Differing MIB definitions

- **IEEE 802 committees define their MIBs according to ISO 10165-x and IEEE 802.1f**

- **IETF defines their MIBs according to their own RFCs**

- **The two methods are not compatible**
  - **802.1f defines a very flattened hierarchy**
  - **IETF RFCs 1155, 1212, 1213 define a much more flexible hierarchy**

- **This produces two entirely different sets of registrations**

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Problems in 802.11

- **802.11 attempted to provide a complete ASN.1 definition of the MIB as well as a classic GDMO-style definition.**
  - **These should have been equivalent**
  - **They were not**
  - **Not caught by reviewers in working group or LMSC ballots**

- **The GDMO was written in the 802.1f style, the ASN.1 in the IETF style.**

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What to do?

- **802 desires to produce widely (universally!) used standards**

- **Most managed networks use SNMP and IETF-style MIBs**

- **Writing the MIB definition is not a piece of cake**
    - **Content and definition of the MIB generate working group controversy and letter ballot comments (at least in 802.11)**

- **Should 802 continue to define MIBs in our standards?**

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Recommendation

- **802 should revise 802.1f to be compatible with the IETF RFCs**

- **802 should continue to define its own MIBs, using the new, compatible format**

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