Enabling Cross-Campus Research Collaborations: The IdM Provisioning and Deployment Challenge

Jim Basney and Von Welch
Center for Trustworthy Scientific Cyberinfrastructure / trustedci.org

Cyberinfrastructure providers supporting cross-campus research collaborations are independently developing custom user provisioning systems to manage user sign-up (on-boarding/off-boarding), account linking and recovery, user groups, and access management. Subsequently these providers are integrating each application, service, etc., into their custom identity and access management system. Efforts have been made to provide supporting software (e.g., COmanage, myVocs), but have failed to achieve broad adoption.

The result is significant expense for providers and inconsistency for researchers. Supporting adoption of **common user provisioning approaches and implementations** across cyberinfrastructure providers will ease cyberinfrastructure development, operation, and interoperability. Providing shared user provisioning services on campus or in the cloud will avoid redundant operational effort across cyberinfrastructure projects. Research productivity will improve with more convenient access to emerging cyberinfrastructure.

Adoption of federated identity management by cyberinfrastructure providers requires support from broader the higher education community. Identity providers must be available for use by the entire cyberinfrastructure user community. Common models for risk management, trust, expectations, and interactions across identity providers, service providers, and virtual organizations are needed to address the requirements of cyberinfrastructure providers. **Leadership by campus CIOs** is needed to encourage and support adoption of InCommon federated identities by cyberinfrastructure providers.

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