

# Minutes of the REFEDS Meeting 20<sup>th</sup> May 2012

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## Abstract:

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### 1. Welcome and REFEDS Update, Licia Florio

Licia welcomed everyone to the meeting and revised the remit of REFEDS. One of the things that we cannot manage within the REFEDS remit is targeted training for new federations, we don't have the resource for this. We can bring together materials to support these federations – such as the barriers to service providers work.

Some work areas are well developed and are producing results. We now need to work on how we approve and put these out as a REFEDS recommendation. More discussion will be had on this later in the agenda.

We also need to consider areas where we have not made progress and if the REFEDS group wants to continue to push forward on these.

### 2. Discovery Project, Rod Widdowson

Rod gave an overview of the work being undertaken as part of the Discovery project. This falls in to two categories:

- a) recommendations on use of MDUI . Rod has circulated these for comment.
- b) toolkit for publishers / SPs who want to improve access management. Work is well developed on this and will be available for comment in approximately 1 month. This will include a demo of how to do discovery well.

Open question: should we demo a site that has been done really badly?



- **ACTION20120520-01**: volunteers for editorial board for Discovery Project required please.
- **ACTION20120520-02**: comments on the MDUI recommendations please.

### 3. Federation Policy Mapping Work , Nicole Harris

Nicole reported on her work to map current federation policies against a common framework. This work is mostly complete and aims to report by the end of June. Nicole posed three questions relating to this work:

- a) Should we seek a common name for 'federation policy'?

It was noted that the current names used may be in place for legal reasons and difficult to achieve. It would be useful to ask federations why they chose the name for their particular document.

- **ACTION20120520-03**: NH to ask federations why they selected a specific name for their federation policy, what the legal reasons might have been and what scope they saw for changing this title.

### 4. Managing REFEDS Recommendations, Ken Klingenstein

Ken Klingenstein raised the question of how we currently achieve a 'REFEDS Recommendation'.

We have now been working as a group for nearly 2 years on active projects and we are at a point where we need to make clear recommendations as REFEDS to the community.

Key questions:

- What is the form that our recommendations should take?
  - IETF RFC 2119?
- IPR?
  - Creative Commons?
- To whom they should apply?
  - Anyone who cares?
  - What does it mean to be a REFEDS member?
- When is it not our problem?
  - Kantara, OASIS, ISOC, IETF?
- How do we vote?

There was general consensus within the meeting that the process we currently have ([https://refeds.org/about\\_agreement.html](https://refeds.org/about_agreement.html)) was not broken, but might need enhancing as the group grows as we have more outputs.

At the moment each working area tends to declare its own route for approval. This has included Kantara (SAML2intprofile) IETF (LOA registry, Category Entities) and REFEDS own publications (federation policy mapping work). We need to be clear on the route for each working area (MDUI? Attribute release WG?).



- **ACTION20120520-04:** attendees to send thoughts on current approach to recommendations and processes within REFEDS and Steering Committee to draft a paper for approval.

## 5. eScience Recommendations on Federated Identity Management

Dave Kelsey attended the meeting to report on the requirements gathered by the research community to provide effective federated identity management for science and research. The recommendations are detailed in the paper:

The main outstanding problem from the floor seemed to continue to be communication flow between federations and research areas. If REFEDS can start the ball rolling with improving dialogue between these parties, a cascade effect could help. We also have a selling job to do.

Licia Florio will be presenting at the next FIM workshop meeting and use this opportunity to discuss the role that REFEDS can play in meeting the eScience recommendations and bring a proposal to the group following the FIM meeting.

## 6. Updates on specifications, Leif Johansson

Leif briefly recapped the presentation given at the last REFEDS BOF in Arlington (April 2012) discussing the various standard and specification efforts with which the REFEDS community is engaged. Many of these are relevant for the discussion around process and policy for REFEDS recommendations.

## 7. Interfederation

Ken Klingenstein gave a brief overview on some of the challenges currently outstanding for interfederation. Lorenzo then gave a demonstration of the current PEER software release and its status.

Now the PEER software is complete, REFEDS needs to consider the PEER service instance for research and education. Nordunet have agreed to provide the infrastructure for a pilot service, but a baseline policy is needed for this pilot. Leif and Milan presented the short policy that is proposed for the PEER service instance.

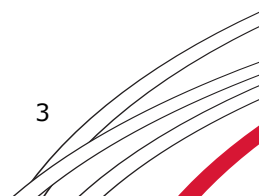
### Actions on PEER Policy:

**ACTION20120520-05:** editors to consider section 1.4 of the PEER service policy, is this needed in PEER or is this something that sounds too much like a federation policy?

**ACTION20120520-06:** editors to consider tidying up language for section 1.3 in the PEER service policy.

**ACTION20120520-07:** Milan and Nicole to publish second draft of PEER service policy.

## 8. Federation Harmonisation



Mikael gave an update on the current code of conduct. A second draft will be circulated shortly for comments by the end of August 2012.

One of the problems will be getting the Service Providers to actually implement this work. We need a quick and easy technical implementation that makes it easy for SPs to sign up to this and for IdPs to know that the SP has signed this.

**ACTION210120520-08:** All to comment on the second draft of the Code of Conduct particularly on practical implementations of the approach.

Why is this being proposed as an mddp:SPCoC and not as an entity category? Can we not have an entity category that says 'has signed code of conduct'.

Is there a way we can articulate this to SPs in an appealing way? Is the title itself something that will put us off?

Mikael will be circulating further supporting document for comment.

## 9. Lightning Talks

### Update from the AAF

### Update on Office365

**Next steps:** conference call to be organized via the REFEDS list.