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UNIVERSITY OF PHOENIX AWARDED 1ST PLACE
IN PESC BEST PRACTICES COMPETITION FOR 2013
e-TAP INNOVATES STUDENT EXPERIENCE WITH STANDARDS AUTOMATION

Washington, D.C.   The Board of Directors of PESC is pleased to announce the University of Phoenix as 1st Place Winners of PESC's 15th Annual Best Practices Competition. The University's *Electronic Transcript Acquisition Process (eTAP)* submission received high praise from the Board for its holistic approach to improving the student experience with innovative technologies and approved standards.

"At University of Phoenix a transcript is considered more to us than just an academic record. It is the key to the door that provides access to future academic achievement and life-changing outcomes," states Marc Booker, Senior Director, Office of Admissions & Evaluation. "Because of this belief we challenge ourselves to continually improve our process year over year. This focus on process improvement, coupled with our drive to innovate and remain agile, has led the University to become one of the pioneers for acquiring transcripts from previously attended institutions on our student's behalf, and implementing a variety of electronic transcript exchange methodologies," Mr. Booker continued.

"The University of Phoenix's goal is to provide quality electronic Transcript Acquisition Services to our students by leveraging the great work of those trailblazing pioneers that continue to work with us, such as the AACRAO SPEEDE Committee, PESC, and the various institutions that were first to implement electronic data exchange," adds Monterey Sims, Director of Office of Admissions and Evaluation. "Our methods promote security and efficiency in the admissions and evaluation process enabling students to begin their academic journey without delays often experienced by more traditional processing methods [paper-based]. Implementation of electronic data exchange standards just makes sense and allows the students to focus on what is most important, their education," Ms. Sims concluded.

The Best Practices Competition is held each year by PESC to promote innovation and ingenuity in the application of standards for business needs. An Awards Ceremony will be held during the General Sessions at PESC's Spring 2014 Data Summit being held April 30 - May 2, 2014 in Chicago at the Public Hotel. The award-winning submission made by the University of Phoenix is posted on the PESC website along with all prior winners at http://www.pesc.org/interior.php?page_id=153. Registration

UNIFYING THE EDUCATION DOMAIN AROUND GLOBAL INTEROPERABILITY TO SUPPORT STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

is still open for PESC's Spring 2014 Data Summit and all information including registration and program are posted online at www.PESC.org.

For more information about PESC and the Annual Best Practices Competition, please visit http://www.PESC.org. For questions or concerns about PESC and/or about PESC events and activities, please contact Jennifer Kim, PESC's Membership Services Director, at 202.261.6514 or jennifer.kim@pesc.org.

ABOUT PESC

Established in 1997 and located in Washington, D.C., PESC is a non-profit, community-based, 501 (c)(3) umbrella association of data, software and service providers; local, state and federal government agencies; colleges and universities; college and university systems; professional, commercial and non-profit organizations; and, national and international non-profit associations and foundations. 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 called *EdUnify* built by and between communities of interest in which data flows seamlessly from one system to another and throughout the entire eco-system when and where needed without compatibility barriers but in a safe, secure, reliable, and efficient manner. To achieve its mission and vision, PESC organizes committees, activities and events to: accelerate performance and service, reduce cost, lead collaborative development, set and maintain common data standards, promote best practices, link public and private sectors, and serve as data experts.

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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