

JISC ADVANCE ACCESS MANAGEMENT FOCUS  
Monthly Report: November 2010

Prepared by Nicole Harris

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Welcome to the third monthly report from the JISC Advance Access Management Focus. Whilst primarily intended as a management report to update stakeholders on the activities of the Access Management Focus, these reports will be made publicly available for general interest. If you have any questions or queries please contact Nicole Harris ([nicole.harris@jiscadvance.ac.uk](mailto:nicole.harris@jiscadvance.ac.uk)).

■ **Watching Brief:**

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The UK Access Management Focus is currently maintaining a watching brief in the following areas:

- **eduGAIN.** eduGain has signed off an initial first draft of its policy documents and will now be moving in to a testing phase with the pilot federations. The UK federation Board has been advised that the UK can now meet the policy requirements for eduGAIN, and is currently looking at the cost – benefit profile for joining. Eduserv have also been advised to review the eduGAIN policy for OpenAthens.
- **Kantara ULX / eduID work.** The disparate work on discovery and access management is merging together with a proposal to REFEDS entitled the ‘Discover Project’. This suggests promoting a single discovery process based on one entry word – ‘login’. For providers who feel this is a step too far, a secondary ‘eduID’ style slogan will be developed. REFEDS will make a decision on this by the end of 2010. More information is available on the REFEDS wiki: [https://refeds.terena.org/index.php/REFEDS\\_Planning\\_Documents](https://refeds.terena.org/index.php/REFEDS_Planning_Documents).
- **Federation Lab.** The Federation Lab is helping to answer important questions such as ‘what do we mean by standards compliance?’ It provides a series of tools for testing and debugging software installations, standards compliance and metadata validation. Eduserv have been advised to test OpenAthens using this framework: <https://www.fed-lab.org/>.
- **Attributes work.** There is general interest in extending the use of attributes within the UK. The UK Access Management Focus has made a recommendation to JISC Collections to promote the use of eduPersonEntitlement: <http://jisc-collections.ac.uk/entitlements/representative> to identify JISC Collections Representatives in institutions and eduPersonPrimaryOrgUnitDN, where

ou=library to identify library staff. This will benefit a range of use cases for JISC Collections and could provide useful reference points for publishers. This awaits sign-off by JISC Collections.

- **Levels of Assurance.** In light of the significant amount of work put in to levels of assurance, JISC maintains an interest in taking this work forward and has earmarked this with the JIR committee. The UK Access Management offered to review requirements in this area due to restrictions in tendering. A meeting was arranged at the Internet2 meeting for interested parties. It was agreed that a federation profile of the Kantara Identity Assurance Framework would be the best solution. A proposal will be made to REFEDS to form a working group, including representatives from ISOC, GN3 and interested federations.

## ■ Reviewing:

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Work this month has mostly be focused on writing rather than reviewing. The Focus has developed the Shibboleth Consortium documentation considerably, and has authored the content for the new REFEDS website. A proposal based on the outcomes of the eduID Business Case has been written for REFEDS (The Discover Project) and a proposal for attribute release has been created for JISC Collections.

The UK Access Management has also joined the PEER project steering group.

## ■ Documentation:

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The Access Management Focus produced the following documents in October:

- Shibboleth Consortium Plan version 7.
- Shibboleth budget, roles and responsibilities document, change management workplan.
- Website content for REFEDS.
- The Discover Project proposal.
- Attribute release proposal for JISC Collections.

All of these documents are available from Nicole Harris on request, or ask for a Huddle Account.

## ■ Meetings:

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The Access Management Focus attended the following meetings:

- REFEDS and Internet2 Member meeting, 30<sup>th</sup> October – 4<sup>th</sup> November 2010: <http://events.internet2.edu/2010/fall-mm/>. Presentations were given by the Focus at the REFEDS meeting (which was co-chaired by the UK), the Shibboleth Working Group meeting and the 'Frontiers of Federations' sessions.
- Meeting with Eduserv, 24<sup>th</sup> November 2010, Bath.

■ **Blog Posts:**

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The following posts have appeared on the Access Management Focus blog:

- Don't confuse outsourced with personal: <http://access.jiscinvolve.org/wp/dont-confuse-outsourced-with-personal/>. (This post was written to support the 'Identity Matters' conference run by Netskills which was missed due to illness).
- The Passion of Open Education: <http://access.jiscinvolve.org/wp/the-passion-of-open-education/>.
- Sausages in Atlanta: <http://access.jiscinvolve.org/wp/sausages-in-atlanta/>.