

Panel: The rapidly changing facing of federated identity management for research and the challenges that lie ahead.

Convener: Elleina Andrews, Panelist: Heath Marks, Panelist: Bradley Beddoes, Panelist: Terry Smith, Panelist: Possible internationalist panelist details to be confirmed

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40mins

DESCRIPTION

The Australian Access Federation (AAF) provides authentication services for the Australian higher education and research sector. Subscribers include all Australian universities, CSIRO as well as many public and private research and research support providers. AAF connects over 1 million identities to access and collaborate in over 150 services supporting teaching, learning and research. The AAF continues to be a key collaboration enabler within the sector and is an integral part of the Federal Government's National Research Infrastructure Strategy (NCRIS). The AAF is a national shared service owned and run by its members (Australian research and research support organisations and universities).

The identity management landscape continues to evolve at a rapid pace bringing new challenges within higher education and research. In addition the sector's requirements are diverse and often complex. New challenges are emerging such as staff, students and researchers 'bringing their own identity – BYO ID' onto campus and the growth of cloud services as well as the ongoing need to ensure collaboration with colleagues from different disciplines, different institutions and time zones.

From a federated identity management perspective there are new challenges continually emerging to provide a robust and trusted service to enable cross-organisational boundary access for authentication. These challenges highlight the need for an interconnected environment for research both nationally and internationally along with other interesting requirements due to the complex, diverse and evolving needs for federated identity management within the sector. As the identity management requirements for research continue to evolve within the sector, there will be an even greater need to ensure federated identity management will cope with the possible changes into the future.

This AAF **Panel** session will provide an excellent opportunity for research support staff to discuss with the AAF their challenges relating to identity management and how federated identity management can help their researchers gain efficiencies through being part of an access federation both nationally and internationally.

The AAF will start the discussion with a brief snapshot of the challenges in this area and follow with an informal interactive panel session including Q&A, discussion and the ability to contribute thoughts (via a crowd sourcing tool).

IDM Challenges snapshot:

- What's happening in the federated access management space nationally and internationally for researchers?
- The challenges facing identity management (Authorisation, Non-web based services, Users outside the federation, others...) and how this could assist researchers.
- The changing landscape with BYO ID.

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Panelist 1:

Mr. Heath Marks, General Manager:

Heath was appointed by the Council of Australian University Directors of Information Technology (CAUDIT) in July 2009 to head a Team to support the AAF's operations, engage with the higher education and research sectors and more specifically grow the Federation into the future. Heath is an IT professional with a wealth of management experience in the successful delivery of Information Technology within the tertiary education sector. Heath has formal qualifications in Business (MBA, MTechMgt), Computing (BIT) and is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Panelist 2:

Mr. Bradley Beddoes, Technical Lead – Innovation, Software Development and Infrastructure:

Bradley is responsible for the design and implementation of AAF software and system architectures. Bradley has worked on delivering secure, standards focused web applications and redundant, scalable IT architectures for the past 12 years within Australia and abroad.

Panelist 3:

Mr. Terry Smith, Technical Manager:

Terry is responsible for the ongoing operation of the federation and for providing support and training activities to the AAF subscriber community. Terry is an experienced IT professional who has been working in Identity and Access Management in the tertiary sector for more than 25 years. In early 2009 Terry managed the AAF pilot project that bootstrapped today's AAF operation.

Convener:

Miss Elleina Andrews, Service Delivery Manager:

Elleina joined the AAF in November 2014 as the Service Delivery Manager. Prior to this, Elleina worked for QUT in the Division of Technology, Information and Learning Support as their Communication Team Leader and implemented a number of communications, change and digital media campaigns along with a number of service delivery activities. In her previous role, Elleina was involved with the initial AAF project through providing expert advice on developing successful communication strategies.