

**Rolfes, Tom**

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**Subject:** FW: Network Nebraska and Federated Identify Management

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**From:** Gary Needham [<mailto:gneedham@esu9.org>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 06, 2014 2:58 PM

**To:** John Stritt

**Cc:** Decker, Brenda; Schroeder, Deb; Scott Isaacson; Bob Uhing; Rolfes, Tom; Weir, Walter; Chad DeWester

**Subject:** Re: Network Nebraska and Federated Identify Management

John,

I've included a response for the reading of all, and if further discussion is necessary, let me know.

We are to the point where discussion of the role and membership of any federation is a significant part of the conversation. Additionally, the last NOC meeting contained a significant "chicken and egg" conversation on the technical side regarding the idea that no one will use federated identity without a significant application being tied to it, but no significant application can be tied to a federation without appropriate federation membership.

So technically, we are where we have always been. Administratively, without Network Nebraska adoption of the federation, we can move forward only with the authority of smaller groups that want to federate, such as ESUs, but common policies between different types of educational entities, such as inclusion of large school districts and higher education, are not likely. This may help the technical work to move more quickly, but it may also make it more difficult to make systems work together down the road.

Based on this response, my recommendation to the ESUCC/NOC is to move along technically and now worry less about policy than we have in the past year. When a neutral policy administrator such as Network Nebraska (or any other alternative that may crop up) is ready to take on that work, we will be ready to join in. My hope is that the other members can take a similar approach as they work on their own local identity management issues.

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Gary Needham, Director of Technology

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"That's the whole problem with science. You've got a bunch of empiricists trying to describe things of unimaginable wonder." --Bill Watterson (in Calvin and Hobbes)

On May 2, 2014, at 4:14 PM, John Stritt wrote:

Brenda - Thanks for your response. Gary Needham along with the ESUCC had initiated discussion on the identity management proposal.

Next week ESUCC will be meeting for their spring meeting. As Scott Isaacson has also received your letter, I will confirm with him that it will be shared with the ESUCC tech committee. I will then check with Scott and

Gary Needham regarding and discussion from ESUCC and follow up with you with their comments related to Identity Management.

I know that Debbie has been working with the budget committee in reviewing other budget items and I hope we have consensus regarding that budget following the May NNAG meeting.

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On May 2, 2014, at 4:01 PM, Decker, Brenda <[brenda.decker@nebraska.gov](mailto:brenda.decker@nebraska.gov)> wrote:

Please see the attached letter. Thank you.

Brenda L. Decker  
Chief Information Officer  
State of Nebraska  
[brenda.decker@nebraska.gov](mailto:brenda.decker@nebraska.gov)

<201405021500.pdf>

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BEGIN-ANTISPAM-VOTING-LINKS

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Teach CanIt if this mail (ID 02LV9enle) is spam:  
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