SUK P-2 "Wissenschaftliche Information: Zugang, Verarbeitung und Speicherung"
CUS P-2 «Information scientifique: accès, traitement et sauvegarde»
SUC P-2 "Scientific information: access, processing and safeguarding"

Abstract

Swiss edu-ID (141-038)

Next-generation Swiss Educational Identity Management

Identity and access management (IAM) is a central component of the academic IT infrastructure. Software platforms require reliable identification of their users as well as access to an extensive range of high-quality attribute information.

SWITCHaai is a well established IAM solution for the Swiss universities that places identity management under the responsibility of the participating universities. However, this organization-centric approach has the disadvantage that university members with multiple roles, jobs or registrations are assigned multiple electronic identities. In addition, individuals lose their electronic identity when they leave a university and are unable to recover the same identity if it is needed at a later date.

The Swiss edu-ID is therefore intended to realign IAM based on the SWITCHaai infrastructure in order to make it user-centric. It will allow individuals to use university services with a single identity that is valid over the long term and accessible to all relevant individuals. A newly constructed, user-centric IAM system will also offer the potential to create interfaces to non-academic services, research platforms, cloud services, social networks, non-web-based resources, etc. and to make these interfaces available to all universities.

The main aims of the Swiss edu-ID project are as follows:

- **To establish the Swiss edu-ID in the community**: Specific working groups will be formed to develop the Swiss edu-ID architecture, to clarify the legal issues, to develop the system over the long term and to handle its operation. This will ensure that the Swiss edu-ID meets the universities' needs and receives their long-term support.
- **To set up the Swiss edu-ID V1.0 service**: The Swiss edu-ID V1.0 service will offer the initial basic functions of the user-centric IAM infrastructure (the aim being to incorporate the full range of functions in Swiss edu-ID V2.0). Individuals will be able to manage and use their own identity over the long term. Universities and service providers will be able to build on the Swiss edu-ID and put innovative projects into practice.

Subject of a later proposal will be the implementation of the "Swiss edu-ID" V2.0 service. Based upon the experiences of this project, the proposal for "Swiss edu-ID V2.0" will be prepared by mid-February 2015.

Services wishing to make use the functions offered by the "Swiss edu-ID" will receive consultancy services from the project, but specific integration work is out ot scope of this project. Project management will take appropriate steps to evaluate requests for functional extensions within the governance structures.