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Guidelines Governing the GakuNin Academic Access Management Federation

Adopted by the Organization for Science Network Operations and Coordination on March 10, 2010

Revised January 17, 2011

Revised March 22, 2012

Article 1. Purpose

These Guidelines are for members to implement the GakuNin Academic Access Management Federation (hereinafter called GakuNin). They have been drawn up by the Certification Working Subcommittee of the Organization for Science Network Operations and Coordination in the National Institute of Informatics (hereinafter called “CWSC”).

Article 2. Description of GakuNin

GakuNin ensures interoperation among the authentication platforms of various universities and research organizations. It enables single sign-on authentication across organizations by coordinating the technical specifications, system administrative standards, and usage conventions across participating organizations. It facilitates mutual agreement on matters affecting its participants.

Article 3. Definitions

The following terms are used in these Guidelines:

- a. Identity provider: A server that manages the provision of organizational unit identities of participating organizations (hereinafter called the IdP).
- b. Service provider: A server that uses IdP authentication (hereinafter called the SP).
- c. Academic service: A service for supporting academic research and education, as well as their administration.

- d. Metadata: Data files that record IdP and SP information.
- e. Attribute: Personal information and items stored in an IdP.

Article 4. Member Organizations

Participation in GakuNin is open to any of the following organizations:

- a. A Japanese university, junior college, college of technology, or inter-university research institute belonging to the Science Information Network (SINET) and that intends to deploy an IdP or SP.
- b. A Japanese inter-university research institute corporation, an incorporated administrative agency, a local incorporated administrative agency, an incorporated educational institution, or a public or private research and development institute belonging to SINET and that intends to deploy an IdP or SP.
- c. An academic society recognized by the Science Council of Japan cooperating research organization recognized by the CWSC and intending to deploy an IdP or SP.
- d. An organization intending to deploy an SP for the purpose of providing academic services to organizations defined in the preceding items a. to c.
- e. An organization intending to deploy an IdP for the purpose of using the academic services provided by the organizations defined in the preceding items a. to d. and whose participation in GakuNin is determined to be necessary by the CWSC.

Article 5. Administrative Organization

- 1. The CWSC shall decide the policies for implementation of GakuNin.
- 2. The CWSC shall establish a GakuNin Administration Task Force under its authority and assign to it the duties stipulated in the following items.
 - a. Examination and approval of member organizations
 - b. Administration of servers for GakuNin operations
 - c. Study of technologies related to GakuNin
 - d. Preliminary studies of member applications, system administration standards, and information protection
- 3. The CWSC shall describe the makeup of the GakuNin Administration Task Force in another document.

Article 6. Secretariat

The National Institute of Informatics shall establish a GakuNin Academic Access Management Federation Secretariat (hereinafter called the Secretariat) for the purpose of smooth operation of GakuNin. The Secretariat shall be in charge of general affairs related to GakuNin operation described in these Guidelines and on regulations, etc., stipulated separately by the CWSC.

Article 7. Application for Membership

An entity wishing to join GakuNin shall apply to the Secretariat for membership by using the method stipulated by the CWSC in another document. Approval is granted by the CWSC.

Article 8. Administrators

Member organizations shall appoint administrators separately for each IdP or SP. Administrators shall be responsible for updating metadata distributed by the Secretariat and for administration and operation of the IdP or SP.

Article 9. System Administration Standards

GakuNin specifications and administration methods shall be in accord with the System Administration Standards for the GakuNin Academic Access Management Federation, as stipulated by the CWSC in another document.

Article 10. Information Protection

Members shall observe the following matters in handling the information, attributes, metadata, and certificates used in GakuNin.

- a. Members shall observe Japanese laws and regulations as well as GakuNin personal information protection policies stipulated by the CWSC in appropriate documents.
- b. Members shall respect the copyrights of academic content, limiting their use to the scope allowed by the SP providers.

Article 11. Expulsion from GakuNin

The CWSC can expel from GakuNin a member who has made a false declaration in applying for membership or a member who has obstructed administration of GakuNin or engaged in behavior damaging to trust.

Article 12. Liability

The CWSC, GakuNin Administration Task Force, and the Secretariat assume no responsibility other than for the matters stipulated in Article 5, Paragraph 2, Items a. and b.

Article 13. Term of Effect

The federation based on these Guidelines (GakuNin) shall be implemented for the period from the date these Guidelines take effect to March 31, 2015.

Article 14. Consultation

In case matters arise that need to be dealt with but that are not stipulated in these Guidelines, the member organizations, the CWSC, and the Secretariat shall consult with each other in good faith and shall decide on these matters.

Article 15. Miscellaneous Provisions

The CWSC shall stipulate guidelines on matters that are not stipulated in these Guidelines but that are found to be necessary for administration of GakuNin.

Supplementary Provision

These Guidelines take effect from April 1, 2010

Supplementary Provision

These Guidelines take effect from January 17, 2011.

Supplementary Provision

These Guidelines take effect from March 22, 2012.