IAC Unix Advisory Group minutes for 2014-11-11

In attendance:

Curtis Brown
Ty Boyack
Jeremiah Baughman
Kevin Swab
Wayne Hall
Wayne Trzyna
Elden Flick
Scott Janssen
Shaila Parashar
James Cizek
Daniel Hamp

Ty starts the conversation with unix identity management
  There's ActiveDirectory, inCommon, Shibboleth, etc
  Jeremiah says he's working with ansible, that's not for ID management, but can
be used with account management
  Kevin mentions that Dan Hamp has been working on ID management in the Library
  and also that ACNS will not be needing unix account management with the sunset
of Lamar
  Ty asked what Wayne Trazyna is doing, Wayne is using a combination of NIS and a
homegrown DB
  Shaila uses LDAP and AD synced from ACNS, but the HPC cluster uses local
accounts
  Ty still uses NFS but has issues matching UID with eID. Jeremiah is using CSUIDs
as their public and unique
  Wayne Trzyna asked about using CSUIDs for posting grades. CSUIDs are not
private, but teachers can't post names with grades. CSUIDs-to-names conversion is
currently only availble with access to oracle tables.
  James and Dan will check on the policy on using CSUIDs as public knowledge
  Ty and Jeremiah discuss the merits of various hashings
  What about username collisions?
  Jeremiah asked Ty and Wayne Trzyna if they used parallel NFS, they said no.
  Scott used RDMA over NFS
  Jeremiah says Mellanox has RDMA over Ethernet cards
  James predicts that inifiband will become prevelent for storage

James describes ACNS's current backup scenario, between TSM tape backup and Veeam,
and it's not enough. He asked everyone who has large filesystems and backing them
up.
  Wayne Trzyna says he has a couple of bioinfomatic machines with large FS, but
they don't get backed up.
  ACNS has VMs under VMware with >10TB luns. but they're still using raid in the
backend
  Wayne Trzyna was curious about raid rebuild times, James said he sees them in
weeks
  Ty says he's using raid6 over 5 because of rebuilds
  Ty is heavily invested in rdiff backup, similar to TimeMachine. It works with
file systems, just not large files
  James asked if backups are really the future?
  James and Ty are the only ones who run 'homebuilt' storage
  Ty and Wayne Trzyna use NFS, and Ty has had good success with it
  Scott uses Equalogic, Elden is getting IBM 7000 SAN

Several people have described their experience with Datacore
Shaila has been having good luck with Dell's storage
Ty was wondering who supports Apple machines with backend filestores. Jeremiah noted using Centrify with success
Shaila has had issues getting Apples to work with the latest printers. Sometimes, she had to have some Apple computers go straight to the printers' IP. Jeremiah says there's issues with Apple's audio too
There some discussion about the merits of OpenDirectory versus ActiveDirectory

Shaila asks what's preferred, Ubuntu or Centos? There was back and forth on merits. Many commercial software developers mostly supports RedHat/Centos.
There's discussion about what's considered a trusted repository.
Various other distributions were mentioned, including Fedora, Mint, and Arch
Ty asked about local repsotories. Curtis has been trying to get one going. Dan has one specificly for scientific software.

James asked if anyone if using OpenStack. everyone says no, but Ty is looking at it.

Various questions about the decommissioning of Lamar has been raised. Various assumptions and rumors have been offered.