eRA Organizational Layers & Delegation

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The Need

eRA has requirements to define organizational structures for,

- Supervisory oversight
- Security
- Delegation of authority
- Directing of workflow activities
 - Supervisory approvals, etc.
- Maintaining hierarchies independent from an orgs existing structure (OPDIV org. hierarchies aren't uniform)
- Etc.



Examples

Program Module: Branch/Division Directors wish to view portfolios of all POs reporting to him/her

Review Module: users in SRGs need boundaries to prevent Review staff from other IRGs from updating and viewing sensitive review data

RA Commons: creating hierarchies - Schools, Divisions, Departments, etc. - for an external institution



Existing Solutions

eRA Commons: Org. Hierarchy

Issues:

- Limited layers (not flexible)
- Hardwired names (School AKA Major Component, Division, Department, etc.)

Review: Clusters

- Issues:
 - Limited to Review business area (not flexible for expansion)
 - Issues deleting users from a cluster
 - Clusters aren't hierarchical; a cluster can't be a subset of another cluster



Basic Design Goals

eRA needs a solution that,

- Is universal to all of eRA
- Meets the needs of all eRA business areas
- Is flexible for all organizations (ICs, OPDIVs, external institutions)
- Addresses security and delegation
- Accommodates workflow activities
- Is independent of an organizations existing structure
- Is customizable by each organization
- Is easy to maintain (e.g., nesting of org.layers)



Proposal

Introducing: Organizational Layers and Delegation Similar concept to Clusters in Review Much more flexible and universal Initial use by the Program Module in the Fall 2003 release Potentially migrate existing Review and eRA Commons solutions?



What Is It - Organizational Layers Defined

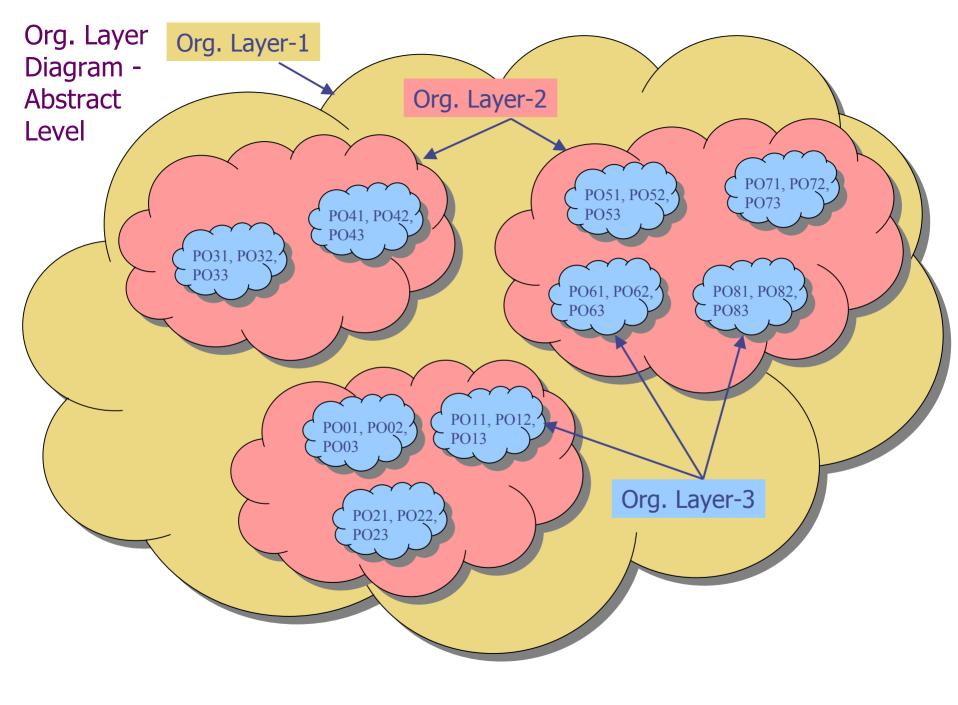
- An Organizational Layer consists of:
 - A grouping of users
 - One or more nested organizational layers
- Users in an Organizational Layer have pre-defined privileges on peer objects (grants, etc.)
- A user <u>could</u> be assigned to more than one Organizational Layer
 - Pre-defined authority on objects in both Org. Layers

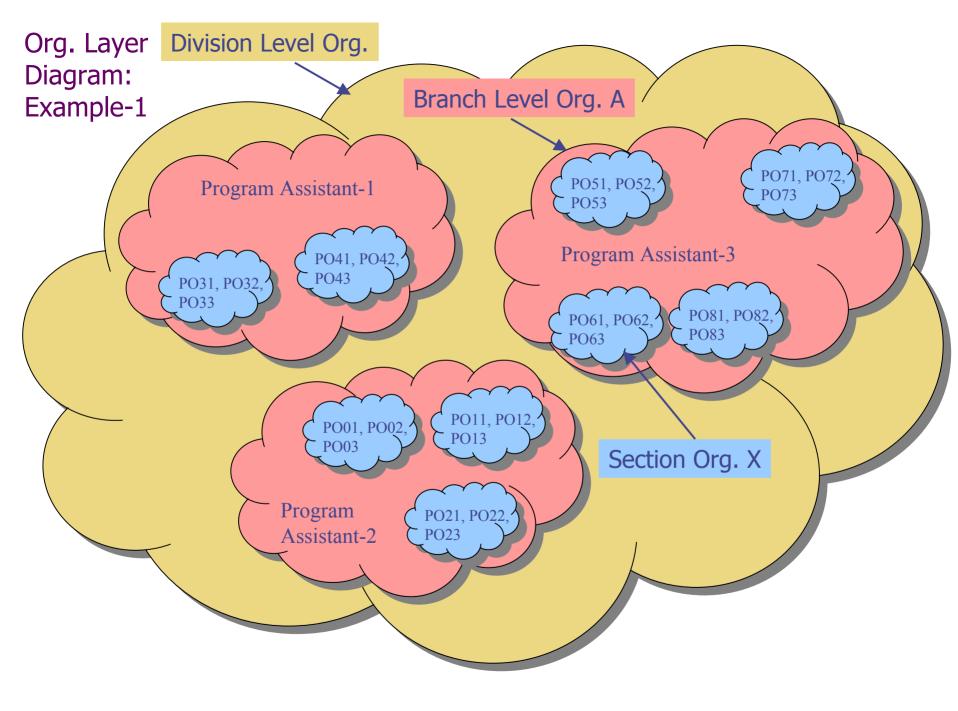


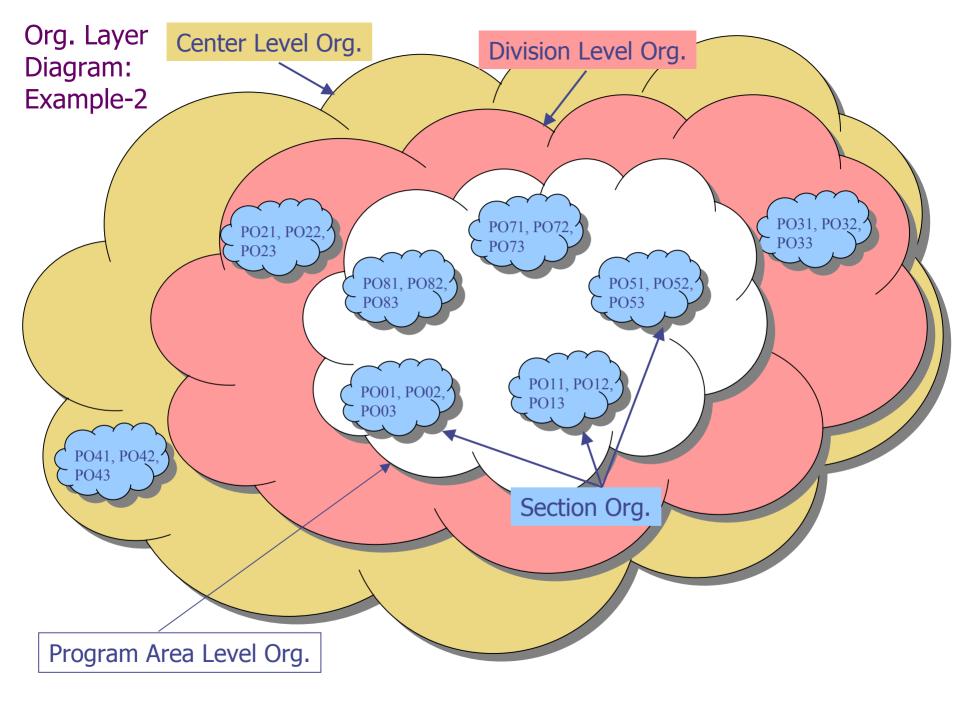
What Is It - Organizational Layers Defined (2)

- Org. Layer may have unlimited layers
 ICs/OPDIVs/Institutions will likely use 4 to 6 layers
- Org. Layer names are created by each IC/OPDIV/External Institution
- Not mandatory









Organizational Layers: End-User Perspective

Mostly transparent to the end-user

- End-user will only see the result
- ♦E.g.
 - Due the Org. Layers, SRA's will see objects the layer provides access to, such as appropriate grants, in Review



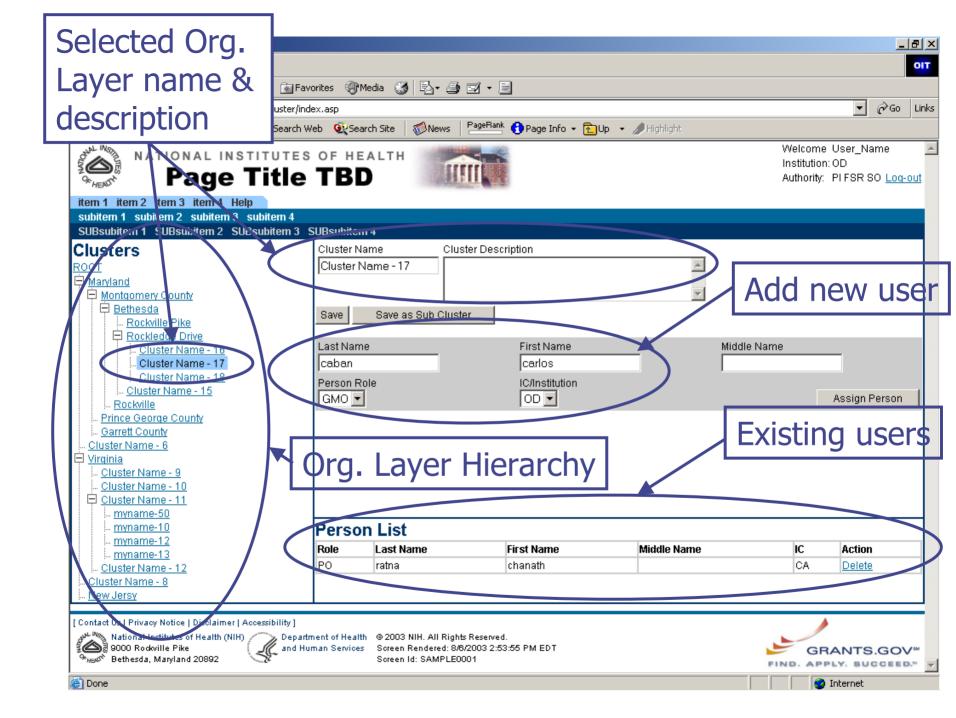
Organizational Layers: Administrative Perspective

An administrator manages the creation & maintenance of Org. Layers Access to managing the layers provided via the eRA IC Admin module New J2EE module that will include other administrative functions in the future, such as Administering of PCCs

Administering Customizable Checklist items



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Organizational Layers– Pros and Cons

Pros:

- ICs/OPDIVs/Institutions have complete flexibility in creating Org. Layers
- Do not have to conform to existing Org. structure
- Cons:
 - IC/OPDIV/Institution Admin's have to create Org. Layers to take advantage of this feature
 - IC/OPDIV/Institution Admin's have to maintain Org. Layers



Hierarchies

A user in a supervisory Org. Layer has pre-defined privileges on objects (e.g. grants) of all Org. Layer users below him/her

 E.g. in PGM: all Pending SRG grants of all POs in underling Org. Layers available to Branch/Division Director



Delegation/Security - Defined

Delegation authority/security is granted by default, by virtue of belonging to a Org. Layer

- All users in an Org. Layer have pre-defined authority on peer objects
- No authority on objects outside Org. Layer
 - Transaction vs. read/review authority
- No capability for an end-user to delegate authority
 - Need Administrative privileges to perform delegation
- Since Org. Layers are managed by an administrator, delegations are performed by an administrator



Additional Needs/Concerns

- J2EE IC Admin module at present has no Group Advocate or Lead Analyst
- IC Admin is an internal eRA module. Need to make Org.Layer maintenance available in eRA Commons
- Ownership: Who creates/maintains the Layers?
 - Within ICs: IMPAC-II Coordinators, IMPAC-II Tech Reps, others?
 - Within OPDIV/External Institutions?
 - Need a decision on this issue



Additional Needs/Concerns - cont.

- Could users be assigned across organizations?
 E.g. could a user from NCI be assigned to a NIGMS Org. Layer?
- Additional requirements & analysis on limiting authority
- A decision on migrating existing Review and eRA Commons solutions
 - Delegation performed differently in eRA Commons (e.g. PPF Delegation)
- Will it be used extensively?



Conclusion

 A viable solution that will be introduced in the Program Module
 Need buy-in from Advocates as a potential eRA global solution
 What, if any, changes/enhancements need to be made?

