

Fri 1pm Salon4

Scribing Template --Friday, Oct 5, 2012 at 1pm, Salon 4

TOPIC: Transitioning from homegrown approach to Grouper

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SCRIBE: Sam LaSala (Montclair State University)

of ATTENDEES: ~15

MAIN ISSUES DISCUSSED

- Montclair State University is looking to move from a home-grown group provisioning system to Grouper. The purpose of this session was to initiate a discussion about how other institutions have switched to Grouper and about how they use Grouper to meet their needs.
- How Grouper is used really depends on what an individual institution's needs are. Grouper is very flexible.
- A popular use of Grouper is to take advantage of its delegation to allow the functional offices to make exceptions to general access rules. For example, the I.R.B office can manage a group to allow them to give VPN access to guests.
- One university uses Grouper as its authoritative source for course enrollment information. This allows them to include T.A.'s that Banner doesn't list as being in the courses.
- One university has a scenario where, for privacy reasons, the list of groups a user is a member of can't be obtained publicly by looking at the user object.
- Use Grouper Loader to bring in groups from an authoritative data source.
- Connectors have been developed to synchronize Grouper groups into LDAP directories and other systems like Google Groups.
- Grouper's changelog provisioner can be used for close to real-time processing.
- There haven't been many use cases for mapping Grouper privileges directly to Active Directory ACL's, but Duke University has done work in this area.
- Access management is a 3 part assignment - permissions, roles, groups/subjects.
- Role permissions can be inherited.
- An Authorization Standard API is being worked on. This will allow applications written in any language (perl, for instance) to take advantage of Grouper-managed privileges.

ACTIVITIES GOING FORWARD / NEXT STEPS

- Some links to get started with Grouper:
- Wiki <https://spaces.at.internet2.edu/display/Grouper/Grouper+Wiki+Home>
- Videos <https://spaces.at.internet2.edu/display/groupertrain/Grouper+Training>
- Mailing lists <http://www.internet2.edu/grouper/lists.html>