ACADEMIC ALLIANCE

Provisioning and De-provisioning Best Practices

Big Ten Academic Alliance Working Group Update

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University of Illinois ◆ Indiana University ◆ University of Iowa
University of Maryland ◆ University of Michigan ◆ Michigan State University
University of Minnesota ◆ University of Nebraska—Lincoln ◆ Northwestern University
Ohio State University ◆ Pennsylvania State University ◆ Purdue University
Rutgers University ◆ University of Wisconsin—Madison

Who are we?

- A working group of the Big Ten Academic Alliance IDM Taskforce
    - The Big Ten Academic Alliance, formerly the CIC
    - A consortium of the Big Ten schools plus U. of Chicago
- Also a TIER working group

Why Provisioning?

- No widely used standards
- A wild west
- Hard to scale federation if we can't scale provisioning
- Provisioning what? Identities, Credentials, Services
- De-provisioning? "We can do that later."

What to do about it

- Planned to start with product evaluations
- Got tangled up in terminology
- Take II: survey of current practices and needs
  - Identify trends
- A new product evaluation
  - Understand current product landscape
- Document best practices

Working group initiatives

- Best practices write-up
- Product comparison
- Catalog of SCIM schemas
- Bulk provisioning API definition

SCIM schema cataloging

- Goal: a catalog of known extensions to SCIM
- Progress: Created a Github repo with the core SCIM schema
  - Extensions???
  - It can't be that easy
  - Help us if you know of extensions
- Status: https://github.internet2.edu/tier/scim-schema

Bulk provisioning API

- Goal: Create API requirements for provisioning large batches
  - Pass requirements to TIER API WG to develop
- Progress: Created a list of use cases
  - Shared list with TIER API WG
- Status: a separate bulk API is not needed
  - Use cases to be used as tests for the API WG
  - Use cases: https://spaces.internet2.edu/x/koFyBw

Documenting best practices

- Completed survey analysis last fall
    - Reported at Technology Exchange
- Created high-level outline for write-up
- Preparing for product evaluations

Best practices outline

- Executive summary
- Problem statement
- Identity provisioning
    - Identity matching
    - Username assignment
    - Identifiers for services and target directories
    - Username changes
    - Social IDs

Best practices outline

- Identity lifecycle
  - State and affiliation changes
  - Deactivation or deletion
- Credential provisioning
  - Password rules and policies
  - Initial password setting
  - Assignment of additional authentication factors
  - Deprovisioning of credentials

Best practices outline

- Target directory provisioning
  - Linking identities between directories
  - Communicating updates to target directories
- Service provisioning
  - Provisioning models: when to provision
  - Reconciliation
  - State changes and fine-grained authorization
  - Deprovisioning and repatriation

Best practices outline

- Groups and roles
  - Types of groups
  - Guidance for architecting
- Auditing
  - Reporting
  - Attestation
  - Workflows to deprovisioning

Product evaluations

- Inspired by TIER Entity Registry WG
- Functional evaluation
- Open source and commercial
- Done by member schools and others
- Collaboration encouraged

What's it look like?

- Simple format
  - 3 questions for each section
  - Product maturity
  - How does the product do it?
  - What's missing?
- A few questions on
  - Licensing and support
  - API capabilities
  - Extensibility and customization

Next steps

- Completed product evaluations this summer
  - Evaluation started for Midpoint
- Produce product comparison
- Discover additional best practices
- Find needs and defincies
  - Share needs with TIER developers

Want to help?

- Anyone can help
- Join the working group
- Evaluate your favorite provisioning engine
- Contact Keith Wessel
    - kwessel@illinois.edu

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