FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONTACT:
JENNIFER KIM
PESC MEMBERSHIP SERVICES DIRECTOR
+1.202.261.6516

# PESC ANNOUNCES 20TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY
## FALL 2017 DATA SUMMIT IN TORONTO MARKS HISTORIC MILESTONE

**WASHINGTON DC**   The Board of Directors of PESC is pleased to announce plans and events to mark PESC's 20th Year Anniversary in 2017!  In recognition of the influence and inspiration Canadian education has had throughout the world and prominently within PESC since its foundation, PESC's 20th Year Anniversary will be commemorated at the Fall 2017 Symposium & Data Summit October 25-27, 2017 at the Radisson Admiral Harbourfront Hotel in Toronto.

"The influence, perspective and voice of Canada within PESC originate at the very beginning, to our foundation in 1997, and that voice remains active in every facet of PESC at every level," states Michael Sessa, President & CEO who joined PESC in 2002.  PESC has held Data Summits in Montreal (for PESC's 10th Year Anniversary) and Vancouver (for PESC's 15th Year Anniversary); exhibits regularly at the Association of Registrars of the Universities and Colleges of Canada (ARUCC) Annual Meeting; formed the Canadian PESC User Group (CanPESC) in 2011; and, established a formal partnership with ARUCC in 2013.

CanPESC Co-Chairs Cathy von Soest of BC Campus and Leisa Wellsman of Ontario Universities' Application Center also hold seats on the ARUCC/Groningen Declaration Network and Student Mobility Task Force, formed in 2014 to focus on advancing student mobility through data exchange. "True interoperability is best achieved through preservation of 'one standard' and Canada's long-standing participation in the development, establishment and adoption of PESC Approved Standards is the shining example of cost-effective and student-centric service," Mr. Sessa adds.

**20TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY**  At PESC's formation coordinated by AACRAO, NACUBO and NASFAA at the National Center for Higher Education in One Dupont Circle, Washington DC on August 18, 1997, a growing common problem had been identified by leaders in education technology with expertise in student data.

> *"We are at a critical juncture in the administration of higher education in this country. Over the past few years we have worked together on various industry task forces. One common point of agreement among ourselves during this process is that we must develop a way for the community to organize, negotiate, recommend, train and administer the numerous tasks needed to provide an open, common, integrated higher education administrative infrastructure for the benefit of students in this country."*
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> *- AACRAO, NACUBO, NASFAA August 18, 1997*

LEADING THE ESTABLISHMENT AND ADOPTION OF DATA EXCHANGE STANDARDS IN EDUCATION

Many organizations joined as PESC Members and Member participation and Member dues continue to serve as the driving forces of PESC.  In recognition of PESC's 20th Year Anniversary, PESC is releasing as part of its announcement:

> ➢ *New Website* at **www.PESC.org**
> ➢ *20th Year Anniversary Edition* of **THE STANDARD**
> ➢ *20th Year Anniversary Release* of **PESC APPROVED STANDARDS**
> ➢ *Spring 2017 Data Summit* **Empowering the Mobility of Digital Academic Credentials**
> ➢ *Fall 2017 Symposium & Data Summit* **EDiNTEROP 2017**
> ➢ *Canadian PESC User Group* **New Prospectus**
> ➢ *EdExchange* **New Prospectus**
> ➢ *Global Institution Code* **New Prospectus**
> ➢ *Strategic Partnerships* **New Prospectus**

PESC's 20th Year Anniversary will culminate October 25-27, 2017 at EDiNTEROP 2017 | PESC Fall 2017 Symposium & Data Summit at the Radisson Admiral Hotel Harbourfront in Toronto.

PESC's Empowering the Mobility of Digital Academic Credentials | Spring 2017 Data Summit on *Best Practices in Education Data Systems* is being held May 3–5, 2017 in Washington DC and is co-sponsored by Connecting Credentials.

### NEW GROUPS FORMING

**JSON Task Force** - PESC is establishing a Task Force to advise PESC Members and the education community on the impact and utility of JSON in the education domain and its relationship to XML.  Under the continued leadership of the PESC Technical Advisory Board, this Task Force will continue the ongoing discussions about JSON and ultimately recommend what action, if any, PESC should undertake as a result of the emergence of JSON.

**CREDENTIAL ENGINE/HR-XML/IMS/PESC Mapping Workgroup** – A Workgroup is forming to open discussions with stakeholders in credentialing to analyze, compare, discuss enhancements and identify opportunities to advance interoperability.  For PESC, this initiative will be managed under the continued leadership of the Academic Credentialing and Experiential Learning Task Force.

**EWP/EMREX/PESC Mapping Workgroup** – PESC is forming a Workgroup to analyze, compare, discuss enhancements and identify opportunities to advance interoperability with Erasmus Without Paper (EWP) and EMREX.  Under the joint leadership of the Academic Credentialing and Experiential Learning Task Force and the Education Record User Group (ERUG), this Workgroup will identify updates or enhancements to PESC Approved Standards.

**XML REQUEST/RESPONSE Development Workgroup** – PESC is forming a Workgroup to develop Request and Response XML standards for all PESC Approved Standards.  Under the continued leadership of the Steering Committee of the Standards Development Forum for Education and with input from the ERUG, this Workgroup will develop and produce Request and Response formats useable for all PESC Approved Standards.

*The inaugural convenings of these Groups will occur at PESC's Spring 2017 Data Summit, taking place May 3-5, 2017 in Washington, D.C. at the Embassy Row Hotel in Dupont Circle.  See www.PESC.org for more info.*

**PESC IS SPONSORED ANNUALLY** by Credentials Solutions, National Student Clearinghouse, Oracle and Parchment Inc.  PESC partners include AACRAO, APEREO, ARUCC, EMREX, EWP, Groningen Declaration Network, Internet2, SHEEO, and the US Department of Education's Common Education Data Standards (CEDS) Initiative.

LEADING THE ESTABLISHMENT AND ADOPTION OF DATA EXCHANGE STANDARDS IN EDUCATION

**PESC IS A PROUD EXHIBITOR** at AACRAO's Annual Meeting, ARUCC's Annual Meeting, and the Annual STATS-DC Conference of the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) of the US Department of Education.

**PESC IS A PROUD SPONSOR** of AIR's Annual Conference and of the Annual California Electronic Transcripts Workshop and CCCApply.

**PESC IS A PROUD MEMBER/AFFILIATE/SIGNATORY** of AACRAO, of the NCES National Forum on Education Statistics, and of the Groningen Declaration Network.

**PESC HAS A STRONG HISTORY** that includes AACRAO, SPEEDE, EDI, ANSI, X12, Canada, the US Department of Education and Y2K.  Read more at www.PESC.org.

**IN FULFILLING ITS NON-PROFIT MISSION**, all PESC Approved Standards are available to the education community online free of charge at www.PESC.org.

## ABOUT PESC

**ESTABLISHED IN 1997 AT THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR HIGHER EDUCATION & HEADQUARTERED IN WASHINGTON DC**, 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.

**LEADING THE ESTABLISHMENT & ADOPTION OF DATA EXCHANGE STANDARDS ACROSS THE EDUCATION DOMAIN.** 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.

**ABOUT PRIVACY** 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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