Federation 2.0 Working Group Meeting Notes

Fed2 WG Google folder:
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1vr728JXAFVH3agjnbueV9NLjB_OKHdET?usp=sharing

Meeting https://internet2.zoom.us/j/8853848902

time:
https://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/fixedtime.html?msg=REFEDS+Federation+2.0+Conference+Call+%28every+two+weeks%29&iso=20190626T11&p1=179&ah=1

Wednesday Sept 4 2019

Attending: Tom, Judith, David Walker, Janemarie, Albert, Richard, Alan Buxey, Thilina Pathirana

What are the implications for federations from these stories

Warren A - Multiply & Divide (confirmed 4th) Limited-Directed (Adam)
Adam L - Mission Accomplished (confirmed 4th) Abundant Directed (Albert)

Directed stories: corporation takes over the world - monopoly capitalism (Mission Accomplished) and closed governmental control - socialism (Multiply Divide)

Identity owned by a particular corporation (google, facebook) vs
Governmental identities that are tightly controlled and don't interoperate outside

External direction "conservation law" -- who is in charge of what to explore. How do we follow the model of the academy? When returns are what is driving the research. Starves the academic organizations (subcontractors). Potential for having positive impact is reduced

Research opportunities that are not directed may be less funded, but identities are provided in these cases.

The important thing is to maintain the economy of researchers to collaborate - federations can't fix the directed quality …

Are federations relevant? How do federations need to shift? As SAS services become more popular it changes how people offer IT. I don't know what that means to identity federations.

==There will be a need for people to coordinate interoperability issues and the data governance requirements==

If the identity providers shift -- does it move the governance of data?

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We can only do whatever we do because we are funded - -we have various funding models. Solving problems

Outsourcing email to MS and Google, lose e.g. exim/sendmail experts; same for identity?

If you have a government identity how does that interoperate globally? See the edu-ids? What if i emigrate. Does it transfer?

Multiply and divide -- isolation because it doesn't work with external organizations.

Why do sponsors fund? As a TIER investor, people fund because it supports institution mission AND they are invested in the mission of federations. When government sector, corporate sector…. Our institutions are willing to volunteer our time? Government organizations may still be interested in having their people involved…. The zeitgeist can change with other sectors. Could shift what it looks like….

The international organization is important - -at the eduGAIN level is not as strong as the national federations. Due to laws, agreements…

Is the scope of federation only identity or services - collaboration tools etc. Ecosystem. Federation plays a substantial role in that ecosystem -- is a better locus to analyze. Federation value is important when coupled to access. Lots of players who are not federation operators but where the value is delivered.

Starting with how research networking has gone. Separate research nets with different firewall policies…. Ease for research to collaborate. NREN backbones .federation. W

We are leveraging the identities -- authorization vs authentication. Club vs service. Compare to journals where only one department has access to a journal.

NREN + the identity federation are important. Will external agencies have a requirement for these networks? If they do, the big money is the networking charges -- will the identity federations be viable without the backbone?

Is the service you (institution) is getting valuable enough? Or not buying pipe, and then buying eduroam? How much subsidy are the NRENS providing to identity?

NRENS global ISP -- valuable for the big data research.

Does the "Mission accomplished" story reduce the investment in the pipe? InCommon membership only ⅓ in Internet2 big pipe?

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Pipe not as valuable but the network neutrality is valuable.. Networks become fragmented as the directed agencies choose who to connect with. Isolation disconnection.

Instead of having different organizations in a government manage different networks - military vs education vs… One agency (could still keep traffic separate)

Policy overarches all sectors (cf China): the policy may be good for some of the sectors (military find it safer to not have global connectivity) other sectors have issues.

As funding shifts, indirect implication in funding for identity federations

Lucy "does it scale" is an important question in the research space, "can't' be monetized" -- scale and sustainability.

What can federations offer to academics left out: economies of scale. We may view them as commodities in academia but not globally? The network (fast) but other aspects are interesting that are less so to commercial providers.

Federations exist to deliver -- sustainably -- the service. If we rely on corporations, can be yanked away in at short notice. Tolerate less cost effectiveness to [meet the need]

Why invest in wifi connectivity when 5G is coming. Why invest in the academic network? What is the value of the university network? Just like the banks of dial in modems have gone.

How do we deal with researchers who don't have a home institution -- the IDP of last resort. This is a challenge when social identities aren't allowed through the border.