

eduroam.vNext - What's Next for eduroam?

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Abstract

eduroam is a GÉANT Association service that is one of the most visible and long lived activities operating for over a decade. It spans the globe and is present in 70 countries and has traffic of the order of magnitude of millions of sign-ons per day. Part of eduroam's success can be simplified to: a great safe and secure user experience for mobile users getting online with one's own home credential coupled with the ability to use it almost anywhere at any educational or research institution.

This success has been a decade in the making and is a direct result of the concerted effort by various levels of the NREN and eduroam community. eduroam reach and technical depth has grown and has benefitted both new and existing members alike. To maintain the simplicity of the service, complexity is dealt with behind the scenes and increases proportionally to the size of the community.

An additional challenge is how do we continue to maintain eduroam's growth and vitality around innovation and remain current with technology with our ever-expanding community. As eduroam grows in size, we need to adapt how to inform participants and keep pace with the challenges of collaboration, communication, and technological change. As a result, there are innovations, improvements, and new uses for eduroam happening across the globe but are outpacing the existing forums in which these benefits can be easily shared and collaborated on, especially for the international community.

This proposal for TNC15 is to have at least one session dedicated to what's next with eduroam.

The structure of the session would be a presentation sourced from the Global eduroam Governance Committee (GeGC) with the majority of time for a panel showcasing some of the projects that highlight eduroam and how they delivered their solution, possibly leveraging existing TNC submissions that fit more appropriately in this context. It may also be helpful to follow this session with a Birds Of a Feather (BOF) to allow additional dialog with the community.

Areas of focus within the session would be:

- Technical innovations such as eduroam guest access, monitoring improvements, and automation of services
- Embracing and/or updates on newer technologies like Hotspot2.0/802.11u
- Increasing the reach of eduroam sites to potentially those outside the classic education sector
- Globalization as more regions come into the eduroam service family

Previous eduroam topics at TNC2014 and TNC2013 were well attended and highly rated and show that providing a dedicated session or two to eduroam delivers value to the community at large as well as for the service.

Vitae

Chris Phillips is the Technical Architect for CANARIE's Canadian Access Federation, an access federation operating the eduroam and SAML trust fabrics in Canada. Chris has a BSc in Computing from Queen's University in Kingston (1995) and has worked previously in the private sector through multiple acquisitions followed by just under a decade with Queen's working on internet scale systems for directory, mail, single sign on, and identity management systems that interact with Peoplesoft. Chris is also the Chair of the Global eduroam Governance Committee, a member of the eduGAIN Steering Group, participates with IETF activities, and is an active participant in Internet2 working groups.