

## NEWS FROM TERENA (163)



### EduRoam Goes Global

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Today a Dutch researcher, visiting a campus in Australia that participates in EduRoam, connected to SURFnet in Netherlands using his European EduRoam credentials. This landmark achievement is the result of international co-operation begun when network specialists from SURFnet and UKERNA were at the Internet2 Fall Member Meeting in Austin and discussed the EduRoam project with colleagues from AARNet (Australia's Research and Education Network) and GrangeNet (Australia's GRid And Next Generation Network)

In only a few weeks, what began as informal discussions resulted in the realisation of the connection of Australia to EduRoam, the first non-European member of the initiative. For this to happen, several European Research and Education Networks (NRENs) co-operated to solve some technical challenges. SURFNet, the Netherlands configured the top-level European RADIUS servers at TERENA so that the GrangeNet server could send and receive RADIUS packets. European users visiting an Australian institution that is 'eduroam-enabled' can now authenticate at their home institution in order to be granted network access (and vice versa for Australians in Europe). The European NRENs, SURFnet (Netherlands), CARNet (Croatia), FCCN (Portugal) and UKERNA (United Kingdom) all assisted in the configuration of the Australian RADIUS servers and provided documentation on how to configure them for proxy purposes. Klaas Wierenga commented that "this shows the power of the EduRoam concept as well as the dedication and group-sense of the people involved in TF-Mobility".

Like the European NRENs, AARNet is Australia's Research and Education Network and provides high-capacity, cost-effective Internet services to the education and research communities and their research. GrangeNet is part of Australia's Advanced Network Program and operates a multi-gigabit network supporting Grid and Advanced Communications Services. GrangeNet/AARNET now have an EduRoam website (<http://www.eduroam.edu.au>) and have established national servers in a federation between Australian national servers and the European-level servers at TERENA, hosted by SURFnet.

EduRoam (Education Roaming) is a deliverable of the TERENA Task Force, TF-Mobility. Originally started as a 'proof-of-concept test' of an inter-NREN roaming architecture, EduRoam is now a reality, with thirteen European members and one member that is very far away! Interest in the EduRoam concept has also taken hold in the United States, and a similar development approach there is ongoing.

James Sankar explained that "EduRoam provides its members with guest access to the Internet with minimal administrative overhead, user complexity or cost. Members can more easily access the Internet from participating campuses (wired or wirelessly depending on the support and policy at the visited site). This means that EduRoam offers many opportunities for collaborative work"

Within the GÉANT2 project in Joint Research Activity 5, EduRoam will be taken to a even a higher level by using it as the basis for the pan-European Authentication and Authorisation Infrastructure that will be built.

A more detailed article about EduRoam and this event can be found at:

<http://www.eduroam.org/docs/eduroam-article.pdf>

The article was prepared by James Sankar and Klaas Wierenga, co-leaders of the TERENA Task Force, TF-Mobility.

More information about the EduRoam can be found on the EduRoam pages.

<http://www.eduroam.org>

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