FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PESC ANNOUNCES 18th ANNUAL BEST PRACTICES COMPETITION

(Washington DC) – Entries for PESC's Annual Best Practices Competition are now being accepted. Now in its 18th year, the Best Practices Competition is held to highlight and promote innovation and ingenuity in the application and implementation of interoperable data standards for business needs.

First held in 1999, the Competition is open to institutions, associations, organizations, government agencies and departments, districts, consortia, non-profit and commercial service providers and other education stakeholders that have collaborated to design and/or adopt an electronic standardization initiative via a specific implementation, and/or other medium such as, but not limited to, published articles and white papers.

The Best Practices Competition for 2016 is open for submissions until close of business Friday March 31, 2017. Documents detailing the scope of a project, participants, type of standards employed, relevant dates of project milestones, copies of articles (if an article submission), outline of mission/objectives and any related statistics (number of transactions transmitted, estimated cost savings, etc.) should be included in the submission. All entries should be submitted by March 31, 2017 to Michael.Sessa@PESC.org or at:

> *Michael Sessa*
> *President & CEO*
> *PESC*
> *1250 Connecticut Avenue, NW Suite 200*
> *Washington, D.C. 20036*

All entries will be judged by the PESC Board of Directors. First place and those receiving special recognition will be notified immediately by PESC, an official public announcement will be made immediately before PESC's Spring 2017 Data Summit being held May 3 – 5, 2017 in Washington DC at the Embassy Row Hotel in Dupont Circle, and the award presentation will be made during the general session of the Data Summit on May 3, 2017.

Last year for the 17th Annual Best Practices Competition, "***Reverse Transfer System***" submitted by University of Tennessee and AcademyOne was honored with the 1st Place award. Prior winners of PESC's Annual Best Practices Competition include:

ACTIVATING INTEROPERABILITY ACROSS THE EDUCATION DOMAIN

2014
- Elon University & Parchment
- Elon Experiences Transcrpt & Integration to the Academic Transcript

2013
- University of Phoenix
- Electronic Transcript Acquisition Process

2012
- OCAS
- Ontario College Application Service

2011
- US National Center for Education Statistics
- Common Education Data Standards

2010
- South Carolina
- Transfer & Articulation Center

2009
- College Foundation of North Carolina
- Electronic High School Transcript System

2008
- California Community College System - CCCTran
- University System of Georgia - Implementation of XML Transcripts

2007
- Sinclair Community College & Wright State University
- Exchange of Electronic Transcripts via Ohio Articulation & Transfer Clearinghouse

2006
- Data Quality Campaign
- Using Data to Improve Student Achievement

2005
- NCHELP
- CRC Beta Test

2004
- US Federal Student Aid
- XML Registry & Repository for Education

2003
- Access 4 Learning
- SIF Specification

2002
- ELM Resources - ELMNet
- NCHELP - Meteor

2001
- NCHELP
- Common Account Maintenance

2000
- University of Northern Iowa
- EDI Bridge

1999
- Ontario Universities' Application Centre
- A Model of an Electronic Standardization Initiative

ABOUT PESC

Established in 1997 at the National Center for Higher Education and headquartered in Washington, D.C., PESC is an international, 501 (c)(3) non-profit, community-based, umbrella association of data, software and education technology service providers; schools, districts, colleges and universities; college, university and state systems; local, state/province and federal government agencies; professional, commercial and non-profit organizations; and non-profit associations & foundations.

Through open and transparent community participation, PESC enables cost-effective connectivity between data systems to accelerate performance and service, to simplify data access and research, and to improve data quality along the Education lifecycle. PESC envisions global interoperability within the Education domain, supported by a trustworthy, inter-connected network built by and between communities of interest in which data flows digitally and seamlessly from one community or system to another and throughout the entire eco-system when and where needed without compatibility barriers but in a safe, secure, reliable, legal, and efficient manner.

While PESC promotes the implementation and usage of data exchange standards, PESC does not set (create or establish) policies related to privacy and security. Organizations and entities using PESC Approved Standards and services should ensure they comply with FERPA and all local, state, federal and international rules on privacy and security as applicable. For more information, see www.PESC.org.

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