







## Our Speakers

NAME & TITLE	BIOGRAPHY	
<b>Matt Bemis</b> Associate Registrar University of Southern California	Matt Bemis is the Associate Registrar at the University of Southern California (USC) and is responsible for the Degree Progress Department operations. In this role, Matt serves as the Administrator over Degree Audit and Transfer Credit applications, serves as USC's NCAA continuing eligibility certification officer and manages Curriculum Services. Matt is also the Project Lead for the Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) initiative at USC (transcript processing) and recently served as the Chair for the AACRAO Standardization of Postsecondary Education Electronic Data Exchange (SPEEDE) Committee. Matt has served as the Pacific Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (PACRAO) Program Committee Chair, serves on the PESC Board of Directors, is Co-Chair for the PESC Education Record User Group (ERUG), and is Co-Chair and Steering Committee Member of PESC's Global Education Organization (GEO) Code.	
<b>Ruth Blades</b> MLIS, PMP - Operations Manager NSCAT	Ruth Blades has held senior positions in both the public and private sector in Nova Scotia, including nine years in the Registrar's Office at Dalhousie University. For 11 years she applied her skills to consulting engagements with clients in many sectors including higher education, economic development, and immigration. As Operations Manager at the Nova Scotia Council on Admission & Transfer, Ruth has led the eleven universities and colleges in the province in the development of systems that support student enrolment and mobility. She holds a Bachelor of Commerce (Finance) from Saint Mary's University and a Master of Library and Information Studies from Dalhousie University, and is a certified Project Management Professional. Ruth is also Vice-Chair of the Pan-Canadian Consortium on Admissions and Transfer.	
<b>Mary Chapin</b> Chief Legal Officer, VP & Corporate Secretary National Student Clearinghouse	Mary Chapin is Vice President, Chief Legal Officer and Corporate Secretary for National Student Clearinghouse and National Student Clearinghouse Research Center, nonprofit organizations whose missions are to serve the education and workforce communities and learners by facilitating the exchange and understanding of student enrollment, performance and related information. Ms. Chapin is responsible for managing the legal, regulatory and governmental affairs of the Clearinghouse and oversees a legal team responsible for managing corporate matters, privacy, data	

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	<p>security, and other regulatory compliance obligations, providing transactional support and legislative analysis, and managing government relations with state and federal policymakers. Prior to becoming an in-house counsel, Ms. Chapin was a litigation partner in the Intellectual Property, Media and Technology Department of McDermott, Will &amp; Emery LLP, where she represented Fortune 100 companies to emerging growth companies in a broad range of litigation, regulatory and transaction matters. Ms. Chapin has advised nonprofit organizations, serving on the board of directors for Shelter House, which provides shelter, transitional housing and services to the homeless and domestic violence communities of Northern Virginia. She is currently on the board of directors of the National Capital Region Chapter of the Association of Corporate Counsel and serves as a co-chair of the National Capital Region Chapter's Privacy and Data Security Forum. She also serves on the Advisory Board for the Future of Privacy Forum.</p>	
<p><b>Andy Dowling</b> CEO Digitary</p>		
<p><b>Joanne Duklas</b> President Duklas Cornerstone Consulting</p>		
<p><b>Doug Holmes</b> Manager, eTranscript Services OUAC</p>	<p>Doug started as a software developer at the Ontario Universities' Application Centre (OUAC) in 1995. He was part of the original team which developed the OUAC's EDI-based postsecondary transcript exchange system, and has augmented that system for PESC XML transcripts (both high school and postsecondary). He has worked with calculating GPA's from incoming electronic transcript data and has supported the OUAC's various proprietary admission application exchange systems. Doug was also part of the team which mapped and implemented PESC XML standards for both the Admissions Application and Test Scores, as part of the OUAC's new data exchange process with their university partners. In 2019, Doug moved to the business side of the OUAC as Manager, eTranscripts. He serves as both the ARUCC representative to AACRAO's SPEEDE Committee (1998 - 2005, 2011 to present) and as Co-Chair of the Canadian PESC User Group (2017 to present).</p>	

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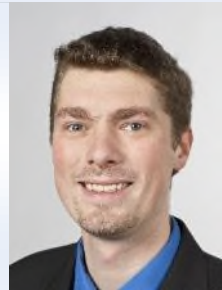


<p><b>Doug Falk</b> CIO &amp; VP National Student Clearinghouse</p>	<p>Doug Falk has served in technology leadership positions for 17 years at the National Student Clearinghouse, where he is currently Vice President and Chief Information Officer. As CIO, Doug provides vision and leadership for information technology initiatives that align with business goals to improve client responsiveness, quality, security and compliance, and cost effectiveness. He is responsible for providing leadership across multiple areas, including development, implementation and governance of information systems, enterprise architecture, information security, and technology infrastructure. Prior to being named CIO, Doug was the Clearinghouse's long-time Vice President of Information Technology and CTO. He was instrumental in developing the Clearinghouse's Web-based application services and its data management capabilities. Doug has been a member of the PESC Board since July 2002, served as Board Chair from 2014-2019, and currently serves as Co-Chair of PESC's Data Privacy &amp; Protection Task Force.</p>	
<p><b>Dr. Rob Fleming</b> Executive Director &amp; Co-Chair BCCAT</p>	<p>Rob Fleming has had the privilege to serve in the role of executive director and co-chair of BCCAT since 2010, working with a wide array of dedicated institutional and ministerial colleagues to enable the ongoing development of BC's credit transfer system to support students along their educational pathways. Over his career, Rob has taught at several post-secondary institutions and served in senior academic administrative roles. He is a founding director of the Pan-Canadian Consortium on Admissions and Transfer, which works to enhance credit transfer and student mobility across Canada. His scholarship includes presentations and publications on literature and composition, curriculum development and review, post-secondary policy, and organizational cultures. Dr. Fleming holds BA and MA degrees in English from the University of British Columbia, and a Doctorate in Education from Simon Fraser University.</p>	
<p><b>Melanie Gottlieb</b> Deputy Director AACRAO</p>		
<p><b>James Kelly</b> Senior Director of Technology ECE</p>	<p>Jim Kelly serves as Senior Director of Technology at Educational Credential Evaluators, Inc. (ECE). Over the last 18 years, he has successfully built a foundational framework for technology to support infrastructure, applications, and strategic activities. These initiatives have been key to the growth of services offered by ECE helping the business triple in size during Jim's tenure. Jim manages a team of skilled technology professionals, sets technology goals and leads strategic planning initiatives. As part of ECE's senior leadership team, Jim supports internal &amp; external systems while involved in planning, general leadership and management efforts. Jim also works with PESC and the Groningen Declaration Network to standardize credential evaluation data and contributes to educational data mobility internationally. Jim serves as Co-Chair and as Steering Committee Member of the PESC Global Education Organization (GEO) User Group on the PESC EdExchange Steering Committee. Jim has also been representing PESC as speaker and</p>	

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	<p>presenter at Annual Meetings of the Groningen Declaration Network. After graduation from the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh with a degree in Biology and a minor in Chemistry, Jim began a career in business and technology professional consulting for organizations that vary in both size and industry. Jim's consulting experience brings a wealth of knowledge in technology, project management, business systems, warehousing, and distribution to his current efforts.</p>	
<p><b>Herman de Leeuw</b> Executive Director Groningen Declaration Network</p>	<p>Herman de Leeuw is Originator and Executive Director of the stichting Groningen Declaration Network, an international public benefit foundation registered with the Netherlands Chamber of Commerce. He is passionate about putting citizens in control over their own data sets, that is, about bringing together a person's formal, nonformal and informal education attainments and professional experience in a person's "Digital Learner Currency" which that person may access and choose to share with whomever, wherever at any time.</p> <p>Herman brings that vision into practice by bringing relevant stakeholders around the globe together at the annual meeting of the Groningen Declaration Network. Volunteerism and international cooperation lie at the bottom of his professional life, which began as a regular presenter at conferences such as AACRAO, EAIE, EUNIS, NAFA and so forth.</p> <p>From 2006 till 2014, Herman served in elected positions within EAIE, the European Association for International Education, from 2006-2008 as member of its Expert Community for Admissions Officers and Credential Evaluators (ACE), and from 2008-2012 as ACE chair. In 2010, he co-established, together with Simone Ravaoli, EAIE's Task Force DSDP (Digital Student Data Portability). In 2012, Herman initiated the Groningen Declaration Network which he has been driving and supporting from the start as its Executive Secretary, from December 2016 onwards as its Executive Director.</p> <p>In September 2015, Herman received EAIE's President's Award for outstanding service. In September 2018, Herman was selected as one of three nominees for the PIEoneer Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Industry</p> <p>In 1988, Herman graduated with an MA (honors) from Leiden University, The Netherlands, in Arabic Language and Literature. In 2005, Herman was trained as a forensic document researcher at the Netherlands National Police Academy.</p>	
<p><b>Karen McCredie</b> Interim Executive Director EducationPlannerBC</p>		



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<b>James Murray-Beckman</b> COO Digitary		
<b>Jennifer Paradise-McCurdy</b> Director of Business Services OUAC		
<b>Hans Pongratz</b> Senior Vice President IT-Systems and Services & CIO Technical University of Munich	Dr. Hans Pongratz is Senior Vice President for IT-Systems & Services and the Chief Information Officer (CIO) of the Technical University of Munich (TUM), Germany. He studied informatics and economics at TUM and received a doctorate degree for his thesis "IT architecture for the digital Higher Education Institution". After his studies he worked as consultant and journalist, before he returned to TUM. In 2011 Hans Pongratz got Senior Vice President "IT-Systems and Services" and Chief Information Officer (CIO) at TUM and is responsible for the consequent implementation of TUM's IT-Strategy "Digital University". He is member of numerous boards, committees, and reviewer groups. Together with Philipp Schmidt (MIT) he is chairing the Technology Working Group of the Digital Credentials Initiative ( <a href="https://digitalcredentials.mit.edu/">https://digitalcredentials.mit.edu/</a> ).	
<b>Melissa Pool</b> University Registrar McMaster University		
<b>Marc Provencher</b> CIO OCAS		
<b>Simone Ravaioli</b> Director of Strategic Partnerships Digitary	<p>Simone Ravaioli is an EdTech influencer with a specific expertise on digital micro-credentials and interests in Blockchain technologies.</p> <p>Simone holds a Bachelor and Masters Degree in Management Information System from Loyola University Chicago (2001). After a corporate experience in New York and Milano, he joined CINECA (2006), the leading consortium of Italian Universities dedicated to developing Student Information Systems for HE. As International Affairs Manager, Simone led the organisation's international strategy in the EHEA, as well as setting up its operations in Turkey.</p> <p>In 2007, Simone became a founding member of RS3G – an international group of HE implementers focusing on data exchange standards.</p>	

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	<p>From 2010 to 2014, he was chair of the Digital Student Data Portability task force of European Association for International Education (EAIE); an entity that went on to seed the creation of the Groningen Declaration Network (2012) of which he is currently a relentless activist.</p> <p>He became the EAIE Rising Star recipient in 2011.</p> <p>In 2014, the epiphany with Open Badges saw Simone become Chief Dreamer of Bestr, the first Italian badging platform and this appointment saw him invited as a TEDx speaker in 2015 in Bologna</p> <p>In 2016, he contributed to kickstarting BadgeChain, an early initiative aimed at exploring the impact of the Blockchain revolution onto the Open Badges ecosystems.</p> <p>Since early 2017, he has served as Business Development Executive EMEA at Digitary, a global provider of secure online credentials in Higher Education with a special mandate to bring into the strategic roadmap digital micro-credentials and blockchain architectures.</p> <p>In 2017, he was invited as keynote speaker at the launch of both the EntreComp framework and ESCO, which led to further scoping work on Open Badges and Competence Frameworks for the Joint Research Center of the EC. Simone currently sits on the Advisory Board of the Open Recognition Alliance.</p>	
<b>Cathy van Soest</b> Manager, Transcript Services EducationPlannerBC	Cathy van Soest is Manager of Transcript Services with EducationPlannerBC, a provincial online application, transcript exchange and academic program information service supporting students and post-secondary institutions in British Columbia, Canada. She facilitates the on-going development and implementation of electronic transcript exchange services with post-secondary institutions. Cathy has worked in both the post-secondary and K-12 sectors and has a background in open learning, education technology and international education. She is currently the Co-Chair of the Canadian Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council User Group (CanPESC) and a member of the ARUCC Groningen & Student Mobility Steering Committee.	
<b>Susan Stein</b> Executive Director Alberta Post-Secondary Application System		
<b>Valerie Thomas</b> Lead, Talent Cloud Treasury Board		
<b>Romesh Vadivel</b> Assistant Registrar and Director, Service Point, Enrolment Services, McGill University		