

FEATURED SPEAKERS

Ruth Blades is the Executive Director of the Council on Admission & Transfer for Nova Scotia Inc. (CATNS – CATNÉ). Ruth has held many roles throughout her career, including researcher, project manager, consultant, and system administrator, with experience in the public and private sectors, ranging from post-secondary education to economic development. 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 (PMP). Ruth is currently a Director of PESC and serves as the Secretary to the Board, and is an active participant in many PESC working groups, particularly CanPESC.

Andrew Cunsolo

“Bryant” Faust currently serves as Associate Dean and Registrar at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Over the past 35 years, he has worked in higher education as a researcher, faculty member, information technology analyst and registrar. In each of these roles, he has focused on utilizing technology to enhance existing processes and improve outcomes.

Previously he served as University Registrar and Instructor of Pharmacology at Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in New Orleans. He is a graduate of Southeastern Louisiana University, earned a Master of Arts in Science Teaching from the University of New Orleans, and completed his doctoral studies in Educational Leadership, Policy, and Technical Studies at the University of Alabama.

Melanie Gottlieb was recently appointed Executive Director of AACRAO by the AACRAO Board of Directors. Melanie is the first woman to hold the role of Executive Director in the association's history and is taking the helm at an opportune time as we emerge from the pandemic and look to the future. She brings a global perspective rooted in an understanding of the technological proficiency and flexibility needed to move AACRAO forward.

Melanie steps in as Executive Director after nearly six years as the Deputy Director. She came to the national office with 18 years as an AACRAO member, with experience in Records & Registration, Enrollment Management and International Recruitment and Credential Evaluation. She has served the association in a variety of leadership roles throughout her career, most recently as Vice President for International Education on the AACRAO Board of Directors. Melanie earned an MA in Information Science from the University of Missouri - Columbia and a BA in History /American Studies from Marlboro College in Vermont.

Taylor Hansen

Doug Holmes is the Manager, eTranscripts at the Ontario Universities' Application Centre (OUAC), a centralized admission application processing service for the universities in Ontario. Previously a software developer, he was part of the teams which deployed EDI-based, and later PESC XML-based, transcript exchange with OUAC's university and college partners across Canada. He has served as ARUCC's representative to AACRAO's SPEEDE Committee from 1998 - 2005, and again from 2011 to present. He is also Co-Chair of the Canadian PESC User Group (CanPESC) and serves as a CanPESC representative to several committees with ARUCC's MyCreds™ | MesCertif™ national network. In his spare time, he loves all things Lord of the Rings.

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Alex Jackl, CEO & Founder of Bardic Systems, is a technology strategist, futurist, and data scientist who specializes in developing eco-systems that support learners and educators. He is a leader in developing, maintaining and in the practical application of the use of standards and data. His focus is on the implementation of mature, modern architectures and strategies. He provides vision and strategy around developing approaches, projects, and programs to create the future of education now and to build systems that are sustainable and can stay modern with as little TCO as possible. Alex works in the Pre-Kindergarten to K12 to PostSecondary to Workforce educational space, primarily, though not exclusively, in the United States. Over the last 21 years he has been focusing on enterprise data and system architecture in the district, state and federal education agency space.

He is also the Chair of the North American Technical Board of the Access For Learning (A4L) Community, who support the Schools Interoperability Framework (SIF), and the Co-Chair of the PESC Competencies & Credentials Task Force, and the Reusable Competency Definitions Workgroup for IEEE. He has worked on Common Education Data Standards (CEDS), the National Education Data Model (NEDM), the Student Data Privacy Consortium (SDPC), and the LER/ILR projects with the T3 Innovation Network, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation, and the White House.

Jennifer Kim currently serves as Director of Membership Services at PESC. She joined PESC in 2005 when PESC offices were located at One Dupont Circle in the National Center for Higher Education. She has been instrumental in the development and production of PESC Data Summits held April and October each year with responsibilities ranging from hotel contract negotiation and management to registration and all social media, to all meeting and audio-visual logistics. Jennifer supports all Member communications and dues processes; and represents PESC at industry events, including AACRAO, GDN, & STATS-DC of the U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics.

Heather Lane has been the Executive Director of the Ontario Universities' Application Centre (OUAC) since January 2018. The OUAC receives and processes applications for admission to undergraduate programs, law schools, medical schools and other programs at all of Ontario's 20+ universities. Her 30+ year career in post-secondary education includes work in student services at 3 universities in Ontario Canada, most recently at Toronto Metropolitan University (formerly Ryerson University) where she served as the Vice-Provost, Students for over 9 years. Heather holds a Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration from Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, Ohio.

John Lovell

Karen McCredie has been with EducationPlannerBC since 2019. Karen is responsible for driving the strategic direction of the organization. She brings a wealth of experience from her almost 30 years in previous roles at post-secondary institution Registrar offices as well as being a member of ApplyBC and EducationPlannerBC working groups and steering committees for many years.

David K. Moldoff, Founder and CEO of AcademyOne, Inc., is a visionary in higher education responsible for AcademyOne's overall strategy with specific emphasis on the technology infrastructure, integration of applications and services as well as exploiting his vast industry network with regards to sales, strategic partnerships, associations, etc. David is a successful entrepreneur with over 34 years of experience in launching and managing new companies and new products in technology for higher education. Before forming AcademyOne in 2005, David was SVP of Solutions Architecture and Infrastructure for SCT, which he was instrumental in selling to SunGard in 2004.



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Within PESC, David currently serves as Chair of the PESC Board of Directors. David serves as PESC Board Liaison to the Rome Student Systems and Standards Group (RS3G) – now converged with the Groningen Declaration Network, served as Co-Chair of the EdUnify Task Force, and was instrumental in the formation of the Common Identity and Trust (CommIT) Collaborative initiated by PESC's Electronic Authentication/Authorization (EA2) Task Force which partnered with Internet2. He has also served as Board Secretary and AcademyOne is a current Annual Diamond Sponsor.

Felicia Perez

Marc Provencher became President & CEO in April 2022. Previously Mark was Chief Information Officer at OCAS which he started in 2013. Previous to that, Marc held various positions at BlackBerry, his most recent was as the Director of Blackberry Handheld Applications. He holds a Master of Business Administration (MBA) from Wilfrid Laurier University and a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Guelph.

Doris Savron is the Vice Provost of Academic Colleges at University of Phoenix. Savron's career spans 30 years in healthcare, information technology and academia. She has held a number of leadership roles in her tenure with University of Phoenix. Prior to joining the University, Savron spent 10 years in leadership roles in healthcare operations, rehabilitation services and information technology consulting.

In her role as Vice Provost, she oversees all strategy for degree, certificate and course offerings, design of curriculum, and student learning outcomes for the University. She works collaboratively with her team members to innovate academic solutions that enable the University to provide exceptional student experiences and learning environments to support student success. Prior to her role as Vice Provost, she served as Executive Dean for the Colleges of Health Professions, Education and Humanities and Sciences, where she led strategy and execution within her respective areas.

Savron currently serves on the board for the Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce. She holds a master of business administration from Cleveland State University and is completing her doctorate in management in organizational leadership from University of Phoenix.

Michael Sessa serves as President, CEO and a member of the PESC Board of Directors, a position he's held since 2002. At PESC Michael manages PESC's membership, finances, events, marketing and website, strategic planning and PESC's committees and groups. He began his career in 1990 at a local branch of The Boston Five Cents Savings Bank in student loans and consumer lending and compliance and has dedicated his efforts to standardization and interoperability ever since.

As evangelist at PESC, Michael speaks regularly at conferences and events throughout the USA, Canada and around the world. Michael first served on the PESC Board of Directors from 1999-2002, representing American Student Assistance (ASA) and the National Association of Student Loan Administrators (NASLA), before coming on board in 2002. Prior to PESC, Michael worked 10 years at American Student Assistance (Massachusetts Higher Education Assistance Corporation) as Director of Program Relations and Planning managing industry and government affairs and strategic technological initiatives. Michael is a 1989 graduate of Dartmouth College and was born and raised in Revere, Massachusetts, just north of Boston.

Monterey Sims is the Director of Admissions and Evaluation at the University of Phoenix and currently serves on the PESC Board of Directors as the Vice Chair. She has worked at the University for almost 30 years and participated in a variety of process improvement initiatives across the institution. Monterey is directly responsible for the Office of Admissions Document Processing division which includes overseeing transcript processing for



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University applicants and students and document capture and indexing for Admissions, Records, Internal Veterans Affairs, and Financial Services.

She strongly believes in root cause analysis, continuous relentless improvement and solutions that support both students and staff. She spearheaded the implementation of electronic data exchange (EDI/XML) for incoming and outgoing transcripts at the University over a decade ago and continues to enhance related processes and partnerships through her work in PESC and the AACRAO SPEEDE Committee. Monterey also serves on the PACRAO Board of Directors as Business Partner Liaison, ArmyIgnitED Education Institution Advisory Board and the eTransCA Steering Committee.

Cathy van Soest is Director of Client Relations at EducationPlannerBC. She is responsible for the integration and strategic utilization of EPBC's products and services for use by the post-secondary sector in British Columbia, Canada. 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).

Bert van der Geest is leading Digitary by Parchment's expansion of secure online credentials in the Post-Secondary Education sector. Bert is working closely with the Association of Registrars of the Universities and Colleges of Canada (ARUCC) to roll out the MyCreds™ | MesCertif™ national network across Canada. The platform enables issuing organizations to provide learners a highly privacy compliant and learner-centric model for standards-based digital document exchange by sharing their academic and micro-credential documents and badges.

Bert's previous work in BC post-secondary institutions and K-12 includes electronic transmission of documents through EducationPlannerBC; and establishment of the StudentTranscripts service for students and the public through secure electronic transcript distribution mechanisms (PESC XML and PDF) to post-secondary institutions and industry training partners. Parchment is a current Annual Diamond Sponsor.

