InCommon - What is it

- A federation is an association of organizations that use a common set of attributes, practices and policies to exchange information about their users and resources in order to enable collaborations and transactions
- InCommon is a formal federation of organizations focused on creating a common framework for collaborative trust in support of research and education
- InCommon makes sharing protected online resources easier, safer, and more scalable in our age of digital resources and services
- Leveraging SAML-based authentication and authorization systems, InCommon enables cost-effective, privacy-preserving collaboration among InCommon participants
- InCommon eliminates the need for researchers, students, and educators to maintain multiple, password-protected accounts
- The InCommon federation supports user access to protected resources by allowing organizations to make access decisions to resources based on a user's status and privileges as presented by the user's home organization
InCommon - Benefits

- InCommon supports web-based distributed authentication and authorization services, an example of which is controlled access to protected library resources.
- Participation in InCommon means that trust decisions regarding access to resources can be managed by exchanging information in a standardized format.
- Using a standard mechanism for exchanging information provides economies of scale by reducing or removing the need to repeat integration work for each new resource.
- Since access is driven by policies set by the resource being accessed, higher security and more granular control to resources can be supported.
- Reduced account management overhead is another benefit, since users can be authenticated and access resources from the home institution and no longer need separate accounts to access particular resources.
- InCommon is operated by Internet2 to provide consistency and participant support.
- InCommon also preserves privacy since the home institution controls when identity is disclosed. Information can be exchanged about authorized user access, without having to disclose the identity of the user unless both sides agree it's needed.
InCommon - Membership

- There are two primary categories of federation participation in InCommon: Higher Education Institutions and their Sponsored Partners
- Organizations applying to join InCommon must agree at an executive level of their organization to the terms and conditions of federation participation, which include documenting an organization's practices and procedures used to grant and manage user accounts.
- There are also technical requirements to support InCommon's federated authentication model
- InCommon operates on a cost-recovery basis with fees reviewed annually. Fees are: A one time Participant Registration Fee of $700 and an annual fee of between $1,100 and $3,000, which includes one identity management system and up to 50 Service Provider IDs
  - The level of annual fee depends, for an educational institution, on the Carnegie classification; and, for an SP, on annual revenue
BOX - cloud content management platform

• One of the most commonly voiced collaboration needs today is the ability to easily access and share your personal content with anyone, from anywhere. Since 2005, Box has been helping more than six million individuals, small businesses and Fortune 1000 companies do just that. And starting in early 2012, Internet2 members who are also subscribers to InCommon can add this valuable service to their membership for an additional fee.

• **With the Internet2 NET+ Box service:**
  - Users can access, store and share content securely anywhere, anytime, on any device—at an affordable price
  - Users receive storage based on institutional subscription level and full mobile device access and support
  - Admins get an easy-to-use interface for managing and reporting on Box content
  - University efforts to protect information and ensure the privacy of personal data are supported
  - mobile device access and support