

# **SHIBBOLETH MIDDLEWARE AUTHENTICATION IN FINLAND**

**IGELU 2006**

**Stockholm**

**Ere Maijala & Ari Rouvari**

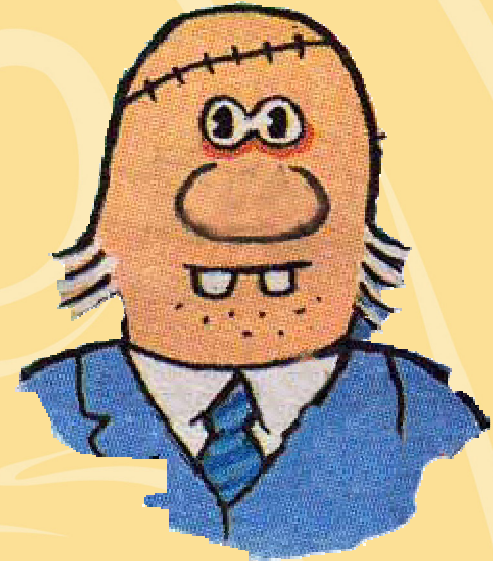
HELSINKI UNIVERSITY LIBRARY



THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF FINLAND

# TOPICS

- **HAKA – National Identity Federation**
- **Shibboleth Middleware Technology**
- **EZproxy**
- **The Point**



# NATIONAL HAKA FEDERATION

- **Aims:**

- More secure
- **Easier** to use
- Single Sign On (all services)
- **Happy** people



- **HAKA federation**

- The identity federation of Finnish universities, polytechnics and research institutions
- Members: identity providers & service providers

## MEMBERS OF HAKA

- 10 of our 20 universities
- 7 of our 29 polytechnics
- 8 using Shibboleth with Nelli
- Two using Shibboleth with ILS
- A lot of bubbling under

# MAINLY USED WITH AUTHENTICATION

- **Nelli portal (MetaLib)**
  - Access to licensed DBs
  - Personalized services
    - My space (My Nelli)
- **ILS (Voyager)**
  - Requests, renewals, book bag ...
- **eLearning environments**
  - (local systems)



# Challenges of Authorization

- **Full texts**
- **Access by IP address**
- **Proxies (välivouhkat)**
- **Shibboleth not there yet**
  - Too difficult in practice
  - Pilot project with Elsevier ScienceDirect

# Shibboleth Technology – Identity Providers

- **Each institution has own Identity Provider (IdP)**
- **Setup is a local responsibility**
- **HAKA federation offers help and guidelines**
  - Rules for user account management such as retention period
  - Logout implemented with a custom solution
- **Different platforms and configurations in each institution**



# Shibboleth Technology – Service Provider

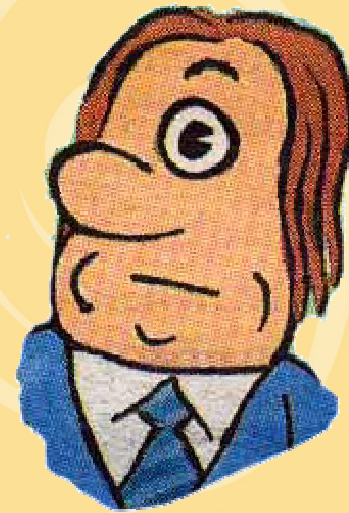
- **Nelli is a single Service Provider (SP)**
  - Only one Shibboleth application
  - Separate directories and session initiators for all IdP's
  - A script to limit access per institution
  - No Shibboleth configuration changes needed when a new member joins
- **When IdP is up and running, implementing Shibboleth in MetaLib very *easy***
  - Libraries don't need to do anything but test it
- **Shibboleth WAYF is bypassed**
  - MetaLib UI instance dictates institution
  - No cross-domain logins at the moment





# EZproxy Solution

- **EZproxy used in authorization**
  - Plain Shibboleth is not ready yet
    - Login at vendor's site too complicated
- **Locally administered**
- **Authorization can be done**
  - Directly with Shibboleth
  - With a custom solution
  - Via our PDS/MetaLib authentication adapter
    - PDS provides single sign-on support for non-Shibboleth institutions too (=happy people)
- **Two libraries are using EZproxy with PDS**



# The Point

- **Customer-oriented services**
  - Single Sign-on
  - One login is enough
  - **Happy** users
- **Based on decision by IT directors**
- **Standard, unified system**
- **Easy** to implement for the libraries
- **Modern**
- **Wider acceptance expected**
  - Discounts automatically when buying train tickets
- **Not easy** to pronounce correctly



It's so **easy** to make people **happy**!

# Nelli-team

