What is Identity & Access Management?

People use many online tools and resources to do the University’s work, and many systems and databases are used to manage the relationships people have with the University. The purpose of identity management is to ensure that all those people can be referred to in a common way across those databases, and that access to all of those tools can be managed in a common way.

To fulfill this purpose, the Identity & Access Management group within IT Services focuses on the following areas:

- Maintain a registry of everyone who needs online access to University services or who appears in a University management system, and all of the integration to reflect necessary data into and out of that registry. The MCDB, the Card DB, ChicagoIDs, ISO numbers, and other identifier systems are key elements of this activity.
- Provide authentication credentials for people and for systems, unify diverse credentialing systems around the University, support distributed management of access privileges associated with these, and support the use of these through the CNet authentication service or other means. CNetIDs, LDAP, shibboleth, UC Groups, and provisioning/deprovisioning solutions are key elements of this activity, as is tight integration with UC Active Directory and RADIUS services.
- Enable use of U Chicago credentials to access services provided externally, and enable external populations to access U Chicago operated services, in alignment with University needs. Federated identity technologies, widespread adoption of shibboleth to protect access to University services, and identity management practices suited to external populations that are loosely affiliated with the University are key elements of this activity.
- Evangelize and support the integration of these identity & access services with a variety of University operated and externally operated systems and services. Reuse existing or cooperatively create and implement new designs to meet identification and access management requirements.

This wiki space primarily supports the Identity Management group, providing a place in which to store its documents, notes, etc. It may also be the original location for materials destined for broader consumption around the University. All are welcome to read what's here, please just be aware that many articles here are written for a narrow technical audience.

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