Centre Code has corresponding Department name in csv file script searches through. that gets searched for in cc.csv file to look for a corresponding Department string, which gets written to User and Location: Department.

User and Location: Room

User and Location: Username

If the usage type is Staff Mac the e number is requested

4. Progress bar



5. Completion message.



Mac ID Setup



Install staff_Mac ID Setup Resources.pkg



Run Script MacWorks - Mac ID Setup

```
# Display the MacWorks logo
```

```
img.type = image
```

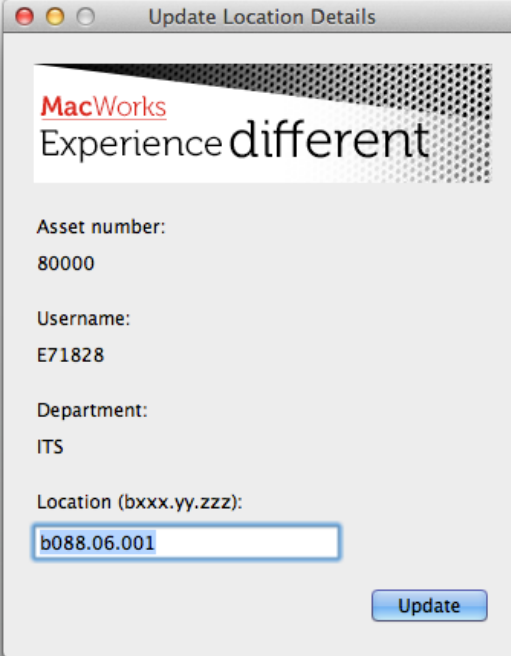
```
img.path = /tmp/macworks.gif
```

```
img.border = 0
```

Problem

How do we keep RMIT specific information up to date in the JSS?

Solution: Update Location Details, in five easy steps



The screenshot shows a window titled "Update Location Details" with a MacWorks logo and the slogan "Experience different". The form contains the following fields and values:

- Asset number: 80000
- Username: E71828
- Department: ITS
- Location (bxxx.yy.zzz): b088.06.001

An "Update" button is located at the bottom right of the form.

1. JSS API

```
locationXML=$(curl -s -u "$API_USER":"$API_PW" "${jssServer}/JSSResource/computers/udid/$udid/subset/  
Location")  
username=$( echo "$locationXML" | xpath /computer/location/username | sed -e 's/<username>///;s/<\  
username>/' )  
location=$( echo "$locationXML" | xpath /computer/location/room | sed -e 's/<room>///;s/<\  
room>/' )
```

2. Create a temporary Pashua configuration file

```
settings_page=$(mktemp /tmp/settings_conf_XXXXXX)  
chmod 755 "$settings_page"
```

...to display the retrieved values as text

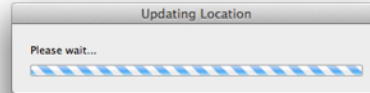
```
echo "username.type = text" >> "$settings_page"  
echo "username.label = Username: " >> "$settings_page"  
echo "username.text = $username" >> "$settings_page"
```

But display the location information (room) as a textfield element

```
echo "location.type = textfield" >> "$settings_page"  
echo "location.label = Location (bxxx.yy.zzz):" >> "$settings_page"  
echo "location.default = $location" >> "$settings_page"
```

4. Progress bar

```
$CD progressbar --indeterminate --title "Updating Location" --text "Please wait..." < /tmp/hpipe &
```



5. Write the new location/room information back to the JSS

```
curl -X PUT -H "Accept: application/xml" -H "Content-type: application/xml" -k -u "$API_USER":"$API_PW" -d "<computer><location><room>$location</room></location></computer>" "${jssServerJSSResource/computers/udid/$udid}"
```

6. Completion message.



Links to checkout

Platypus

<http://sveinbjorn.org/platypus>

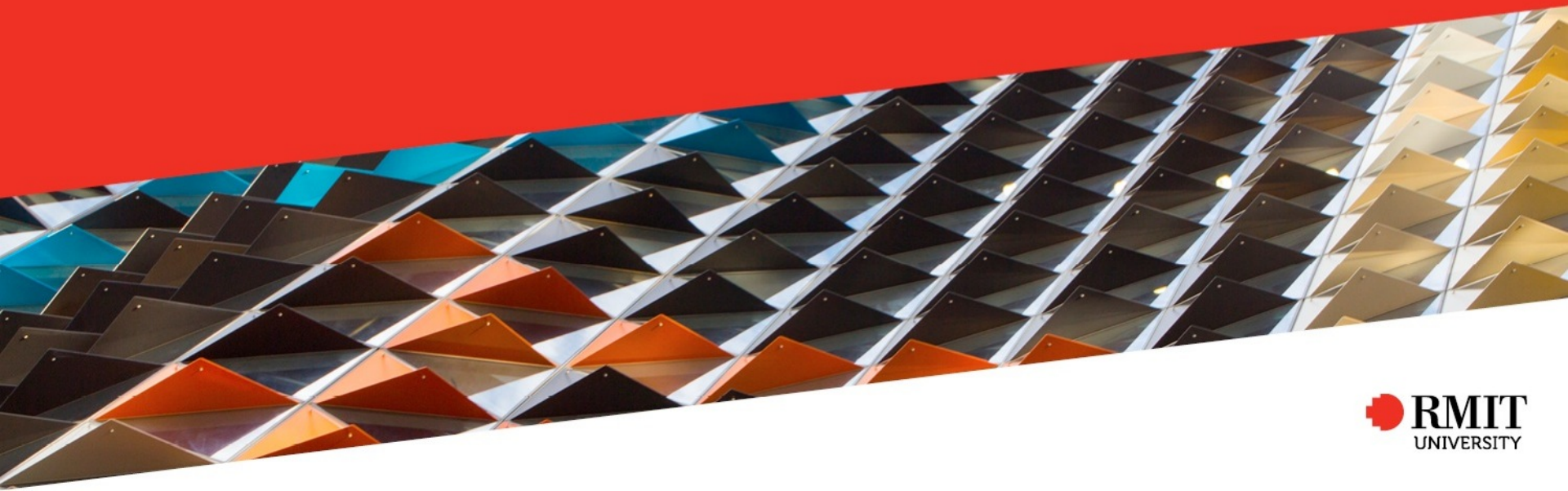
Pashua

<http://www.bluem.net/en/mac/pashua/>

CocoaDialog

<http://mstratman.github.io/cocoadialog/>

What Next?



What Next?

Improve our custom tools

Add new tools for

- enterprise file vault
- repairs to AD binding and device wireless auth.
- autorun of RMIT Network Connector
- Mac Support Summary auto submits ticket and console logs
- develop a banner showing that their RMIT or local password is about to expire
- provide scoped policies to install specialist printers
- reset local account passwords via self service (with complexity guide)
- leverage the API to deal with individual software license keys (eg VMware Fusion)
- use the API to provide live information to users about software in specific labs

embrace the community

- AUC
- Illuminate.mx
- Sydney MacAdmins
- MacBrained.org

- MacEnterprise
- JamfNation
- IRC ##osx-server
- Twitter #macadmin

Create the community

- RMIT is hosting /dev/world/ in September this year in partnership with AUC
- January 2015?

Questions?

tania.dastres@rmit.edu.au

marcus.ransom@rmit.edu.au

twitter #xw14

Thank you

