CommIT: Simplifying Admissions Identity Management

IAM Online – August 14, 2013

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**Moderator:** Rodney Petersen, Senior Government Relations Officer and Managing Partner of the Washington Office, EDUCAUSE
CommIT Project Update
IAM Online August 14, 2013

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Georgetown University
Today’s reality

- Applicants establish separate accounts for every service they consume
- Cumbersome and challenging
  - Much manual matching of applicants to their records
  - Errors
  - Expense
- Stakeholders incur significant costs in provisioning and support
- Applicants are rarely expected to prove their identity until after they have been accepted.
  - No hope of identity assurance
  - Fraud issues, including financial aid fraud
Financial Aid Fraud: Unknown or Known Applicant?
Today’s Admissions Registration Process

Your Certainty

Identity Management On-boarding

Financial Aid Info Received
Third-party Info Received

FIRST CONTACT MADE
APPLICATION RECEIVED
ACCEPTED
DEPOSIT PAID
REGISTERED/ORIENTATION

Identity Assured

Institutional Credentialing
Loose Identity Matching

Identity Proofing
Matching Corrected
Tomorrow’s Admissions Registration Process?

Your Certainty

Identity Management On-boarding

Identity Assured ✔

Financial Aid Info Received

Third-party Info Received

First Contact Made

Application Received

Accepted

Deposit Paid

Registered/ Orientation

Identity Assured

Strong Identity Matching

Institutional Credentialing
How can this be so?

Common Identity and Trust Collaborative Project
• Outsource prospect authentication
  • Leverage stronger credentials offered through CommIT
• Use CommIT identifier for matching
• Participate in a consortium with Higher Ed and vendor partners
What’s under the covers?

• Community project lead by HE organizations Internet2 and PESC

• Standards-based federated authentication through InCommon (Identity Trust) Federation
  • Used by the US Government, higher ed, and corporate to offer services today
    • Over 1000 services
    • 372 institutions
    • 148 companies
    • 28 national agencies, labs, and non-profits

• Single sign-on for the user.

• Provider of services controls access; User organization verifies identity

• Provides Rules of the Road and best practices for Identity and Authentication
Project Goals

- Support and Enhance Identity and Trust
- CommIT will provide a process for matching electronic records for college applicants and institutions
- Federated Single Sign-On Solution (SSO)
  - Single set of credentials that can be used across various services
- CommIT strives to provide a scalable, secure approach to SSO
  - Only the applicant can initiate record aggregation and release
  - No third party access to data without applicant consent
- Voluntary
Project Goals

• Create an Identity Store
  • Person Registry
    • Store minimum data required to support user uniqueness and password re-sets
  • Unique Student Identifier
    • CommIT will create a unique electronic credential to:
      • resolve matching problems at the university level,
      • simplify the entire application process for students, parents, colleges and universities, and their external service providers, and
      • do away with the last remaining vestiges of dependency on the social security number.

• Identity Assurance will be integrated into Phase 2
  • Ecosystem to support “Digital Notaries”
What does CommIT do?

- CommIT runs single sign-on service for participating organizations
- Participating organizations will point students to the CommIT website to get account (once)
- Students log in once during a session (customizable time)
- Third party reports tagged with student’s CommIT identifier
- Identity Proofing Service increases security of login (Future phase)
• SAML2 Federated authentication through InCommon
• Participating schools and companies run a Service Provider such as the one provided with Shibboleth
• Transition to your own accounts later in the process
Who is involved?

- Internet2/InCommon for infrastructure
- PESC for business development and corporate outreach components.
- Georgetown University for oversight to the project.
- Pennsylvania State University for key technology components.
CommIT Core Team

• Internet2 has contracted services with Unicon and AWS to:
  • provide virtual machines to host the pilot project
  • provide technical assistance.
• PESC will lead the business development and community outreach components.
• Georgetown University will provide oversight to the project.
• Pennsylvania State University will be responsible for implementing the central person registry.
Core Team Deliverables

• The Core Team will
  • develop the infrastructure,
  • provide support and documentation, and
  • deliver a successful pilot project to which partners can connect their services.

• Assist the pilot participants with production implementation and testing.
CommIT Technical Team

- Technical Update
  - Reference Architecture
  - Pilot Ecosystem
    - Resource Identification
    - Configuration and Testing
      - LDAP
      - IdP
      - CPR
  - User Experience
    - Usability Testing: Round 1
CommIT Business Team

• Business Update
  • Business Plan
    • Project Summary and Participation Agreements
    • Marketing & Communications Plan
    • Partner Outreach
    • Website Content Development
    • Funding Model
The CommIT Process
Apply

Whether you are just starting college, transferring from another school or taking individual classes, at UMBC you will have access to exceptional resources, stimulating teachers and individual attention.

APPLY ONLINE

UMBC is a member of the Common Application, which requires a non-refundable $50 application fee by credit card or online checking. Use the Common Application for degree seeking admission only.

To begin the application process, please log into CommiT:

INTERNET PESC

The CommiT Project

This is a demonstration of some of the potential services that CommiT makes possible. The logos displayed on these pages were generously donated by the various participants for use during this demonstration. Use of these logos does not imply participation of the participants in CommiT or the services it is intended to provide.

DEGREE SEEKING:

Freshmen
Freshmen
International Freshmen

Transfer Students
Programs at Shady Grove
International Transfer Students

Returning Students
Reading (lost UMBC in good standing)
Congratulations!

You have successfully created your User ID. It will be used to access electronic services.

Name: tim tester
User ID: tt5

You will receive an e-mail at tim@test.com containing your User ID. Please call the Service Desk at (555) 555-5555 if you require further assistance.
Please Login

Username
Password
Log in
Forgot Password?
Register
Apply

Whether you are just starting college, transferring from another school or taking individual classes, at UMBC you will have access to exceptional resources, stimulating teachers and individual attention.

Congratulations! You have successfully logged into a University site using a Commit ID username and password. If this were a production service, you would also be able to access admissions services on other participating sites using the Commit username. For example, you could sign up for a entrance exam or apply to another school all without having to manage multiple usernames. In the future, we anticipate that this ID will also allow you to conduct other transactions with the college, such as managing your financial aid. Thank you for testing this new service!

We have received the following information about you.

Commit ID: 12345@umbc.edu

Check Your Admission Application Status or Log Out

DEGREE SEEKING:
Freshmen
International Freshmen

Transfer Students

You Have An Existing Account:

Our records indicate that you have already established an account. The three security questions you established when you created your account must be answered correctly in order for you to manage your account or reset your password. The security questions provide an additional way for us to verify your identity. When all three questions are answered correctly, you will be prompted to reset your password.

Please click continue to proceed.
Security Question: 3

What is your father's middle name?

Answer:

Continue
The following condition has been encountered:

- To protect the privacy of your data, your session has ended because you were away for an extended period of time.
- Please restart from the originating site of your transaction
Congratulations!

Your password has been reset successfully. You may now log into the system using the User ID below and your new password.

Name: tim tester
User ID: ttt5

You will receive an e-mail at tim@tim.net confirming this change. Please call the Service Desk at (555) 555-5555 if you require further assistance.
NEXT STEPS
Next Steps: Pilot

Finish pilot package
Call for participation
Assist with pilots
Define production with pilot orgs
Pilot Participants Deliverables

Higher Ed
- Provide link to CommIT Project site
- Accept CommIT logins
- Identify and pilot scoped admissions process to use CommIT account
- Use the CommIT identifier for matching
- Participate in definition of production phase

Companies
- Accept CommIT logins
- Store the CommIT identifier
- Support including CommIT identifier on applicant documents passed to participating institutions
- Participate in definition of production phase
Get Involved

Participate in working groups to assist with defining:
• business, technical, and governance models for the project.

Join InCommon Student
• [https://spaces.internet2.edu/display/InCCollaborate/InC-Student+Services+Group](https://spaces.internet2.edu/display/InCCollaborate/InC-Student+Services+Group)
• CommIT update call coming up.

Join the CommIT general email list for updates
• project-commit@incommon.org
Questions
Contact Information

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Evaluation
Please complete the evaluation of today’s IAM Online:
http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/IAMOnline_August_2013
## InCommon Identity Week - November 11-15, 2013

[www.incommon.org/idweek](http://www.incommon.org/idweek)

*San Francisco Airport Marriott Waterfront, Burlingame, CA*

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<td>REFEDS – Global R&amp;E Federation Operators</td>
<td>Advance CAMP Identity Services Summit</td>
<td>Advance CAMP Identity Services Summit (through noon)</td>
<td>CAMP: Managing Identity and Access in an Era of Distributed Services</td>
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<td>CAMP Pre-Conference: Getting Started with Federated Identity Management (afternoon)</td>
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*Note: The table represents the schedule for the conference.*
Thank you to InCommon Affiliates for helping to make IAM Online possible.

Brought to you by Internet2’s InCommon, in cooperation with the EDUCAUSE Identity and Access Management Working Group