Supporting Inter-organisational, Inter-disciplinary Security-Oriented Collaborations

The eResearch vision of seamless single-sign on access to distributed resources is a compelling one that reflects the needs and challenges facing many research domains. However, many inter-organisational collaborations require fine-grained access control where organisations and their users demand to be autonomous. Much work has been undertaken in expressing and enforcing these levels of autonomy within the eResearch and broader communities through authentication and authorisation technologies. This talk will describe some of the experiences in using these technologies, and the experiences in delivering security-oriented inter-organisational collaborative research environments. The specific challenges in supporting inter-disciplinary research endeavours are identified. The talk will draw on a body of work undertaken by the author whilst the Technical Director of the National e-Science Centre (NeSC - www.nesc.ac.uk) at the University of Glasgow in the UK, and will outline the planned application of these solutions in his new role as Director of eResearch at the University of Melbourne.

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