Federated Identity Management at NIH…NIH Login and Beyond

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About NIH

- National Institutes of Health (NIH)
- Part of the U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services
- Primary Federal agency for conducting and supporting medical research
NIH Login

User Name: bucci
Password: [enter password]

Log in

Warning Notice
This is a U.S. Government computer system, which may be accessed and used only for authorized Government business by authorized personnel. Unauthorized access or use of this computer system may subject violators to criminal, civil, and/or administrative action.

All information on this computer system may be intercepted, recorded, read, copied, and disclosed by and to authorized personnel for official purposes, including criminal investigations. Such information includes sensitive data encrypted to comply with confidentiality and privacy requirements. Access or use of this computer system by any person, whether authorized or unauthorized, constitutes consent to these terms. There is no right of privacy in this system.

If you need assistance - Please call the NIH Helpdesk 301-496-4357 (6-HELP); 866-319-4357 (toll-free) or Submit a Help Desk Ticket

CIT

Integration Services Center (ISC)
Contact: NIHISCSupport@mail.nih.gov
NIH Login Today

- Supports approximately 35,000 users
- Number of systems:
  - 202 SLAs
  - 450 URLs
- Over 1 million transactions per day
NIH provides financial support to researchers around the world.

NIH invests **over $28 billion** in medical research each year.

$28 Billion in Medical Research

83% goes to almost 50,000 competitive grants that support over 325,000 researchers **outside of NIH**.
How to Support External users

• Look to inside directories
  – Leverage existing Grants user database
  – Separate Active Directory for external users

• Limitations
  – Only used at NIH
  – User outrage over password changes
  – Helpdesk and account management overhead
Federated Identity

• Principles
  – Use open industry standards
  – Leverage existing technologies and infrastructure
  – Support and promote interoperability

• Drivers
  – NIH Roadmap initiatives
  – Expansive use of Web 2.0 tools
  – HSPD-12 and OMB M04-04 mandates
NIH Federated Login

Account Type: Research Organizations

Institution:
- 9Star Research Inc.
- Carleton College
- Case Western Reserve University
- Clemson University
- Columbia University
- Cornell University
- Dartmouth College
- Duke University
- Florida State University
- InCommon LLC
- Indiana University
- Internet2
- James Madison University

Federated with NIH

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NIH and InCommon

- Pilot with NSF Fastlane – Dec 2006
- Interop work – Q1 2007
- NIH signed MOA with InCommon for LOA1 – June 2007
- First InCommon/NIH application – Aug 2008
  - Public Information Officers Federated SharePoint
  - Difficult to administer without IT support
  - IDPs hesitant to assist for one or two users
- National Center for Research Resources enabling two major applications – Feb 2009
  - Annual Progress Reports
  - CTSA wiki
NIHLogin & the CTSA Wiki

- Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSA) Wiki
  - Account mapping
  - On ramping
  - IDP self help
- Launched in Feb 2009 with 8 institutions
- As of Sep 2009:
  - 55% awards to members of InCommon Federation
  - 80% federate with NIH
  - Average 100 users a month from May to July
  - University of Florida – 60 enrolled in the first day
NIH InCommon-Current Participants

- The Ohio State University
- Cornell University
- University of Washington
- Case Western Reserve University
- University of Chicago
- Stanford University
- University of Alabama at Birmingham
- University of California-Los Angeles
- The Pennsylvania State University
- Duke University
- Stony Brook University
- Johns Hopkins University
- University of California, Davis
- Indiana University
- Northwestern University
- Medical University of South Carolina
- University of Wisconsin-Madison
- University of Utah
- Columbia University
- University of Iowa
- Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
- University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- Vanderbilt University
- University of Florida
- University of Iowa
- University of Rochester
NIH and InCommon

• LOA2 (silver) Pilot with ERA
  – Production expected in FY ‘11 with 200,000 users

• Additional Services:
  – Multiple IC SharePoint instances
  – Proxy to multiple managed services (NCI, NLM, NCBI)
  – Additional scientific wikis
  – GRID – LOA2/LOA3
InCommon limitations

• Current participation 21%
• InCommon focused on Higher Education and Research credentials – need to extend to state and local medical institutions
• University medical center credentials often differ from those issue by Central IT
• NIH electronic Research Administration (eRA) supports 9,500 institutions and agencies
Natural progression of Open Identities

- **OpenID LOA1**
  - NLM
  - Medical wikis
  - Conference registration.
  - Regional Library access
- **Infocard LOA1 – LOA3**
- **PayPal and multiple LOAs (registration vs benefits)**
- **Research-based OpenID federations springing up.**
  - OpenID European Foundation
  - OpenID Community Project
Challenges

- OpenID Protocol not secure beyond LOA 1
- Many of the higher priority citizen-to-government applications are at LOA2 or higher (such as IRS tax filing, Social Security, and Medicare)
- Will combining OpenID and Information Cards help raise the LOA?
- Government need to support PIV
- Concern about common UI for users
Next Steps

• Initial pilot of OpenID – one or two applications that INCLUDES InCommon
• Add Information Cards to the mix – open NIH-wide
• IDP discovery/workflow – to present a scalable user-friendly interface with multiple protocol use
Contact Information

• NIH Federated Login
  – nihfederationrequest@mail.nih.gov

• NIH Enterprise Architecture
  – The NIH Enterprise Architecture Community in the NIH Portal
  – EnterpriseArchitecture@mail.nih.gov