T.R.U.S.T. HUB

GDN T.R.U.S.T. HUB

1ST PLACE WINNER

FOR ADMINISTRATIVE TRUST

– PESC 22ND ANNUAL BEST PRACTICES –

GDN T.R.U.S.T HUB
1ST PLACE AWARD
ADMINISTRATIVE TRUST
22ND ANNUAL BEST PRACTICES

GDN T.R.U.S.T. HUB AWARDED 1ST PLACE

FOR 'ADMINISTRATIVE TRUST' ROLE IN 22ND BEST PRACTICES

ONLINE, SEARCHABLE MAP ESTABLISHES GLOBAL TRUST IN DIGITAL LEARNER DATA ECOSYSTEM

Washington, D.C. ~ The Board of Directors of the Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council (PESC) is pleased to announce the **GDN T.R.U.S.T. Hub** of the Groningen Declaration Network (GDN) as 1st Place Winner for *Administrative Trust* role in PESC's 22nd Annual Best Practices Competition.

GDN identifies trusted entities through its Signatory process, and once approved, the status of *GDN Signatory* is granted. The GDN T.R.U.S.T. Hub provides an overview of the GDN Digital Learner Data Ecosystem in an online searchable map. Where the Signatories, including credential depositories, are located is displayed, along with how to contact them for more information.

"The GDN is effective because of the strategic vision, commitment, and hard work of many of the Network's Signatories, Board Executives, and volunteers. As President of the GDN, I am thrilled and grateful that the Network's T.R.U.S.T. Hub is being recognized by PESC and would like to sincerely thank all those who worked so diligently to develop and launch this innovative resource."

» Kathleen Massey, President, GDN; and Associate Vice President (Students), University of Lethbridge

"What wonderful recognition for the GDN T.R.U.S.T. Hub. The DCC team was happy to lend our knowledge and expertise to this important GDN initiative. This one-stop resource of trusted providers closes a glaring gap and is an essential resource for credential assessment professionals around the world. We enjoyed working on this important project with our learned colleagues and are honoured to receive this recognition."

» Joanne Duklas, President, Duklas Cornerstone Consulting, Inc.

"Societal trust, refined and enhanced for thousands of years, is part of everyone's daily lives. Digital trust is relatively new and far more complex, but still must be achieved. The GDN T.R.U.S.T. Hub is an important and critical building block that assists in establishing trust in the digital learner data ecosystem."

> » Michael D. Sessa, President & CEO, PESC

The award-winning submission made by GDN is posted on the PESC website with prior winners at www.pesc.org. An Awards Ceremony will be held during the General Sessions at PESC's October 2021 Data Summit being held virtually October 19-21, 2021.

For more information about the GDN T.R.U.S.T. Hub and to join GDN, please visit https://www.groningendeclaration.org/.

For more information about PESC and the Annual Best Practices Competition, please visit https://www.pesc.org/.

ABOUT GDN

The Groningen Declaration Network is an international, nonprofit and voluntary network of like-minded organizations and individuals that want to make digital student data portability happen. It's Global Founding Seminar took place in 2012. Today it consists of participants and signatories of over 29 countries worldwide.

The Network builds on the Groningen Declaration. Citizens worldwide should be able to consult and share their authentic educational data with whomever they want, whenever they want, wherever they are. In order to get there, the declaration wants to establish a global area of convergence on digital student data depositories, while respecting their autonomy and diversity. It wants to look into privacy rights, ownership of data, identification, access and forwarding/ sharing of data, next to compatibility and comparability of data. This is a declaration of intent, with no binding power. The Board of Directors cannot ask participants to do things other than voluntarily.

The Groningen Declaration Network seeks common ground in best serving the academic and professional mobility needs of citizens worldwide by bringing together stakeholders in the digital student data ecosystem at its Annual Meeting.

ABOUT PESC ANNUAL BEST PRACTICES

PESC Annual Best Practices Competition recognizes, highlights and promotes innovation and ingenuity in the application and implementation of interoperable data standards for business needs. The Annual Best Competition is open to institutions (schools, colleges, universities), 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 (e.g. published articles, white papers, pilots, demonstrations and implementations).

Submissions can/may include documentation, artifacts and descriptions of the scope of a project, participants and partners, types of standards employed, relevant dates and project milestones, copies of articles (if an article submission), outline of mission/objectives and any related statistics (# of transactions transmitted, estimated cost savings, etc.).

HALLMARKS OF BEST PRACTICES: While innovation and meeting customer needs will continue to ensure the rapid evolution of systems, applications, networks, products and services, those PESC recognizes as 'Best Practice' all share the use and inclusion of: Common Data Standards; Unique Identifiers and Standardized Code Sets; Quality Control Measures; Controlled Access and Security; Comprehensive Management Support; Flexibility and Scalability; Student/Learner-Centric; Formal Data Governance

EXPANSION OF BEST PRACTICES IN 2021: The Annual Best Practices expanded in 2021 into three separate categories: by region, by role, by technology. Awards may be made each year for each of the three separate categories; and multiple awards may be made each year under each category. The PESC Board Review Committee makes all awards and may determine that no award be made in a given year under one or more categories.

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T.R.U.S.T. HUB
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1ST PLACE WINNER
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– PESC 22ND ANNUAL BEST PRACTICES –

September 23, 2021

Herman de Leeuw
Executive Director
Groningen Declaration Network (GDN)
https://www.groningendeclaration.org/

Dear Herman:

On behalf of PESC and the PESC Board of Directors, I am pleased to notify you that your submission GDN T.R.U.S.T. Hub in PESC's 22nd Annual Best Practices Competition has been awarded **1st Place Winner** for "Administrative Trust" role.

A multi-media press release will be issued by PESC announcing this 1st Place Award with this notification letter and your winning submission attached. An Awards Ceremony is planned for the opening session of PESC's upcoming October 2021 Data Summit (Tuesday, October 19, 2021). I hope you are available at this time to provide brief remarks.

Session time has also been allocated on the Summit program agenda for you to present your winning submission. Your winning submission will also be posted prominently on the Annual Best Practices page of PESC's website along with all previous 1st Place Award Winners. Please note the actual award will be held and delivered to you personally.

Congratulations from PESC and the PESC Board of Directors! Thank you and please extend warm thanks and gratitude to the GDN Board of Directors and the entire GDN team!

My best regards,

Michael D. Sessa
President & CEO
PESC

WWW.PESC.ORG

cc: PESC Board of Directors

Trusted.
Rigorous.
Unique.
Secure.
Timely.

PESC Best Practices
"GDN T.R.U.S.T. Hub"
Administrative Trust Role
03 September 2021
Herman de Leeuw
Executive Director
Groningen Declaration Network (GDN)
www.groningendeclaration.org

Introducing the **GDN T.R.U.S.T. Hub**

Are you wondering who the GDN Signatories are? Are you wondering if a credentialing platform or depository is part of the GDN network? Have a look at the map below.

The GDN is proud of its ability to identify trusted entities through its Signatory process. Signatories are required to sign and demonstrate their commitment to the GDN Ethical Principles for data exchange to support learner and social mobility. Any organization's application for signatory status requires review and approval by the GDN Board of Directors. The criteria for becoming a Signatory are available here.

By using this map, you will get an overview of the GDN Digital Learner Data Ecosystem where the Signatories, including credential depositories, are located, and how to contact them for more information.

Network Credential Depositories
Each of the organizations identified in the T.R.U.S.T. Hub is a GDN Signatory. Those identified as credential depositories have been sanctioned by the primary data source (an issuing institution) or a government authority. If you engage with a GDN Signatory credential depository, you can be sure it is trusted.

The Groningen Declaration Network reserves the right of final approval for publication of information and the right to make any changes as necessary including removing information from the GDN Trust Hub.

T.R.U.S.T. HUB

Trusted.
Rigorous.
Unique.
Secure.
Timely.

2,200+

GDN Innovators

110+

GDN Signatories

30

Countries Worldwide

1

GDN T.R.U.S.T. Hub

T.R.U.S.T. Hub Map

see https://www.groningendeclaration.org/trust-hub/

GDN Signatories

Non-Signatory

Confirmation of Signatory Status

This is to certify that

[representative] of [signatory organisation]

having read and approved of the Groningen Declaration and of its Network's Statutes, By-Laws, Code of Conduct and Statement of Ethical Principles, and having committed to promote the aims of the Groningen Declaration Network through active involvement in its Task Forces, Committees and other activities duly signed the Groningen Declaration as per below, in witness whereof the present confirmation is awarded

Location and Date of Signing
[Place], [Country], [date of signing]

Confirmation date
Groningen
[dd/mm/yyyy]

valid through
[expiration date]

1450-8DD2-J1E2

Herman de Leeuw
Executive Director

History

Right from the start of the GDN, Digital Student Data Depositories on the one hand and Credential Evaluation Organizations and Recognition Authorities on the other already constituted major building blocks for the network; it was actually at the junction of those two that the GDN incubated.

Verification of learner data has always been one of the most important tasks for both categories. It is therefore no surprise that verification and vetting of data were acknowledged as central issues at the founding seminar (Groningen, 2012), no matter how the movement would develop. It is for that reason that a first mapping tool was developed in 2012; it started out in nucleus form as a Google mashup, only to be turned into a dedicated tool afterwards.

A next iteration occurred in 2014, when a short lived digital world map provided just the kind of visualization that was needed. Unfortunately, that tool was lost when the GDN website migrated to a new environment.

The mapping tool idea was never lost, though – it was deemed desirable by the GDN Board of Directors in May 2015 and resurfaced in late 2015 when the GDN established its Task Force on Verification Policies and Best Practices.

The mapping tool featured prominently in the deliverables of that Task Force (still active), as the Task Force was required to

2.   Identify/consolidate a list of global/national/central student data depositories that authorities can turn to for verification of student data. Map these depositories. Categorize these depositories based upon:
   a.   Levels of accessibility
   b.   Security
   c.   Costs
3.   Identify current verification approaches/systems/methodologies/steps
   a.   What information is sought after?
   b.   What are the challenges in the information provided?
   c.   What are the gaps in verification related information?
4.   Create a platform/link with the recently established African Qualifications Verification Network (AQVN)
   a.   Engage with members on the above
5.   Assist verification partners to develop verification related user manual/standard operating procedures

In October 2018, the GDN Board of Directors reiterated its desire to make the mapping tool a reality, and what is now the GDN T.R.U.S.T. hub actually represents the third incarnation.

It took the GDN team 2 years to think things over, reach out to external helpers and get down to developing the current T.R.U.S.T. hub, which saw the light (again) in early 2021. Which would have been impossible without the unshakable faith and dedication of the first dreamers, Task Force members and eventual developing team (in alphabetical order of first names): Amee Shroff, Baiba Ramina, Herman de Leeuw, Jelger de Boer, Joanne Duklas, Maya Hardy, Melanie Gottlieb, Meg (Margaret) Wenger, Navin Vasudev, Neil Robinson, Peter Heeling, Rick Torres, Simone Ravaioli, Susan Li Xiaoshu, Tessa Mouha and Ton van der Marck.

The Groningen Declaration Network

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The purpose of the Groningen Declaration Network is:

- to develop, offer, support and advise on the subject of Digital Student Data Portability (DSDP) particularly concerning the mutual consultation on and exchange of information between all interested parties worldwide and institutes for higher education in particular;
- to develop and offer best practices and globally accepted standards for safe and citizen-oriented mutual consultations and exchanges of information on the subject of DSDP;
- and everything related, belonging or conducive to this in the broadest sense.

The Network seeks to achieve its objectives by:

- creating and facilitating a network for the foundation's objectives;
- bringing together stakeholders in the area of DSDP;
- the use of (multi)media for the foundation's objectives;
- generating publicity by any means for the foundation's objectives;
- the acquisition and provision of resources (financial or otherwise);
- furthermore, doing everything directly or indirectly related to the above, in the broadest sense.