



Minutes of Shibboleth Consortium Board Meeting #115 8th November 2023 – Videoconference

Attendees

Name	Organisation	Country
Scott Cantor (SC)	Developer Representative	United States
Steve Zoppi (SZ)	Internet2	United States
Emily Brown (EB) Secretary	Jisc	United Kingdom
Kevin Morooney (KM)	Internet2	United States
Alex Stuart (AS)	Jisc	United Kingdom
Davide Vaghetti (DV)	GARR – Member Representative	Italy
Manne Miettinen (MM)	NORDUnet	Finland

Apologies

Wolfgang Pempe (WP)	DFN – Member Representative	Germany
Grace Moore (GM)	Jisc	United Kingdom

Minutes of the previous meeting on 18th October are pending approval.

1. Actions

Ref	Description	Owner	Complete by	Status
106.6	Board to agree plan to discuss income generation, review of regulations and succession planning	Board	February 2024	Ongoing - Will be addressed in the Jan 2024 workshop.
109.1	Revise membership documents. Move away from 'charter' language. Look at what it means for a member to join.	Board	February 2024	Open – Will be addressed in the Jan 2024 workshop.
109.2	Steve – Investigate regarding donations / tax identifier number? How to make donations possible via PayPal	SZ	February 2024	Open – Steve has sent over a paper with options outlined. Discussion ongoing.

				Likely to be addressed in the Jan 2024 meeting but will be discussed in meetings from now until 2024.
112.2	Daasi	EB	November 2023	Ongoing – awaiting response from Jisc Procurement. Likely to be finalised in time for the start of the first sprint on 15/11/2023.
114.1	Financial Data Presentation	EB&GM	November 2023	Ongoing – EB&GM to present financial data.
114.2	Draft Agenda for January workshop.	EB,GM &KM	November 2023	Ongoing.
114.3	Agree dates for January workshop.	EB & GM	November 2023	Ongoing.
114.4	Send out communication around 2025-member rate increase.	All.	October 2023.	Closed.

2. Financial and membership updates

All renewals are out for 2023.

Yet to renew in 2023: GakuNin, RENATER, The Rector and Visitors of the University of Virginia, Brandeis University and University of California Office of the President

Offboards from November: Augstākās izglītības un zinātnes informācijas tehnoloģijas koplietošanas pakalpojumu centrs & Akita Bank.

Onboards: in 2023: Omnibond, IDF Connect, Harvard University, University of Arizona, Open University, Illinois state & AAF.

The only outstanding payment from 2022 is now university of Montana.

3. Development update

<https://shibboleth.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/DEV/blog/2023/11/07/3300786186/November+2023+Update>

The last month has primarily been continuing the post-release work I mentioned last month. We have landed the feature branches that were being worked on for what will eventually be IdP and OpenSAML V5.1 and are on track to deliver those either in December or early next year, primarily based on what other bug reports or requests come in that fit the time scale or are serious enough to need addressing. We know adoption isn't that widespread at this point but the feedback we do have on V5 is generally that it's a non-event, and it definitely was for me.

The main change in 5.1 is the CSP support which I have not as of yet documented, but we have largely completed the technical work. This work will not impact upgraded systems. The plugins that contain views will also be addressed in time, without requiring the use of 5.1 as they will handle things themselves for now until we move beyond compatibility with 5.0. One of them (the TOTP plugin) was already updated with some of this new work because it needed to be patched for compatibility with 5.0 due to a mistake on my part.

We have mostly finished our plans for the generation and publication of Javadocs going forward and at least for now we intend *not* to build and publish javadoc artifacts to our Nexus repository to allow is to decouple the Javadoc process from the releases. This is an experiment as we don't fully know what the impact might be on IDEs like Eclipse if the jars aren't there. We will of course continue to deploy source artifacts, it's only the javadoc jars we intend to omit. If that presents a significant problem, we will revisit it, otherwise we expect to publish them directly to the web site as a separate process during releases. A side benefit is that our CI builds are faster and should take less compute resources in AWS.

We have started work on prototyping WebAuthn support in a new plugin project, and hope to see some concrete results from that by early next year. In parallel we are continuing work on smaller enhancements to the OIDC plugins driven by requests from members who are heavily utilizing that code, and as time permits also continuing with the static code analysis and remediation work that we spent time on for the IdP and OpenSAML this year. This process is labor intensive but has continued to flush out a lot of bugs so it has been a reasonable investment in time when we have the time to spend.

Another area of work right now is to automate as much as possible the process of building the Windows installers for the IdP and Jetty. These are quite labor intensive, often under pressure due to security vulnerabilities, so automating that process is very important for project maturity. Doing so securely, of course, is why it's not easy.

The official announcement of the planned rate increases for non-NREN memberships for 2025 was sent to the members list, though the web site needs to be updated to reflect those plans. The work on estimating and proposing future budget options to the membership will take much of this month and the Board will be taking up that task in earnest in January.

4. Discussion of Development Roadmap and sustainability of Development team

Roadmap:

Updated Aug '23 -

<https://shibboleth.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/DEV/pages/1120895029/Project+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 SP redesign, 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

- Shibboleth.net certificate was renewed. Expires on: 26/10/2024.

6. Next Meetings:

Wednesday 13th December

Wednesday 10th January