

Welford IAG for Higher Education

Continuous Identity Governance and Zero-Trust Access for the Modern Academic Lifecycle

In the modern higher education landscape, institutional resilience is no longer just an IT objective; it is a strategic imperative. As universities undergo rapid digital transformation, they must balance the need for open, collaborative research and flexible learning models with the rigorous demands of cybersecurity and regulatory compliance.

Welford IAG is a comprehensive Identity & Access Governance platform designed to provide the continuous control, validation, and auditability required by today's complex campus environments. Welford IAG enables institutions to not only manage access but to continuously prove that every student, faculty member, researcher, and contractor has the right-level access at the right time. By anchoring identity to Zero-Trust principles, Welford IAG helps academic leaders protect their intellectual property, secure sensitive data, and maintain an "always-ready" compliance posture.

The Challenge: Navigating Identity Complexity



The Multi-Affiliate Reality

Users on campus rarely fit into a single, static identity category. A PhD student might simultaneously serve as a teaching assistant, a researcher on a grant-funded project, and a staff member in campus facilities. These overlapping roles often result in "privilege drift," where access accumulates over time without being reviewed, creating significant security debt and audit risks.



Lifecycle Friction

Every academic cycle, institutions must activate thousands of identities at pace. Manual, ticket-based processes often fail under this pressure, leading to:

- **Onboarding Delays:** Late access to learning platforms and libraries erodes the student experience and impacts retention.
- **Security Gaps:** When accounts are created prematurely for those who never arrive, or remain active long after a contract ends, they become "low-hanging fruit" for attackers.
- **Operational Inefficiency:** Skilled IT and security teams become bogged down in repetitive administration rather than strategic initiatives.



Access Governance

- Access request lifecycle
- Approval routing
- Time-bound access
- Extension and revocation
- Approved entitlement inventory



Privileged Access Governance

- No standing privilege
- Linux access governance
- Password-free access
- Session visibility
- Privileged entitlement control



Identity Compliance

- Identity inventory
- Ownership checks
- Password and vaulting policies
- Unmanaged account detection
- Continuous compliance status



Policy Governance

- Access policy rules
- Violation detection
- Risk dashboards
- Remediation tracking
- Audit-ready evidence



Reconciliation

- Approved vs actual access comparison
- Unmanaged account discovery
- Matched and unmatched accounts
- Subsystem-level reconciliation
- Exception reporting



Certificate Governance

- Certificate request and approval
- Internal CA integration
- Issuance, renewal, revocation
- Expiry monitoring
- Machine identity governance

The Welford Solution: Continuous Governance by Design



Automated Lifecycle Governance (JML)

Comprehensive Academic Journey Governance through Policy-Driven Orchestration: Welford IAG provides a seamless digital thread across the entire academic lifecycle from applicant to emeritus; it ensures day-one productivity through automated onboarding for integrated systems and maintains continuous control via ticket-orchestrated fulfillment for legacy environments. This approach dynamically recalibrates access during complex role transitions to prevent "privilege drift" and executes definitive deprovisioning for leavers to eliminate the security debt and orphaned accounts that frequently draw regulatory scrutiny.



Zero-Trust & Just-in-Time (JIT) Access

To support the principle of least privilege, Welford IAG enforces Just-in-Time and time-bound access. Instead of granting permanent "standing access," permissions are approved for a defined window and automatically revoked upon expiry. This is critical for governing third-party contractors and temporary researchers who require high-level access to sensitive systems.



Unified Visibility and Continuous Reconciliation

Continuous Identity Assurance through Automated Reconciliation: Welford IAG provides a 'single pane of glass' view across the entire institutional landscape, moving beyond static snapshots to deliver continuous assurance by automatically comparing Approved vs. Actual Access; this proactively identifies 'access drift' and unauthorized permissions while ensuring all identities remain in constant, real-time alignment with defined governance policies and Segregation of Duties (SoD) mandates.

Strategic Value: Empowering the Modern Campus



Enhanced Student Experience

Seamless digital onboarding that sets a positive tone from the first interaction.



Research Integrity

Protection of intellectual property through robust controls over privileged and external collaborator access.



Cyber Resilience

A reduced attack surface through the elimination of standing privileges and dormant accounts.



Regulatory Confidence

Automated, exportable audit logs that satisfy auditors and stakeholders with minimal effort.

Welford Identity & Access Governance Platform

A Unified Identity Control Platform

Metric	Value	Status
Pending Approvals	49	Action queue
Policy Violations	175	175 critical - 176 high
Identity Gaps	0	0 identities assessed - 0 high risk
Expiring Access	1	1 entitlements requiring lifecycle attention - Next review window
Reconciliation	0	Approved vs actual - Not connected
Failed Jobs	0	Provisioning or background job failures - Operational health

Request ID	Status
Request #375	Approved
Request #374	Approved
Request #357	Approved

Ready to modernize your institution's approach to identity?

Contact Welford Systems to schedule a deep-dive demonstration tailored to your campus needs.



For more information, please contact us at +44 203 442 0741
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