

**KEN Applications Subcommittee
Work Group on Interoperability
August 17, 2007 DRAFT**

Charge:

The Interoperability Work Group will evaluate the interoperability requirements to ensure seamless communications between diverse systems operating on the KEN network. The goal is to identify the possible standards for practice and procedure, such that systems will work with other systems without special effort on the part of operators or users. Data systems should be constructed to maximize the opportunity for exchange and reuse, and cataloging of this data is also a consideration. Data structure specification is beyond the scope of this workgroup charge.

Scope:

Standards such as SIF (School Interoperability Framework), PESC (Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council), SCORM (Sharable Content Object Reference Model), information search & retrieval protocols – Z39.50, SRU, SRW, Web Services, uPortal (Open Portal), Shibboleth (Authentication and Authorization)

Timeline:

July 18, 2007 – Mid-project progress report to the KEN Applications Subcommittee
September 1, 2007 - Recommendations due to the Subcommittee

Work Group Members:

COT – Glen Thomas*
CPE – Miko Pattie*, Stuart Johnston, Enid Wohlstein
Education Cabinet – Laura Wagner
EPSB – Scott Smith
JCPS - Bo Lowrey*, Cary Peterson
KCTCS – Rick Chlopan
KDE – Lee Muncy*, Robin Morley, Robert Grissom
NKU – Arne Almquist

Where We Are in the Use of This Application:

1. There is a Kentucky Enterprise Data Structure Group lead by COT. Its strategic vision was released April 1, 2007.
2. Each campus or district has its own interoperability issues. Some have single sign-on for intra-campus applications.
3. There are common statewide systems in place:
 - KYVL has a common library management system, Voyager, for 18 entities, all public and some private institutions, KDLA, and others.
 - KYVL has a common set of electronic databases that serve statewide audience.
 - The K-12 community is implementing Infinite Campus for statewide SIS.
 - We have a statewide Blackboard license for the P-20 community.
4. There is no statewide systems overview for the P-20 community for our frame of reference.

Where We Want to Go in the Use of This Application:

We want to ensure that there are no barriers for teachers and learners in their use of current or future systems in teaching and learning. The following interoperability issues are considered to be critical for the P-20 community:

1. Single Sign-on among systems that are used frequently by teachers and learners
2. Admissions
3. Assessment & Placement
4. Remediation
5. Content Quality
6. Financial Aid
7. Tracking & Advising
8. One-stop Shop for Online Student Support Services

How Are We Going to Get There:

1. Single Sign-On:
 - We recommend that the standard Web single sign-on and federating software, Shibboleth (<http://shibboleth.internet2.edu/>), be used for 2 pilot systems.
 - One of KYVL systems
 - Jefferson County Public Schools - Infinite Campus (new K12 student information system) and MUNIS (K12 financial reporting system). Career Cruiser (Individual Learning Plan) might be considered..
 - Once these 2 pilots are proven to be successful in the use of Shib, we recommend that we have a phased approach using centralized systems for implementing federation of common systems.
 - Budget Implications:
 - Consulting Service
 - Training
 - Implementation Support
2. The Work Group recommends the following to address #2 - #8 issues, :
 - Analyze the feasibility of enabling seamlessness among systems that are associated with the issues based on the Systems Overview Matrix and the Needs Overview Matrix.
 - Determine the standards that enables seamlessness among these systems
 - Estimate costs associated with implementing standards to enable seamlessness
 - Make recommendations with budget request to the KEN Applications Subcommittee
 - Make recommendations to insert language on standards into RFPs for new systems
3. The Work Group recommends this group to be a standing group to:
 - continue its work
 - monitor the progress being made on seamlessness
 - keep abreast with new standards that enable seamlessness

Impact on Teaching and Learning:

Describe how the implementation of these recommendations can have impact on teaching and learning from the statewide perspective with measurable outcomes.