Nebraska Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council

- **Pilot Description**
  - 252 K12 School Districts, 17 ESUs, 8 Community Colleges, 3 state colleges and 1 University
- **Stakeholder Involvement**
  - University Nebraska from the start
  - Nebraska Information Technology Commission (NITC)
    - Successful presentations to the Ed Council and Network Advisory Groups
  - October 2013 Shibboleth Training
    - Participation included 8 K12 NOC, 2 Community College techs, and several from University of Nebraska.
  - Funding for an FTE by ESUCC to oversee statewide identity management
  - Creation of statewide technical group for P-20W IDM

History

1. Disjointed effort 8 years ago for statewide directory services
    1. Stalled: K12 statewide directory server request from ESU administrators
    2. ESU 10 CAS/SS0/LifeRay portal and Lincoln Public School Shibboleth Server
    3. Recommendation from UN on InCommon in March 2013
2. ESUCC Charge
    1. Early 2013 administrative involvement on request for State directory/SSO
    2. Realization of IdM in March on national federation via Incommon
    3. Joined InCommon k12 Pilot initiative.
3. Realizations
    1. Administration understanding critical. Documents similar to COSN and Jack's story really help.
    2. Examples of stories to be repurposed:
        1. "Transforming Data to Information in Service of Learning"
            1. http://www.setda.org/web/guest/datatoinformation
        2. COSN Document
            1. http://www.cosn.org/sites/default/files/pdf/Single%20Sign%20On%20Primer.pdf

History

1. Assistance:
    1. University of Nebraska participation, consulting and contacts
    2. Inherent awareness of all post-secondary institutions on IDM
        1. Colleges and Community Colleges demonstrated and high degree of interest
        2. InCommon participation has broadened the scope.
            1. Benefits of bi-weekly calls
            2. Presentations from Paul Caskey
            3. Presentations on COPPA and FERPA
            4. Grouper Presentations
            5. POP Presentation
    3. Vote of confidence from DOE and Nebraska NITC
        1. Presentations are key to these groups
        2. School Districts need additional awareness training.
            1. Danger : techs that might not understand.

Goals

1. Initially : Build and Federate between Regional Consortia (NNNC and GNENC)
   1. Proof of concept with Shibboleth
   2. Federate Safari LOR
   3. Develop Statewide InCommon Federation IdP proxy
   4. Use Atomic Learning , Safari and Zimbra mail as SPs
   5. Federate with small number of schools already in Directory Server
2. Present Goals
   1. Form a statewide IdM group representative of all educational institutions
   2. Design a statewide IdM for DOE data dashboard
   3. Use the InCommon K12 Scholarship program – 5+ entities registered
   4. Design and deploy an IdP Proxy (based on consulting at Shibboleth training)

Challenges

1. **Building Understanding of IdM – Process Knowledge**
   1. Absolutely Critical for funding reasons
   2. COSN document, cartoon videos and stories such as Jack's story need development. i.e.
      1. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3xMqJmMcME0
      2. Re-purpose for IdM K12 meaning

2. **True meaning and understanding of Idp/SPs.**
   1. Fundamentally important for meetings
      1. Must have communicative technical staff
      2. Must be aware of privacy issues (FERPA/COPPA)

3. **Technical Talent**
   1. Already overworked
   2. Lack of total understanding can be a huge problem.
   3. Need for scripting/programming skills
      1. This has driven a technical restructuring effort in Nebraska

Lessons Learned

1. The ship is just pulling out of the harbor. The direction is correct.

2. Importance of a P-20W initiative
   1. Hiring of one FTE was critical. Showed solidarity and commitment.
   2. More than anything gave the P-20W vision (Jack's story)
   3. Need for more techniques for communication
   4. Realization that privacy issues need to be addressed now.

3. Active membership in national organizations
   1. COSN and EduCause
   2. School Education Technology Directors Association (SETDA) and Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) participation