Granting Data Access Rights

This page proposes a draft process for granting of data access rights to LSST users according to the Data Access White Paper and recent discussions: Data Access Rights and Policies and Notes on Assigning Data Rights for US Astronomers.

A LSST Data Access Policy Working Group has been formed and a document drafted, LPM-261.

The goals for the process are:

- Minimize manual steps for LSST users and staff (e.g., grant data access rights automatically based on campus attributes when possible).
- (Something about balance between false positives and false negatives?)
- ...

People who have data rights:

- National "professional astronomical community" (US, Chile) (possibly France?)
  - when US community members submit a proposal to the Observatory Resource Allocation Committee for Level Elevation (ORACLE), do all proposal participants need to already have data rights or can the proposal process grant data rights?
- Named individuals from international partners
- A limited number of designated additional individuals (post-docs, grad students) per named individual

Granting data rights based on campus attributes:

- National federations follow the eduperson attribute standard
  - http://macedir.org/specs/eduperson/
  - http://macedir.org/specs/eduperson/#eduPersonScopedAffiliation
  - faculty, student, staff, alum, member, affiliate, employee, library-walk-in
  - member is faculty or staff or student or employee (not alum) i.e., "member in good standing of the university community"
- No "astronomer" attribute, departmental affiliation not well supported
- Proposed: member@example.edu in national federations (InCommon, Chile COFRRe) has data rights
- Include post-docs/grad-students as members by default?

Granting data rights based on LSST review:

- For example, if user's home campus doesn't have an InCommon (Shibboleth) identity provider
- User clicks "apply for data access rights" button
- LSST review:
  - Automated based on (verified) email address?
    - .edu TLD is "U.S.-accredited educational institutions" with some grandfathered exceptions
    - .cl TLD open to anyone
  - Check campus directory info

Granting data rights based on named individuals:

- Matching email addresses
- Email attribute from campus identity provider or verified by LSST sign-up process
- Email-based invitation process
  - Invite "named individuals" to create LSST account if they haven't already or add data rights to existing account

Granting data rights to designated additional individuals:

- Anyone with data rights can add others? or only "named individuals"?
- Email-based invitation process
- "People picker" - find individuals to grant data rights to
- Limited number: who will control this policy

Maintaining data rights:

- Periodic (annual) re-validation of "designated additional individuals"
- De-provisioning of data rights?
  - "Once a scientist has data access, they don't lose it even if they change institutional affiliations."
  - Faculty change of institution: leaving USA
  - What happens when student graduates?