Not-TechEx 2020: Trust and Identity Thoughts

The F2F TechEx has been canceled and discussions have begun about what could be done instead. This document presents a set of goals and possible approaches for what to do in a virtual setting.

Desired Outcomes of TechEx

TechEx is a very important **technical meeting** for Trust and Identity (T&I). The activities in T&I have long had a fall meeting under the CAMP brand (and more recently the TechEx brand) to bring the community together around:

- **Adoption Techniques**: Implementation/Deployment Techniques and Best Practices
- **Requirements Gathering:** Identifying, discussing gaps that the community is seeing in the software and services globally
- **Developer Approaches**: Discuss how to address those gaps and who might start on an initial design.
- **Community Building:** Build and solidify strong relationships and connections within the national and international identity community and between Internet2 and its stakeholders.

TechEx has become one of the two most important global trust and identity meetings, the other one being the GEANT hosted TNC conference held in Europe (https://tnc20.geant.org/). Working with international federation operators on common solutions for global alignment and trust enhancement is key to InCommon's success.

Potential Options for Not-TechEx 2020

F2F TechEx meetings have three primary components that are offered in the following sequence: :
- Meeting of international federation operators (REFEDS - 1 day)
- Organizational best practices and implementation stories as well as InCommon Updates (CAMP - 1.5 days)
- Just-in-time discussion of hot topics (Advance CAMP unconference - 1.5 days)

The REFEDS and ACAMP meetings are particularly interesting to our international federation operator and developer colleagues.

Virtual Ideas

We have a Trust and Identity TechEx Program Committee that includes international participants already established. Once we identify a particular approach, we can work with them to refine it.

1. **Idea: 4 THEMES:** identify 4 themes, one for each of four weeks.
   a. For each theme
      i. Day 1: Host 4 presentations (half day) that outline the context, current deployment patterns and additional requirements needing to be addressed
      ii. Day 2: Host ACAMP agenda setting and have 4 concurrent zoom rooms for 3 hours (45 min each) to discuss the previous day's sessions or whatever else. The usual ACAMP process would apply including note taking.
      iii. Offer a meetup space where folks with further questions can chat. Might be a sign up sheet for say 4 pre-available zoom rooms to attendees. Include slack channel or other synchronous chat function to enable folks to set up the connection with each other.
   b. **What would this accomplish?** By setting the stage with adopter stories and questions about gaps, we could follow up the next day with discussions about approaches and solutions. **This would merge the implementer and developer/IAM thought leader audiences together.**

2. **Idea: CAMP Week and ACAMP Week:** Offer the same sequence of events as the regular TechEx**.**
   a. CAMP Week
      i. Provide 3 half days of content around Identity, TAP, eduroam and InCommon Federation stories.
         1. Develop a call for proposals and/or identify key implementation pain points to feature
         2. Group those into appropriate days
         3. Include breakout sessions post each presentation to answer questions.
   b. ACAMP Week
      i. Provide 2 half days to target the international/developer communities
      ii. Run similar to in person.

        iii.   First half day includes roughly 30 minutes to set the day's agenda, followed by 4 concurrent sessions for 3 more hours. Intersperse breaks.

        iv.   Second half day includes roughly 30 minutes to set the day's agenda, followed by 4 concurrent sessions for 3 more hours.

   c. **What would this accomplish? By separating the implementer from the IAM thought leader/developer audience, we could provide more focused time for each group.**