

41 – Federated Identity

Action Item Template Response

General Action Item Information

Lead Division/Office: EI

Action Item Number: 41

Action Item Short Name: Federated Identity

Dependencies with other EP Action Items: 58

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I. DESCRIBE YOUR PLANS FOR IMPLEMENTING THIS ACTION.

Great strides have been made regarding federated identity in the last two years, including:

- Joining InCommon
- Deploying Shibboleth infrastructure to support federated logins
- Federation deployments with NIH, CIC, Internet2, CSO (career services), and Microsoft (DreamSpark).

Our plan is to continue that work to expand our reach and our ability to federate and collaborate with key partners. Our first task will be to review our current infrastructure and upgrade and enhance that environment as needed to meet our federation needs.

We will also aggressively pursue opportunities to leverage our federation capabilities, particularly in support of our research and pedagogical missions. We will create a list of possible partners and then determine a priority and a specific plan of action for each. Clarian Healthcare and other partners with the School of Medicine will certainly be at or near the top of that list of priorities. IU should assist Clarian in establishing a federation infrastructure. If necessary, IU should consider providing that functionality as a service to Clarian.

Many current partners, especially in delivering Library resources, still use IP address filtering as a primary means to establish identity and authorize use. This outdated model causes real issues as networks are engineered to become seamless across campus. IU needs a central proxy server that translates attributes such as campus location and university affiliation into an IP address that can be passed to the provider. This is not true federated identity, but addresses an immediate need, and leveraging this into a common service will allow IU to more easily transition to a true federation with those entities.

And last, but certainly not least, we will engage fully with our partners within the CIC as we move forward in an increasingly consortial manner to leverage federated identity capabilities. The CIC Identity Management Taskforce has identified a number of worthy objectives related to federated identity. Perhaps most notable is a goal to position all CIC schools to meet or exceed the InCommon Silver standards in order to enable high-value transactions. As part of this project we will ensure that

Indiana University is among the first schools to reach that objective.

II. WHAT ARE THE POLICY AND PRACTICE IMPLICATIONS OF YOUR PLANS?

There will be many policy issues to contend with as we increase our federation activity, most notably issues surrounding privacy and attribute release policies. As part of this project we should establish a governance structure to address these policy decisions.

III. IDENTIFY STAKEHOLDERS.

- Research Technologies
- Enterprise Software
- Networks Support
- IIA
- Clarian School of Medicine
- Other schools, departments, and groups (e.g. Education, SPEA, Alumni)
- Library