Minutes of Shibboleth Consortium Board Meeting #105
9th November 2022 – Videoconference

Attendees

Name	Organisation	Country
Scott Cantor (SC)	Developer Representative	United States
Kevin Morooney (KM)	Internet2	United States
Emily Brown (EB) Secretary	Jisc	United Kingdom
Steve Zoppi (SZ)	Internet2	United States
Wolfgang Pempe (WP)	DFN – Member Representative	Germany
Alex Stuart (AS)	Jisc	United Kingdom
Manne Miettinen (MM)	NORDUnet	Finland

Apologies

Joe Steele (JS)	Jisc	United Kingdom
Davide Vaghetti (DV)	GARR – Member Representative	Italy

Minutes of the previous meeting on 14th September were approved. There was no October meeting.

1. **Actions**

Ref	Description	Owner	Complete by	Status
99.1	Developer Contracts	EB	May 2022	**Closed.**
102.1	Joe and Emily to look to better present financial data	JS / EB	December 2022	**Ongoing.**
102.2	Review Development Offer forwarded by Scott	Board	September 2022	**Scott will contact the client to begin discussions.**
102.3	Finalise first question list for survey and send link to be sent out	JS	September 2022	**Closed.**
102.4	Renew Open ID subscription	EB	September 2022	**Closed.**

105.1	Renew Shibboleth.net	AS/JS	November 2022	**Alex is prompting JS on this as a matter of urgency.**
105.2	Survey: Next steps	AS/EB	November	**Alex to finalise any changes. The survey to be sent to the board with an aim to send it out on 28/22/2022 before TechEx.**

2. Financial and membership updates

Emily noted payments are still outstanding from 2021 from: Rectors and Visitors, The Research Foundation for SUNY, Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Emily is awaiting a full list from Jisc's Credit Control of to confirm the debtors for 2022.

Renewal requests are out for everyone until the end of the year.

Renewal requests have been confirmed by: Switch, Northwestern University, Temple University, MIT & Cincinnati Children's Hospital medical Centre. Texas State University, Stockholm School of Economics, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, The University of Texas at Austin, RNP, CESENT, Gakuin, CINECA, Los Rios Community College District, Brown University, Pacific Lutheran University, James Madison University, Oakland University &University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Emily reported that we have onboarded Technical University who are representing Latvian universities consortium. This consortium unites 4 largest Latvian universities and is intended to provide shared services for founding members.

3. Development update

https://shibboleth.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/DEV/blog/2022/11/07/3107684366/November+2022+Update

Relatively short update this month, as we've mostly just been continuing with existing work projects. The OIDC feature update should be out shortly, just some final cleanup work left to do in cooperation with partners working on new functionality separately for eventual inclusion in our code base. A testable snapshot of the OIDC RP plugin is available as development on that wraps up. See state of the upcoming OIDC RP plugin for details.

With the holidays coming up, we may or may not end up shipping IdP V4.3 this year, as there's no significant rush and a lot of attention is split right now among other deliverables or longer term projects.

The most interesting activity this month was the rare occurrence of a new SP release. This was not a particularly urgent need, but we were prepared to react to the recent OpenSSL 3.0 advisory, which was initially graded at critical, but ended up high and arguably might in fact be moderate at best. They erred on the side of caution, so we did likewise, and it made sense to go ahead and roll up a handful of fixes and enhancements and ship a new release. Patching to this version should be a non-event.

Notably, I went ahead and uploaded ARM-64 binaries to all of the actively supported platform repositories, as several organizations have expressed interest in that architecture to potentially save money on cloud costs. We have little or no experience with these packages so they are officially unsupported for the moment, but based on feedback we will consider moving them into the partially supported category (i.e., supported for consortium members). Building them is not a problem, so testers should be confident we will continue to supply patched versions if it becomes necessary.

Another call out: we have a package set for the current prerelease of Amazon's 2022 Linux platform and the repository generation script presents that option for testing as well.

Another noteworthy mini-project was an effort I undertook last month to clean up and automate most of the current content in the IdP's web.xml file. This will be part of the V5 release. Aside from the clutter, the sheer number of references to a variety of Spring and Shibboleth classes has made upgrades more difficult than we would prefer, and has actually been among the more common sources of breakage during upgrades. Fixing this once and for all has been priority, so a number of new classes have been built to offload most of the content of the file into "initializers" that are automatically detected by newer containers. This hides all of the gory details and provides the ability to use properties to configure the relevant filters and servlets where necessary. Plugins will also be able to automatically inject their own content in most cases. More testing is needed but I believe the changes will be compatible with existing deployments.

4. **Discussion of Development Roadmap and sustainability of Development team**

Scott will update the roadmap in the new year to reflect the results of the survey.

Roadmap:

We're actively working on the following, which will likely take us through the rest of this year:

- Work on an OIDC proxying support plugin continues and hopefully will wrap up this summer.

- A replacement plugin that implements support for database storage without Hibernate is under development so that we can remove Hibernate from V5 entirely. Its lack of reliability and the lack of provenance of its software artifacts make this a high priority. The new plugin should be a drop-in replacement.

- Another significant feature update for the OP plugin is under development on an aggressive timeline to meet some member requirements. The scope is not fully defined, but is under discussion and definitely includes expansion of JWT support and some revocation enhancements. Logout is under discussion but is not a committed work item, mainly because much of that work (and what we've already done) will probably be moot with the changes coming to browsers soon.

- A parallel work stream is underway to port and test the code base on Java 17 and Spring 6 with the Jakarta EE changes, and address the likely end of the road for Spring Web Flow as a third-party project. We have POC code running successfully on Spring milestones now. We are actively looking at code reorganization for this release but we will be focused on reducing impact to deployers as much as possible.

- Finally, work has started on the <u>SP redesign</u>, though if the new release is the top of Mount Everest, we've basically started researching tickets to Nepal. The work should take further shape over the next few months and allow more of the work to be devolved to the team in certain areas.

5. AOB

SC highlighted that shibboleth.net is yet to be renewed. AS has taken an action to prompt JS on this to get this renewed ASAP.

The Board approved EB/JS & AS to look into a Financial solution to investigate better financial management for the Consortium. Hopefully by December, EB will provide a business case for a solution and its benefits.

The board has agreed to send the survey to their respective mailing lists on 28/11/2022. Alex is making the final adjustments and as soon as we receive the final copy, this will be sent to all BM. The survey will stay open until the end of January.

The Board discussed the possibility of revising the lower membership rates in the near future. We will pick this up in January.

6. **Next Meetings:**
   Wednesday 14th December
   Wednesday 11th January