

I Will Survive

Jenny is an architect and she's a heavy drinker. She's got a good gig, working in American Samoa analysing stone tools for shape, size, use, marking. You start to get the idea why she drinks.

And one night at the pub she met a geologist. They both got talking about what they do and both thought "What a great idea" I'll give you my tools I've found if you can tell me where the stone is from. This person's called Alfred. Now Alfred had a look at the tools and realised the stone wasn't from that island. So he went to the shore and pulled a favor from a boat owner and sailed across to the other island. He met Angela who is a geologist over there. And this went on a couple more times.

But he was really missing the pub. He thought "I need a better way of doing this". So he asked the boat owner who was going to the islands anyway to pass on a message to his friends for help. Via this boat, they started collaborating. They just used what they had available. And they started to agree on how the data was to be organised across these different disciplines. They managed to build the tools they need through consensus. And they all spent many more nights at the pub.

Version 2

Jenny is an archaeologist at an institution in the continental US. Her research area is in American Samoa, specializing in stone tools. She is able to secure enough funding to travel to American Samoa to work in the field once every couple of years. Her institution isn't able to provide any support. However, she is able to store her collected data in G Suite using her institution provided account.

One night at the pub, she was chatting with a geologist from another institution, Alfred. One of her research questions is where the material for the stone adzes originated from. Alfred was quite willing to help out. Luckily, Alfred's institution is also G Suite. However, when Jenny went to share her Google Drive folders out, she found out that to "protect the institution", she wasn't able to share her material with an account external to her own institution. In order to collaborate with Alfred, she had to copy all of her work over to a personal Google account so that she could add Alfred.

Alfred was able to trace the source of the material to islands nearby. However, this now brings up the question of how the material made it from one island to another. Jenny knows a researcher specializing in those islands, Nurul. Nurul is happy to collaborate. However, her institution has her storing all of her research materials in Office 365. This puts our three

collaborators on different platforms, with various sharing rules, and some requirements to create personal or additional accounts.

A local, Lolo, finds an interesting adze. However, since he doesn't know the researchers working in American Samoa, he finds it difficult to figure out who to talk to. Once he gets Jenny's contact information, it is difficult to fully collaborate with her as she is still storing her data in whatever format was easiest for her in on a Google Drive shared out of her personal account.