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Volume 9 ~ Issue 8 ~ August 2007

Connecting Kids to College

PESC's latest brochure, "Connecting Kids to College", is now available online at <http://www.pesc.org/publications/brochures.asp> and on page 14.

This brochure details how PESC's standards eliminate barriers and bridge data gaps in the student lifecycle while simplifying access, improving data quality, and helping reduce costs.

"Standard by standard, we are building an education network and with our combined focus, we have made student success our #1 priority! With students learning and graduating, we all win," said Michael Sessa, executive director, PESC.

Standards also help improve institutional performance, a key factor in higher education today. And last but not least, for those building or providing systems and system solutions, a solid direction allows for significant investment in the latest technology - eXtensible Mark-Up Language (XML).

With a standard method of communicating and a standard for transporting the data, all software applications can be synchronized harmoniously. In PESC and higher education, standards make the network!

PESC Fall 2007 Membership Meeting

Please be advised that a meeting of the PESC Members and Affiliates has been scheduled for Monday, October 15, 2007 from noon - 1:30 pm. This meeting will be held at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Montreal during PESC's Fall 2007 Workgroup Summit which kicks off on the same day at 8:30 am.

Tentatively scheduled for the agenda at this time:

- Board of Directors Update
- Elections for the Standards Forum for Education Steering Committee
- Standards Forum for Education Update

This year, we are combining the Membership meeting with a buffet lunch. If you are planning on attending the Membership Meeting and luncheon, please complete the registration form on page 8, and submit it to Michael Sessa at michael.sessa@pesc.org or by fax at 202-261-6517.

Celebrating Our 10th Anniversary in 2007

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The Standard is the electronic newsletter published monthly by The Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council (PESC). The Standard covers news and events that impact information technology and data exchange, and promotes PESC's goals of improving service, controlling costs, and attaining interoperability within higher education. For information about subscriptions, advertising, and article submissions, please visit www.PESC.org.
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Steering Committee Nominations Now Open

As elections for the Steering Committee will be held during the Membership Meeting, we are now accepting nominations for the Steering Committee, which is a seven member body that leads and provides oversight for the Standards Forum for Education.

Those interested in nominating or in serving should complete the form on page 9, including the nominees name, title, organization, and a brief bio to the attention of Michael Sessa, PESC Executive Director, 1250 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 200, Washington DC 20036.

Representatives from MEMBER organizations (with dues paid current) are eligible to serve on the Steering Committee. The term of service is two years and runs January 1, 2008 - December 31, 2010 (note: The Policies and Procedures Manual is in the process of being updated to reflect a term of 2 years). When nominating, please ensure that the nominee is aware that a nomination is being made.

Elections will be held during PESC's Membership Meeting scheduled for Monday October 15, 2007 from noon - 1:30 pm EST at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Montreal. Membership meetings are open to all PESC Members and Affiliates, and with prior notification, other interested parties.

The schedule for elections will be as follows:

<i>Friday August 31, 2007</i>	Nominations Open
<i>Friday September 28, 2007</i>	Nominations Closed, Proxy Ballots Issued
<i>Wednesday October 10, 2007</i>	If not attending the Membership Meeting in person, this is the date by which Proxy Ballots must be received in PESC's offices
<i>Monday October 15, 2007</i>	Elections held ~ noon EST

NOTE: If attending the Membership Meeting in person, Proxy ballots can still be submitted and then can either be replaced with an official vote on Monday October 15, 2007 or remain as the official vote. We encourage all of PESC members and affiliates to attend as Membership Meetings are your chance to influence the direction of your organization! If you have yet to register for the free Summit in Montreal, please visit www.PESC.org.

We look forward to seeing you in October!

PESC Fall 2007 Summit in Montreal!

Join fellow colleagues in the higher education community as we celebrate PESC's 10th Year Anniversary!

While the meeting in which PESC was actually launched took place on August 18, 1997 at the National Center for Higher Education, we'll hold the festivities during the Fall 2007 Summit being held at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Montreal Canada.

In addition to meetings usually scheduled during PESC Summits including Workgroups and Boards of the Standards Forum for Education, the PESC Board of Directors, PESC Fall Membership, & AACRAO's SPEEDE Committee, the Electronic Authentication/Electronic Authorization Task Force (EA2) will also convene. Plus we're hosting a special reception which will include tasty hors d'oeuvres and beverages via the Ritz Montreal and special entertainment!

We thank our generous sponsors who make our Summits possible: American Student Assistance, Datatel, National Transcript Center, Oracle, and USA Funds.

The draft agenda can be found on page 10 and it lists all the meetings, activities and events that will occur. In the meantime, please make travel plans and reserve your hotel room.

The Summit begins Monday morning October 15 at 7:30am with continental breakfast and concludes by Tuesday afternoon October 16 at 5pm. The dress code is business casual.

The Ritz Carlton Montreal is located at 1228 Sherbrooke Street West, Montreal (Quebec) H3G1H6. Reservations may be made by calling 800-363-0366 or 1-514-842-4212, or emailing reservations@ritzmontreal.com, The cost per room is \$179 CAD/night

Get Your Passport Now!

Under the new requirements of the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI), beginning January 23, 2007, ALL persons, including U.S. citizens, traveling by air between the United States and Canada, Mexico, Central and South

America, the Caribbean, and Bermuda will be required to present a valid passport, Air NEXUS card, or U.S. Coast Guard Merchant Mariner Document, or an Alien Registration Card, Form I-551, if applicable.

To obtain a passport for the first time, you need to go in person to one of over 8,000 passport acceptance facilities located throughout the United States with two photographs of yourself, proof of U.S. citizenship, and a valid form of photo identification such as a driver's license.

To renew a passport, you can renew by mail if: Your most recent passport is available to submit and it is not damaged; you received the passport within the past 15 years; you were over age 16 when it was issued; you still have the same name, or can legally document your name change.

For more information, visit http://travel.state.gov/passport/passport_1738.html.

PK20 - The Latest Buzzword

With discussions occurring all across the country regarding bridging the gap between elementary/secondary and postsecondary education and building longitudinal data systems, the Data Quality Campaign (DQC) has compiled a list of bills recently introduced in Congress relating to this topic (see legislation on page 11).

PESC continues to work with the DQC and with the Schools Interoperability Framework Association (SIFA) to ensure that interoperability is achieved throughout education. For more information, please visit www.DataQualityCampaign.org and www.SIFinfo.org.

Technology Tidbits

and Standards Snippets

■ **Federal Student Aid has posted the draft Specifications for Software Developers for the 2008-2009 cycle.** The 2008-2009 Specifications for Software Developers is available in PDF format on the Information for Financial Aid Professionals (IFAP) Web site, located at <http://ifap.ed.gov>. Please note that testing of these specifications will not be complete until January 1, 2008. Software developers should be prepared to receive updates to the specifications until that time.

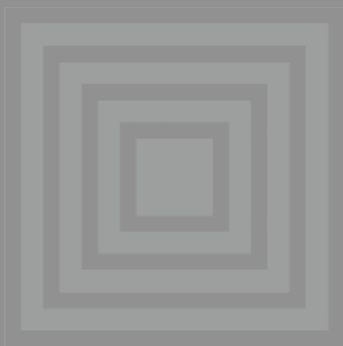
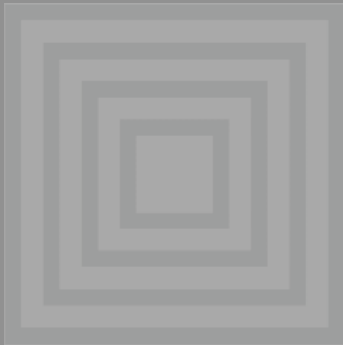
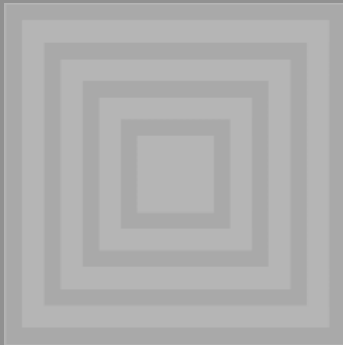
■ **An increasing number of parents are getting Internet domain names for their children at very young ages.** While there has not been a study conducted on the trend, the practice is no longer limited to parents with IT backgrounds. The trend hints at the potential importance of domain names in establishing one's future digital identity.

■ **The ever growing use of compound XML documents creates new challenges for automated validation.** It is obviously more difficult to interpret a compound document than a stand-alone one as the processing application needs to consider every vocabulary fragment in the context of other vocabularies to adjust the interpretation accordingly. Compound document validation needs to face new levels of complexity emerging from the fact, different vocabularies can be

combined together in various ways, but only some of them are eligible. That's why validation of compound documents becomes a compelling task which requires special approaches. The topic is discussed in detail, including an introduction of a validation tool, in "Advanced Approaches to XML Documentation Validation," available at <http://www.idealliance.org/papers/extreme/proceedings/html/2007/Nalevka01/EML2007Nalevka01.html>

■ **Experts are now weighing the options of 'tweaking' or 'revamping' HTTP.** The protocol was developed jointly by the IETF and the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C). In use on the Web since 1990, HTTP was standardized in 1999 in RFC 2616. The IETF recently held a session to debate whether HTTP should be tweaked to fix known errors or completely reworked to address its well-known security weaknesses. For more information visit, <http://www.networkworld.com/news/2007/072505-future-of-http.html>

■ **A recently published article provides an architectural introduction to SCA.** The goal is to provide a big-picture view of what this technology offers, describe how it works, and show how its various pieces fit together. Service Component Architecture (SCA) defines a general approach to doing both of these things. Now owned by OASIS, SCA was originally created by a group of vendors, including BEA,



IBM, Oracle, SAP, and others. The SCA specifications define how to create components and how to combine those components into complete applications http://www.davidchappell.com/articles/Introducing_SCA.pdf

■ **An eight-year conflict between the University of California Microsoft over the patent rights to a Web-browser technology has been settled out of court**, according to a Chronicle of Higher Education article. The fight, in the courts and at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, revolved around the discovery of a method for launching and displaying software plug-ins from Web browsers. The university owns the patent to the technology, which it licenses to Eolas Technologies Inc.

■ **A paper published in the Proceedings of Extreme Markup Languages 2007 discusses how validation of XML documents is often treated as a major operation**, performed only at major transitions in the document's life cycle, after it has been created or when it enters some new stage of processing. Users editing XML documents, on the other hand, would appreciate instantaneous feedback of the correctness of the document each time anything changes. Such on-the-fly validation can be implemented in an XML editor using the current version of Java and freely available XML tools. For more information, visit <http://www.idealliance.org/papers/extreme/proceedings/html/2007/Saesmaa01/EML2007Saesmaa01.html>

UT Austin Internet Server 'SPEEDEs' Along

July 2007 volume included:

- 47,741 TS130 transcripts
- 41,104 TS131 acknowledgements
- 10,799 TS997 Functional acknowledgements
- 37,115 TS189 Admission Applications
- 3,259 TS138 test score reports
- 153,245 total transactions

■ **The SPEEDE Server will handle XML now as long the same format is used by the sender and the receiver.** UT is rewriting on the Quick&Easy software...and then will look closer at the utility to translate between EDI and XML, yet no dates are currently available for this functionality.

■ **The OASIS ebXML Messaging Services TC has submitted version 3.0 of its ebXML Messaging Services specification (Part 1, Core Features) to be considered as an OASIS Standard.** ebXML Messaging defines the transport, routing and packaging of e-business transactions. On 16 Sept, a Call for Vote on ebXML Messaging 3.0 will be issued to all OASIS member organizations. Members who wish to discuss this ballot may do so through member-discuss@lists.oasis-open.org.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 4, 2007

Contact: Michael Sessa
PESC Executive Director
202-261-6516

AAMC, Accenture, Hyland Software, Mapping Your Future, Pennsylvania College of Technology, and University of Idaho Join PESC Membership

Washington DC ~ The Board of Directors of the Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council (PESC) is very pleased to announce that the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), Accenture, Hyland Software, Mapping Your Future, the Pennsylvania College of Technology, and the University of Idaho have joined the PESC Membership.

“As a college that builds its own homegrown applications, Pennsylvania College of Technology deals with data exchanges from many different organizations. Penn College, a special mission affiliate of Penn State, committed to applied technology education, is pleased to join PESC’s efforts in creating national, open standards for higher education. Providing input while the standards are under development gives us an opportunity to impact how well our own systems will be able to integrate the new standards,” states Mike Cunningham, Chief Information Officer at Penn College.

“We are excited to continue to work with PESC to expand electronic standards throughout the postsecondary education community,” states Paul Peck, Senior Executive at Accenture. “Increasing data consistency and standards drives down costs and improves services for government agencies and individual schools. We have witnessed many of these benefits firsthand through our joint work on the XML Common Record and the XML Registry and Repository for the Education Community. We look forward to collaborating with PESC, the federal government, and schools to continue to improve interoperability within the community.” Mr. Peck added.

For more information about AAMC, please visit www.AAMC.org. For more information about Accenture, please visit www.Accenture.com. For more information about Hyland Software, please visit www.HylandSoftware.com. For more information about Mapping Your Future, please visit www.Mapping-Your-Future.org. For more information about the Pennsylvania College of Technology, please visit www.PCT.edu. For more information about the University of Idaho, please visit www.Uldaho.edu.

About AAMC

The mission of the Association of American Medical Colleges is to improve the health of the public by enhancing the effectiveness of academic medicine. The AAMC pursues its mission by assisting academic medicine's institutions, organizations and individuals in carrying out their responsibilities for: Educating the physician and medical scientist workforce; Discovering new medical knowledge; Developing innovative technologies for prevention, diagnosis and treatment of disease; Providing health care services in academic settings.



About Accenture

Accenture is a global management consulting, technology services and outsourcing company. Committed to delivering innovation, Accenture collaborates with its clients to help them become high-performance businesses and governments. With deep industry and business process expertise, broad global resources and a proven track record, Accenture can mobilize the right people, skills, and technologies to help clients improve their performance.

About Hyland Software

Hyland Software, established in 1991, is a software developer dedicated to enabling a broad spectrum of organizations to become operationally more efficient and effective. For more than a decade, we have accomplished this by developing and marketing OnBase®, our award-winning enterprise content management (ECM) software. The OnBase enterprise content management solution consists of more than 80 modules, and is constantly expanding. As a customer-driven organization committed to providing premium service and support, the company is dedicated to developing ECM software that is deployable at both the departmental and enterprise levels. We provide organizations with solutions that help them streamline their work processes and share information among their employees, business partners and customers. We address our customers' needs with products that set the standard for out-of-the-box functionality and people who set the standard for responsiveness, honesty and integrity. Headquartered in Cleveland, Ohio, Hyland markets OnBase throughout North America, Latin America, Europe and Japan.

About Mapping Your Future

Mapping Your Future is a public-service, non-profit web site providing career, college, financial aid, and financial literacy information and services to students, their families, and schools. Mapping Your Future's vision is to be the leading public-service, collaborative provider of free information and services for schools, and for students and families as they consider college, financial aid, careers, and financial literacy options. Our mission is to enable individuals to achieve life-long success by empowering schools, students, and families with free, web-based college, financial aid, career, and financial literacy information and services.

About the Pennsylvania College of Technology

Pennsylvania College of Technology is a special mission affiliate of The Pennsylvania State University, committed to applied technology education. With more than 6,500 students enrolled in bachelor-degree, associate-degree, and certificate majors, Penn College has the second highest enrollment in the Penn State system. Degrees representing more than 100 different career fields are offered by the following academic schools: Business & Computer Technologies, Construction & Design Technologies, Health Sciences, Hospitality, Industrial & Engineering Technologies, Integrated Studies, Natural Resources Management, and Transportation Technology. Technology impacts every career in the modern workplace. Penn College is the state's premier technical college. No other institution in the state offers such a wide range of applied technology offerings. Business and industry connections are key ingredients in Penn College's success as a leader in Pennsylvania higher education and workforce development. The College's main campus is located in Williamsport, PA.

About the University of Idaho

The University of Idaho is a research II, land-grant institution committed to undergraduate and graduate-research education with extension services responsive to Idaho and the region's business and community needs. The university is also responsible for regional medical and veterinary medical education programs in which the state of Idaho participates. The University of Idaho will formulate its academic plan and generate programs with primary emphasis on agriculture, forestry, mining and metallurgy, engineering, architecture, law, foreign languages, teacher preparation and international programs related to the foregoing. The University of Idaho will give continuing emphasis in the areas of business and education and will maintain basic strengths in the liberal arts and sciences, which provide the core curriculum or general education portion of the curriculum.

About PESC

Established in 1997 and located in Washington, D.C., the Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council (PESC) is a non-profit, community-based, umbrella association of colleges and universities; professional and commercial organizations; data, software and service providers; and state and federal government agencies. PESC's mission is to lead the establishment and adoption of data exchange standards in education. The goals of the mission are to enable the improvement of institutional performance and foster collaboration across educational communities in order to lower costs, improve service, and attain system interoperability.

#



Fall 2007 Membership Meeting

October 15, 2007

Noon – 1:30pm

Ritz-Carlton Hotel ~ Montreal, Canada

Registration Form

Please use this form to register for the PESC Membership Meeting.

Attendee Full Name

Title and Organization

Street Address

City, State and Zip

Phone

Fax

E-mail Address

Please complete this form and send it along to:

Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council

1250 Connecticut Avenue NW

Suite 200

Washington DC 20036

Fax: 202-261-6517

Email: Michael.Sessa@PESC.org

PESC's tax ID# is 52-2179499.

** Registration for the Fall 2007 Summit must be made online at www.PESC.org. **



NOMINATION FORM

STANDARDS FORUM FOR EDUCATION

Steering Committee

Elections to be held:
October 15, 2007
noon – 1:30 pm EST
Ritz-Carlton Hotel
Montreal Canada

Nominee Full Name

Title and Organization

Street Address

City, State and Zip

Phone

Fax

E-mail Address

Please complete this form and return it along with a brief bio of the nominee to PESC:

Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council
1250 Connecticut Avenue NW
Suite 200
Washington DC 20036
Fax: 202-261-6517
Email: Michael.Sessa@PESC.org

WWW.PESC.ORG

**** DRAFT ****
8-13-2007

PESC Fall 2007 Summit
October 15 – 16, 2007
Montreal, Canada
Ritz-Carlton Hotel



Tentative Agenda

	Monday October 15, 2007		Tuesday October 16, 2007		
7:30am – 8:30am	Continental Breakfast General Introduction and Overview of PESC (for first-time attendees)		Continental Breakfast		
8:30am – 10:15am <i>(Concurrent Sessions)</i>	Steering Committee	Admission Application Workgroup	Course Inventory Workgroup	EA2	PESC/SIFA Alignment
10:15am – 10:30am	Break		Break		
10:30am – Noon <i>(Concurrent Sessions)</i>	Board of Directors – Membership & Revenue Subcommittee	Admission Application Workgroup	Course Inventory Workgroup	EA2	Student Aid Inquiry
Noon – 1:30pm <i>(Concurrent Sessions)</i>	PESC Membership Lunch and Fall Membership Meeting (for PESC Member and Affiliate Organizations)		Lunch on Your Own		
1:30pm – 3:15pm <i>(Concurrent Sessions)</i>	Board of Directors – Adoption Subcommittee	Admission Application Workgroup	Course Inventory Workgroup	Change Control Board	Student Aid Inquiry
3:15pm – 3:30pm	Break		Break		
3:30pm – 5:00pm <i>(Concurrent Sessions)</i>	Board of Directors (Executive Session)	Technical Advisory Board	General Session – Updates and Closing		
6:00pm – 7:30pm	PESC 10 th Anniversary Reception				

KEY PIECES OF LEGISLATION IN CONGRESS THAT MAY IMPACT STATE LONGITUDINAL DATA SYSTEMS

Bills Introduced

- S. 164**, by Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-MA), ***“States Using Collaboration and Coordination to Enhance Standards for Students Act of 2007”*** or ‘SUCCESS Act’. Authorizes the Secretary of Education to award competitive grants to states to establish pre-kindergarten through grade 16 (PK-16) student preparedness councils made up of public and private stakeholders that: (1) develop and implement measures to ensure that a state’s academic content and student academic achievement standards and assessments meet the national benchmarks; and (2) establish a PK-16 longitudinal data system to track student progress toward such benchmarks. DQC elements are referenced for state data systems. No funding level specified.
- S. 611**, by Sen. Patty Murray (D-WA), ***“Pathways for All Students to Succeed (PASS) Act.”*** Authorizes the Secretary to award competitive grants to state education agencies to develop or increase the capacity of data systems for collecting, disaggregating, and reporting information related to student achievement, enrollment, and graduation rates for assessment and accountability purposes. The bill defines graduation rates consistently nationwide. \$50 million is authorized in the first year.
- S. 1339**, by Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-MA), ***“Teacher Excellence for All Children Act of 2007.”*** [Co-sponsors: Joseph Biden (D-DE, Bernard Sanders (I-VT), Richard Durbin (D-IL), John Kerry (D-MA)]. State grants are authorized at \$200 million to develop and implement statewide data systems able collect and analyze data on the effectiveness of elementary school and secondary school teachers and principals, based on value-added student achievement gains, for the purposes of determining the distribution of effective teachers and principals in schools across the State; developing measures for helping teachers and principals to improve their instruction; and evaluating the effectiveness of teacher and principal preparation programs.
- S. 1775**, by Sen. Richard Burr (R-NC), ***“No Child Left Behind Act of 2007.”*** [Co-sponsor: Sen. Judd Gregg (R-NH)]. A comprehensive bill for reauthorization. Supports continued development of statewide education data systems, but does not specify DQC elements. Requires reporting dropout data.
- H.R. 2204**, by Rep. George Miller (D-CA), the House version of S. 1339, ***“Teacher Excellence for All Children Act of 2007.”*** [56 Co-sponsors]. Same provisions for \$200 million in state grants to develop value-added data systems.
- H.R. 2928**, by Rep. Ruben Hinojosa (D-TX), ***“Graduation Promise Act of 2007.”*** [30 co-sponsors]. Authorizes use of funds to improve state data system capacity to deal with school improvement, accountability, and rates for graduation and dropouts.
- S. 1185**, by Sen. Jeff Bingaman (D-NM), the Senate version of H.R. 2928, the ***“Graduation Promise Act of 2007.”*** [6 co-sponsors]. Authorizes use of funds to improve state data system capacity to deal with school improvement, accountability, and rates for graduation and dropouts.
- S. 2001**, by Sen. Joseph Lieberman (I-CT), a bill ***to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.*** [Co-sponsors: Norm Coleman (R-MN), Mary Landrieu (D-LA)]. This bill seeks to implement many of the recommendations of the Aspen Institute’s NCLB Commission, including a requirement that all states have longitudinal data systems in place within four years. It would authorize \$400 million for the section of the bill including this requirement. The bill requires many of the data elements of the Data Quality Campaign and system requirements for privacy, interoperability, and portability. States with existing longitudinal data systems would be grandfathered in for compliance purposes.

H.R. 3253, by Rep. Rush Holt (D-NJ), the “**Measuring and Evaluating Trends for Reliability, Integrity, and Continued Success (METRICS) Act.**” [Co-sponsors: Carolyn McCarthy (D-NY)]. Comparable in part to S. 2014, the bill would authorize \$150 million in formula grants to states for the development and implementation of statewide longitudinal data systems within four years based on the essential elements of the Data Quality Campaign. The bill includes a set-aside of up to \$2 million for a state education data center to support states in developing these systems, disseminating best practices, and serving as a central repository for education and school safety related data.

S. 2014, by Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-OH), “A bill **to provide for statewide longitudinal data systems to improve elementary and secondary education.**” [Co-sponsors: Hillary Clinton (D-NY), Bernard Sanders (I-VT)]. This legislation, similar to H.R. 3253, Rep. Rush Holt’s METRICS Act, would provide \$100 million in competitive grants for states for the development and implementation of statewide longitudinal data systems that include all ten essential elements recommended by the Data Quality Campaign. It also authorizes \$100 million in formula grants to states for alignment, professional development, and other efforts to improve the use of data. The legislation also authorizes funding to support a state education data center and state educational data coordinators to improve data collection, reporting, and compliance processes.

H.R. 2862, by Rep. Michael Castle (R-DE), the “**Reliable and Accurate Graduation Rate Act.**” [Co-sponsors: Howard “Buck” McKeon (R-CA), Ralph Regula (D-OH)]. Introduced as an amendment to the No Child Left Behind Act, this bill is intended to compliment the National Governors Association “Graduation Counts Compact” by providing a uniform, national definition of graduation rates for statewide data systems.

H.R. 2955, by Rep. Bobby Scott (D-VA), “**Every Student Counts Act.**” [21 co-sponsors]. This Act is intended to improve the calculation of, and accountability for, high school graduation rates as part of the No Child Left Behind reauthorization. It would require states, districts, and schools to use a common, accurate graduation rate calculation. Schools with graduation rates less than 90 percent would have to make aggressive improvements as part of the state accountability system. The rates would apply to the graduation rate of each subgroup.

No Child Left Behind Reauthorization

H.R. _____ DRAFT, by Rep. George Miller (D-CA), **Reauthorization of the No Child Left Behind Act.** The Committee posted a draft on their website for discussion and feedback <http://edlabor.house.gov/>. The draft includes a new section (1123, on page 306) that authorizes statewide longitudinal data systems in all states within 4 years. The amount of funding is not specified. The requirements for receiving grant funds include using a unique student identifier and most of the DQC essential elements. Elements that are not required include student information on college admissions and placement assessments, and linkages to higher education and social services. The draft reserves funds for a State Education Data Center.

S. _____ DRAFT, by Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-MA), **Reauthorization of the No Child Left Behind Act.** Will include provisions that help states build capacity for student-level longitudinal data systems.

Pending Appropriations for FY 2008

H.R. 3043, by Rep. David Obey (D-WI). **Appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education for the fiscal year 2008.** House Report 110-231. *Statewide data systems:* The Committee recommendation includes the Institute of Education Sciences grants at \$37,508,000 for statewide data systems development, \$12,956,000 more than the fiscal year 2007 funding level and \$11,644,000 less than the budget request.

S. 1710, by Sen. Tom Harkin (D-IA). **Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations for FY 2008.** Senate Report 110-107. *Statewide data systems:* The Committee recommendation includes \$58,000,000 for statewide data systems. The comparable funding level for fiscal year 2007 is \$24,552,000 and the budget request includes \$49,152,000 for this purpose.

Bills Enacted Into Law

H.R. 2272, by Rep. Bart Gordon (D-TN), the “***America Competes Act.***” [21 co-sponsors]. Approved by Congress on August 2, 2007, signed into law by the President on August 9, 2007, as Public Law 110-69. The law authorizes \$100 million for state competitive grants to build P-16 data systems.

Connecting Kids to College

Sponsored by the Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council

Simplifying Access ■ Improving Data Quality ■ Reducing Cost

■ The PESC Standard

The Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council (PESC) has brought the education community together and facilitated the creation of a comprehensive, open standard for technology and data exchange that is transforming the education landscape.

The PESC standard, a best practices model enabling the exchange of student services data, streamlines administration and management of data affording more time to focus on the needs of students. With PESC, once student data is entered, administrators can rely on the accuracy and quality of that data without having to enter it again or develop additional interfaces.

Software applications generate the transactions that are needed to integrate the student into the campus system. These transactions are based in the latest technology — eXtensible Mark-Up Language (XML). With a standard method of communicating and a standard for transporting the data, all software applications can be synchronized harmoniously.

■ Improved Institutional Performance

With the PESC standard, gone are the days of inefficient data management and exchange and closed proprietary systems. Now more than ever, data mechanisms that provide significant control over process, customer service, accountability, data integrity, and cost containment can be readily at hand.

Architects and IT directors can make sound technology decisions and rely on a proven return on investment. Administrators in admission offices, registrars, business officers, financial aid officers, can depend on the accuracy and quality of student data. Data and software providers can work efficiently to meet the needs of students and colleges without having to worry about multiple methods and various proprietary formats.



Test Score Report

High School Transcript

College Transcript

Admission Application

Degree Audit

Common Record:
CommonLine (CRC)
for common student loans

Student Aid Inquiry

Online Loan Counseling

Common Authentication
Framework

Data Transport Standard (DTS)

■ Educated Students — Our Goal!

Students, parents, and high school and college officials and administrators are focused on the success of the student and use of the PESC Standard allows just that. By eliminating barriers, bridging data gaps in the student lifecycle, and supporting the education network the PESC community has made student success our #1 priority! With students learning and graduating, we all win.

■ Partnerships and Collaboration

It's about working together and the PESC community does just that. Collaboration is our cornerstone principle. The sharing of ideas and best practices reminds us that while we work in a competitive environment, as stakeholders we must also cooperate and work together for the greater common good. That greater common good is ensuring student progression along the education network that fosters a successful learning experience. With its founding in 1997 by leaders in higher education, the PESC community has taken on that responsibility and is dedicated to achieving its mission.

The Schools Interoperability Framework Association (SIFA) and the U.S. Department of Education also support this mission and PESC has formed strong partnerships with both organizations. Our collective goal is to create an education super highway, a network that consists of one set of standards for all of education, from pre-kindergarten through postsecondary (pK–16), and to then store these standards together in a simple and user-friendly environment. This effort fosters interoperability on a scale never before seen and eliminates all if not most barriers.

Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council
For information on new development efforts,
current meetings and events, and how to join,
call +1.202.293.7383 or visit us online.



The PESC Standard is a logical grouping of data.

Standardized data embedded within applications and transactions, once defined by the PESC Specification, allows seamless and interoperable communications system-wide.

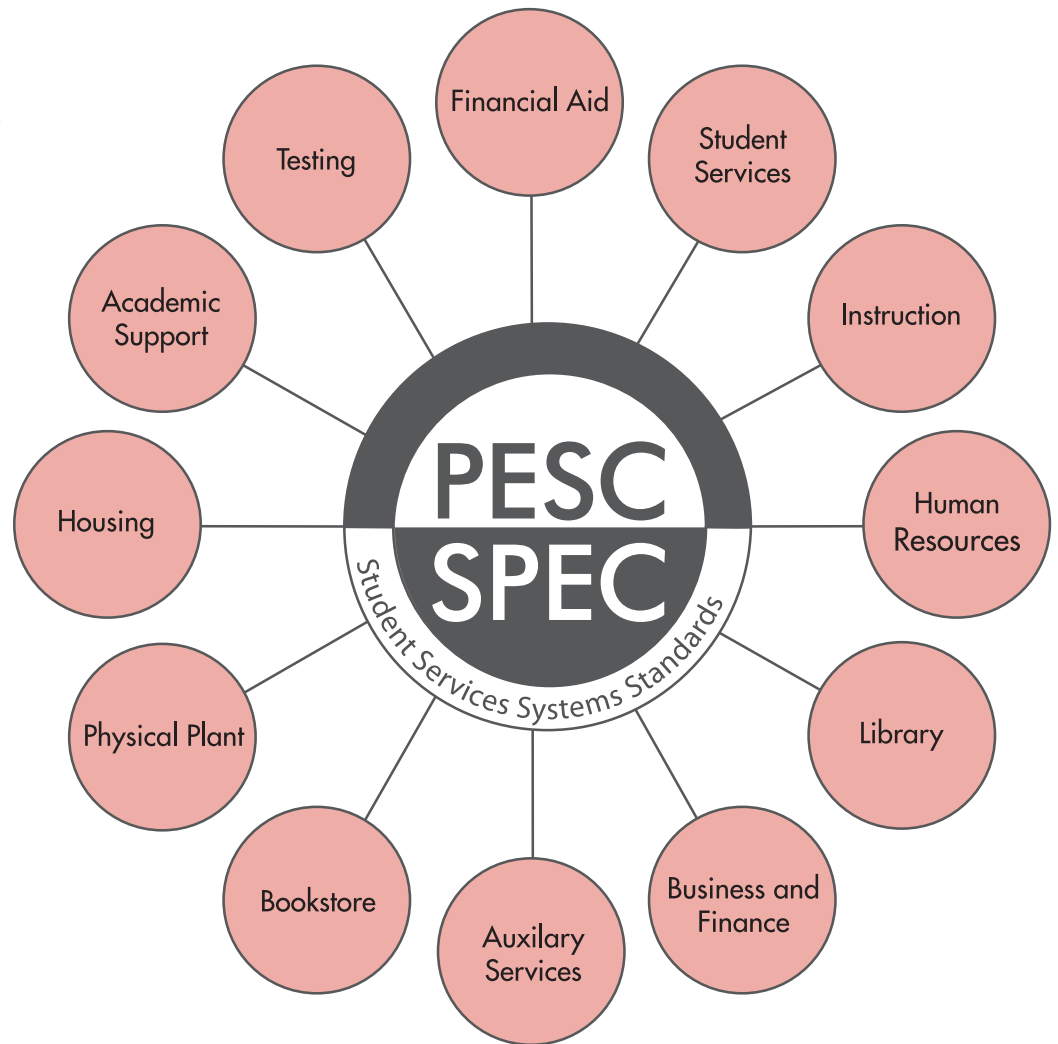
1 Software and Systems
Colleges and universities purchase software or systems from PESC participants or build their own to meet specific administrative requirements.

2 Applications and Transactions
Colleges and universities ensure that applications and transactions are compliant and standardized to the PESC SPEC.

3 Data Transportation and Exchange
Colleges and universities determine how data is to be exchanged between software programs, systems, applications, and transactions.

4 Future Development
Colleges and universities work with software and systems providers through PESC to develop future applications, transactions, and technologies.

5 Join the PESC Community
For up-to-date information on new development efforts, current meetings and events, and how to join PESC, visit www.PESC.org or call 202-293-7383.



“ In California’s Community College System, we’re implementing the XML Postsecondary Transcript. It will save us time and most importantly resources and money. We are looking for one way to process transcripts and this will be it.

— Catherine McKenzie, Project Coordinator for the Chancellor’s Office, California Community College System

■ Working with PESC has helped enable Oracle to begin early adoption of the standards in our software development life cycle. Not only does this assist in reducing Oracle’s development time and effort but more importantly it helps reduce complexity and lower costs for our customers.

— Bill Hollowsky, Senior Director Applications Strategy, Oracle Corporation

■ PESC standards set the guidelines for the higher education industry. By following these guidelines, Datatel ensures its clients the most interoperable solutions that will provide the top-notch services their constituents deserve.

— Pete Nalli, Director of Architecture and Software Development, Datatel

■ Our vision of the Unified Digital Campus relies on system interoperability across the enterprise. PESC standards help us deliver environments in which systems, individuals, and communities interact seamlessly for learning, teaching, administration, and achievement.

— Jack Kramer, Senior Vice President, SunGard Higher Education

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About PESC

Established in 1997 and located in Washington, D.C., the Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council (PESC) is a non-profit 501(c)(3), community-based, umbrella association of colleges and universities; professional and commercial organizations; data, software and service providers; and state and federal government agencies. PESC’s mission is to lead the establishment and adoption of data exchange standards in education. The goals of the mission are to enable the improvement of institutional performance and foster collaboration across educational communities in order to lower costs, improve service, and attain system interoperability.