<u>Escent Authorizations For NCTL</u>

I. **Purpose**

This explains the user authorizations given to Megan Brit and Roy Chan. The explanation is prepared in context of NCTL's Schoology pilot.

Authorizations illumnate the architecture and underlying model of a technology platform because without a given authorization, i.e. a user role, the platform has no means to honor rules uniquely associated with a role a user has in the physical world: And that determines the extent to which a platform accommodates an organization's way of working.

This document does not address user functionality of the platform: It just explains what the authorizations pertain to.

II. **Context**

Escent supports a network of organizations, mostly schools but not exclusively schools. Each organization owns & administers its own "space" in the network.

The NCTL organization was defined to the network by a Core System Administrator (Krauskopf), who then, by default, was authorized as the first NCTL Administrator. As NCTL Administrator, Krauskopf was automatically notified when Megan Brit registered as an NCTL user. Krauskopf then authorized Megan to also be NCTL's System Administrator. This puts control over NCTL's space in the hands of Megan.

III. **System Administrator**

Megan, when you log in you will now see an "Admin" option on the right side of the header bar. This option will always be displayed when you are in "space" that is "owned" by NCTL. NCTL's space is easily recognized by the header bar colors and "National Center on Time and Learning" shown on the right side of the header bar. (Try logging in. Do you see "Admin?" Then, up top, **Find** Organization (radio button), "Columbine." Can you get to Columbine's space? Notice that you don't see the "Admin" option anymore because you are not a Columbine Admin. Look under "My Schools" and see a link back to NCTL.)
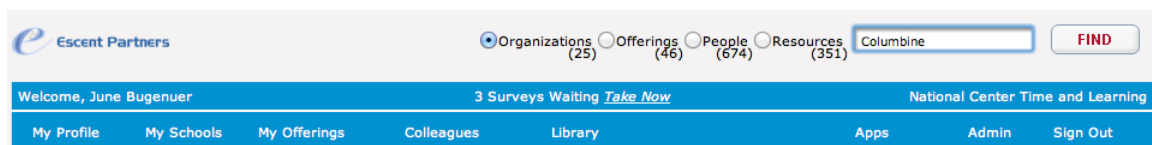
**What does an NCTL "Admin" do?**
NCTL Admins are the "owners" of NCTL's space in the network. To perform "Admin" functions, click on the Admin option on the right side of the header bar. I'll explain three important Admin capabilities.

1. Defining **NCTL Attributes** (Org Information Tab)

   This is general information about NCTL and its brand. This information is generally static; once defined, it doesn't change much. Things like, Logo, organization colors, type of organization (e.g., High School or Commercial Entity), and contact information.

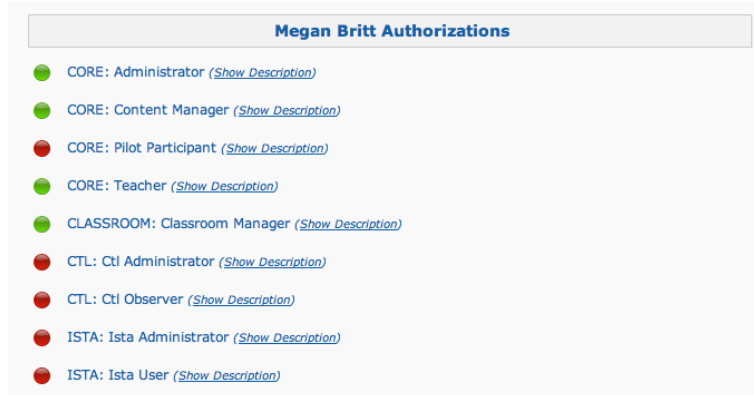2. Enabling **NCTL Applications/Tools** (Applications Tab)

   Escent supports a portfolio of Applications, or Tools. The administrator selects which ones NCTL intends to use. Below illustrates the apps NCTL has enabled (green):
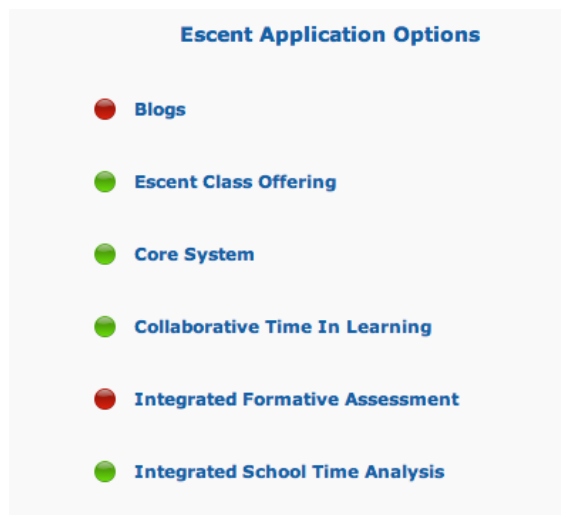
   NCTL's enabled Apps determine the list of User Authorizations that NCTL would control.

3. Granting **NCTL User Authorizations** (People Tab)

   User's who associate themselves with NCTL, e.g. NCTL Staff or clients, can be granted various authorizations, depending on their need and the Apps NCTL is using. This is how the NCTL Admin ensures users have the capabilities they need, but not more. Below is the authorization profile for NCTL user Megan Brit.

Megan Britt Authorizations

● CORE: Administrator *(Show Description)*
● CORE: Content Manager *(Show Description)*
● CORE: Pilot Participant *(Show Description)*
● CORE: Teacher *(Show Description)*
● CLASSROOM: Classroom Manager *(Show Description)*
● CTL: Ctl Administrator *(Show Description)*
● CTL: Ctl Observer *(Show Description)*
● ISTA: Ista Administrator *(Show Description)*
● ISTA: Ista User *(Show Description)*

IV. **Content Manager**

All resources are managed through a common **Resource Library.** This ensure that 1) only one copy of a resource is maintained no matter how many places in the network it is used, and 2) that it is properly catalogue and tagged so that users can locate it easily and tools can programmatically integrate resources with specific NCTL solutions/methods users are implementing.
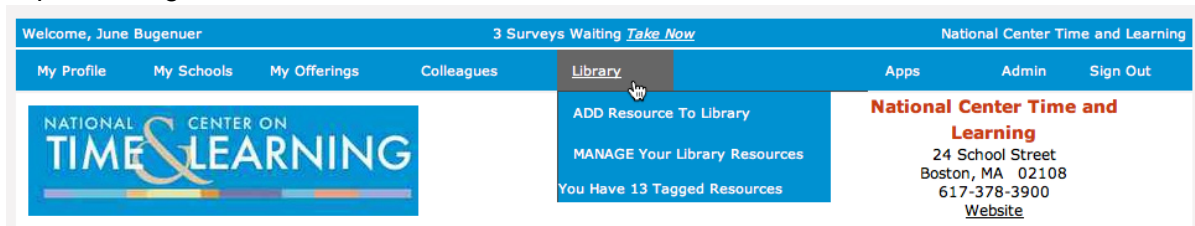
The "Content Manager" authorization gives a user the ability to Add resources to the Resource Library and manage them. Critically, this does the following for NCTL:

1. Isolates point of control for NCTL-owned resources to specific Knowledge Managers, i.e., Roy.
2. Ensures one update to the resource is recognized everywhere it is used. No duplicates.
3. Ensures the usage of the resource can be monitored.
4. Ensures NCTL is recognized as the resource Owner.
5. "Quality over Quantity." The goal is NOT to encourage users to exchange high volumes of low value resources. Content Managers, across the entire network, are the quality control points.

Note: If Schoology does not support an authorization comparable to Escent's "Content Manager", then Schoology was not likely designed with Knowledge Management disciplines in mind. Social Networking platforms generally are not concerned with "quality control" mechanisms; they tend to favor volume and address the question of "quality" through star ratings from users. But star ratings are not quality control devices. Strongly suggest you explore how the 5 conditions above will be satisfied using Schoology.

V. Classroom Manager:

This authorization allows you to create "Offerings" such as *NY Time Collaborative,* and assign leaders who will them manage needed resources, define learning units, and engage users who have registered for the offering.

Classroom Manager is a different authority than Admin because the number of NCTL "Admins" should be limited. I have already created some NCTL Class Offerings. I can show you how, as an NCTL Classroom Manager, to create any number of NCTL Class Offerings.

VI. Teacher:

This authorization is given to every NCTL employee who might lead an NCTL Offering. Once an Offering, such as *NY Time Collaborative*, is created, any number of people in NCTL's pool of "Teachers" can be selected to lead the offering. Once a "Teacher" is assigned to an "Offering" that person has the authority to manage all aspects of the offering and engage all of its registrants.

Below is a sample "Offering" with two NCTL "Teachers" assigned to lead it.