

eResearch Australasia 2007: AAF Workshop: Shibboleth Trust Federation Glossary		
Term/Acronym	Expansion	Description
AA	Attribute Authority	A service that asserts the requester's attributes by creating an attribute assertion and then signing it. The relying party sites must be able to validate this signature.
AAP	Attribute Acceptance Policy	Rules the SP follows in transforming attributes received via SAML assertion to HTTP header key/value pairs to be delivered to the service application
ABAC	Attribute Based Access Control	Delivering 'real-time', 'rich' user attribute sets to Services allows them to implement ABAC.
ARP	Attribute Release Policy	Rules that an AA component of the IdP follows when deciding whether or not to release an attribute and its value(s)
Assertion	SAML Assertion	When an Identity Provider authenticates a user and directs them back to the referring Service Provider, it includes as part of the message an assertion to prove that the user authenticated. The SP makes a SAML request to the IdP, requesting user attributes. The attribute set returned to the SP (determined by the ARP), is returned in a SAML assertion.
Attribute		A single piece of information associated with an electronic identity database record. Some attributes are general; others are personal. Some subset of all attributes defines a unique individual. Examples of an attribute are name, phone number, group affiliation, etc.
AuthN	Authentication	Authentication is the process of verifying a user's claimed identity (for example, by comparing an entered password to the password stored on a system for a given username).
AuthZ	Authorisation	Authorization determines what actions a subject can perform on resources protected by the authorisation system.
eduPerson	-	An attribute schema configured by default for use with Shibboleth. Shibboleth can support many schemas, via the attribute resolution configuration file in the IdP.
IdP	Identity Provider	Shibboleth Identity Provider
MAMS	Meta Access Management System	DEST funded project at Macquarie University mandated with introducing Federated IAM to the Australian HE sector.
OASIS	Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards	Standards body responsible for SAML and XACML. Shibboleth uses an open-source implementation of SAML (OpenSAML) developed by Internet2.
SAML	Security Assertion Markup Language	OASIS Open standard for securely transferring attributes and other identity information in assertions.
Session Cookie		In-memory cookie - information passed from HTTP clients (browsers) to HTTP servers enabling state-based operations. Session cookies are used by most SSO systems to maintain the authentication state of the user.
Shibboleth	-	A Federated Identity and Access Management infrastructure developed by Internet2
SP	Service Provider	Shibboleth Service Provider
SSO	Single Sign On	Ability to access multiple services having logged on once.
WAYF	Where Are You From	Federation level service enabling users to select their <i>IdP</i> . The <i>SP</i> can be configured to redirect the user to the WAYF, and having selected their <i>IdP</i> , the user is redirected to their <i>IdP</i> 's SSO service.
XACML	Extensible Access Control Markup Language	OASIS open standard for authorisation. Widespread use of XACML will produce benefits in terms of common tools, sharable authorisation policies.