

Identity & the Identity Management Lifecycle





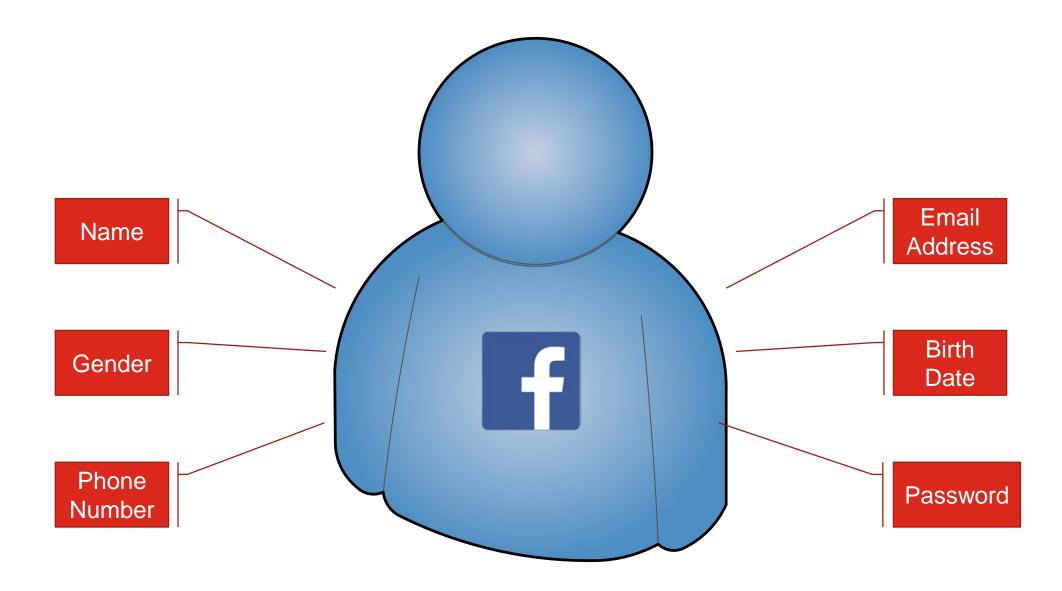
What is an Identity?

ISO/IEC 24760-1 defines it as "a set of attributes related to an entity"

But then...what's an Entity?

- entity (n): a thing with distinct and independent existence
- We have lots of different types of entities in the identity space...





TENET



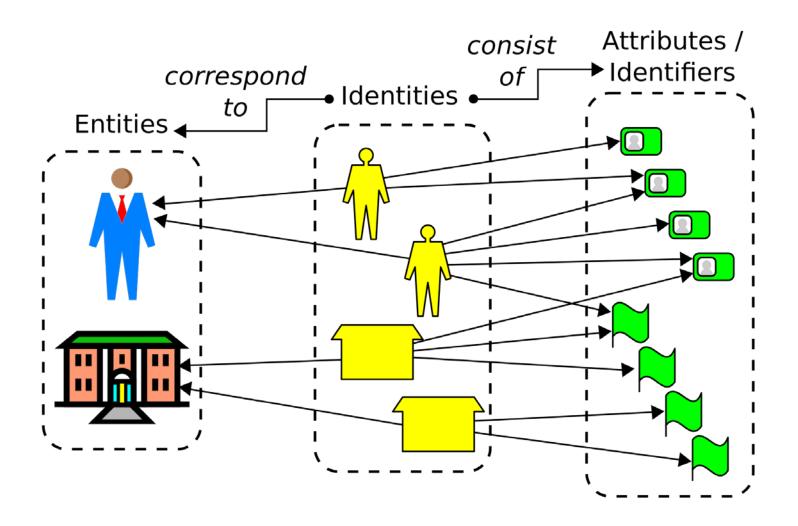


Image source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Identity_management





Image Source: http://i.imgur.com/r8cY83z.jpg

What makes up a digital identity?

In other words....what do you already know about your users?



Sources of Identity - Students

- Student number / identifier
- Name
- Email address
- Qualifications
- Course registration
- Marks, exam results
- Password
- •

Sources of Identity - Staff

- Employee number /identifier
- Name, address, phone number
- Contract status
- Password
- Email address
- Faculty, department, division
- Committee membership
- . . .

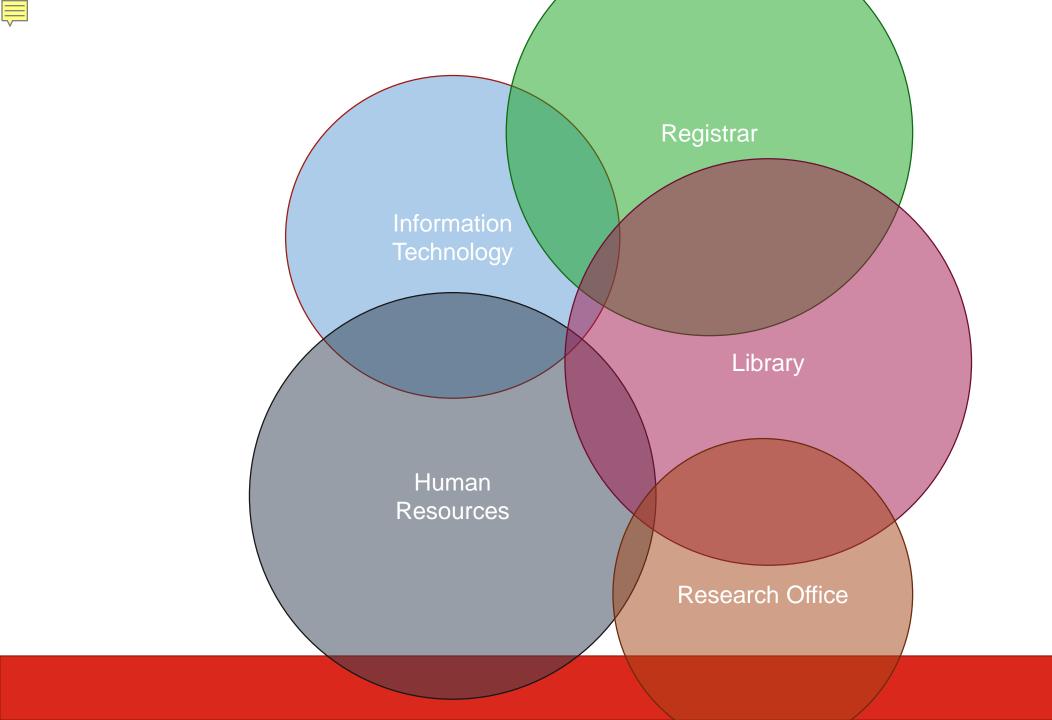
Sources of Identity – Researchers

- Current research
- Grants
- Publications, research output?

• ...



Where do we get these attributes?

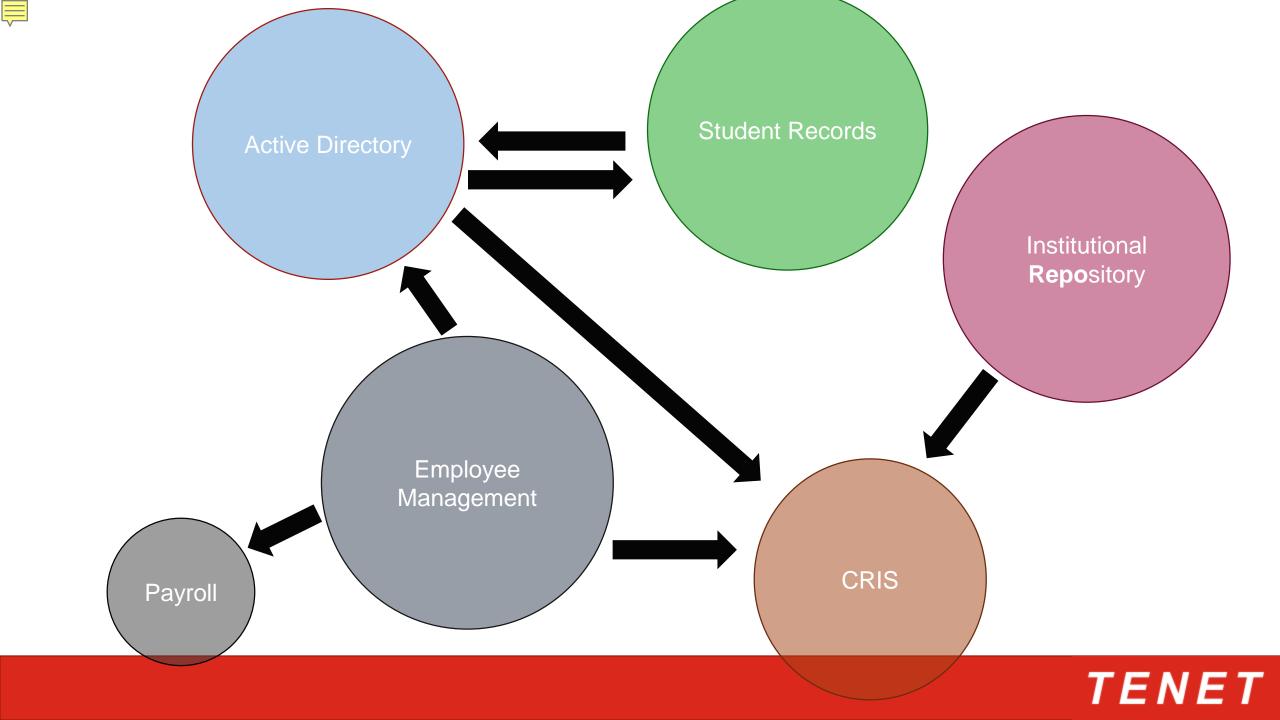




Systems that use Identity

where does identity live in your institution?

- Active Directory
- Student records
- Human resources/employee management
- Payroll
- Current research information system (CRIS)
- Grant management system
- Institutional repositories
- Alumni relations
- ...





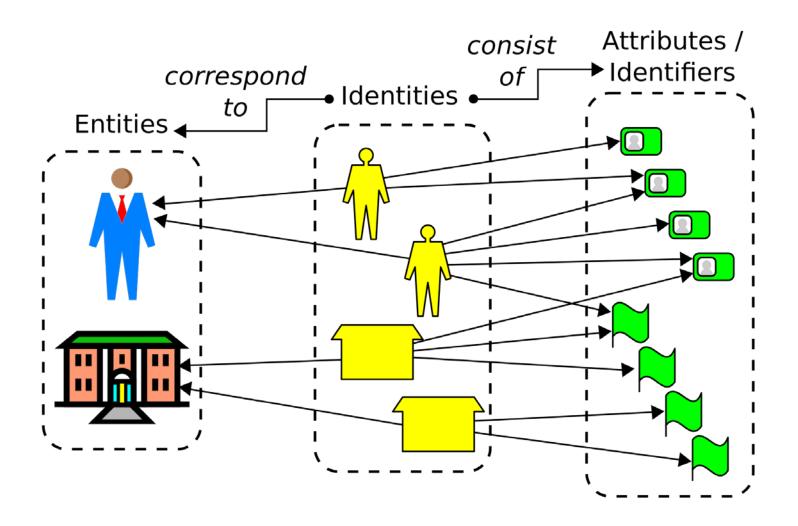


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Person Identifiers



Privacy Implications ?

- Username
- National ID
- Passport number
- Student number
- Employee/staff number
- Email address?
- ORCID iD
- GUID

When/How do these attributes change?

Can there be duplication?

Do we agree on formatting?

TENET

What makes a good identifier?

- Persistent vs transient
- Transferable / reassignment
- Unique
- Pseudo-anonymous
- Opaque
- Pseudonym
- Targeted



- Should be generated
- Must be opaque and uni-directional
 - e.g. a SHA-256 hash
- Think about making them targeted





Open Researcher and Contributor Identifier

https://orcid.org/0000-0003-2845-6969

Persistent, opaque Institutionally independent

Like a Digital Object identifier (DOI) for people



Identity Management

"enables the right individuals to access the right resources, at the right time, for the right reasons" (Wikipedia)

Evolution of Identity Techniques

Application Centric IdM

- Services activated, but little interaction between them
- Applications have distinct userID/password pairs of their own

Centralizing Campus Directory & Sign-On

- Services are easier to turn on
- Users are using same password
- Campus SSO users sign in once
- Applications cannot see the user's password

Federated SSO

- Faster service turn-up time – config and go
- Minimized attack/risk surface inherent in design
- Services outside your domain more easily enabled



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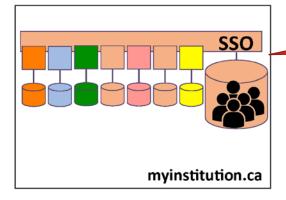
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What do we need to get here?





Image Source: https://imgflip.com



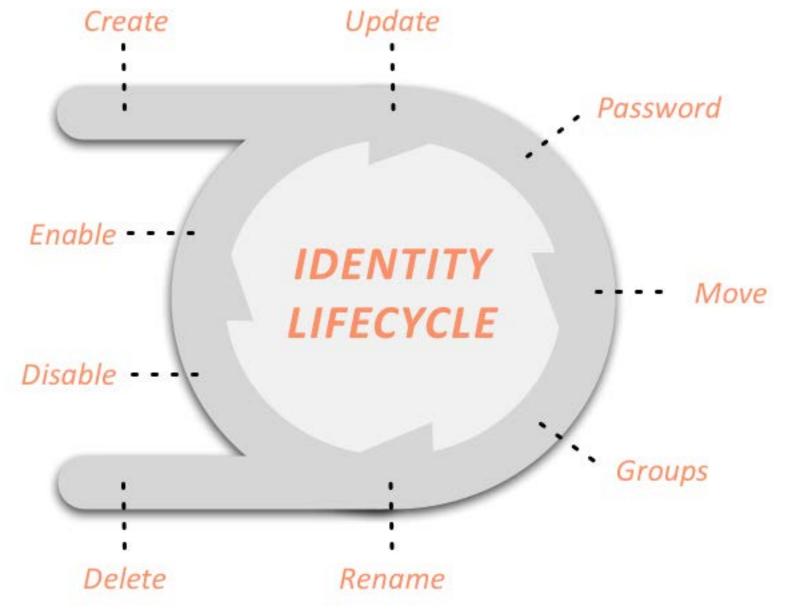


Image Source:http://cwsolutions.ca/cws2/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/RH5DQJK.png



- If you haven't already done so, conduct an institution-wide audit of identity to determine who has what attributes
- Determine the authority for each attribute, e.g.
 - Email address -> IT department
 - Student numbers -> Registrar
 - Student name -> Registrar
 - Staff name -> Human resources
- Determine consumers for each attribute
- Determine what constraints exist for each attribute:
 - Name field is 100 chars at authority, but CRIS system only accepts 80 chars

- You probably already have some processes to share information between departments, but:
 - Make sure these are aligned with the audit results (right authority)
 - Use common language and descriptions (what do we mean by givenName?)
 - Start aligning the constraints (if smallest name field is 80 chars and this cannot be changed, use 80 char names)
 - Introduce update processes to ensure identities remain in sync (all consumers are told when a change happens at the authority)



 You need institutional buy-in – can be hard to get

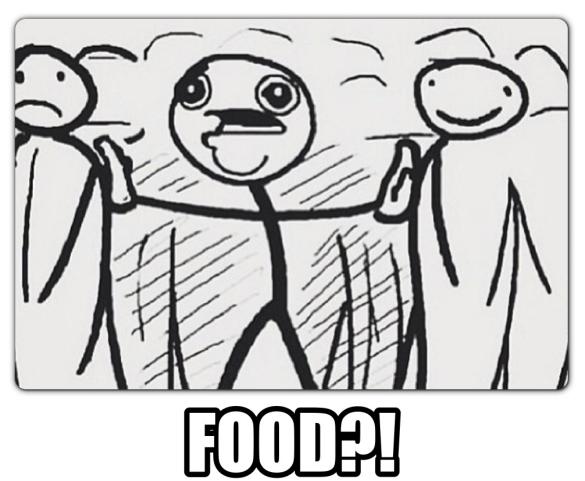
- Take small steps, easy wins
 - but do not lose sight of the big picture

 These interim steps do **not** need to depend on technology

Home Work ?!

Do some reading on Kim Cameron's 7 laws of identity It may be old, but it is still very valid!

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