In recent discussions with the leadership of several global organizations (Credential Engine, EMREX, EWP, HR-OPEN STANDARDS, IMS and PESC), a common goal has emerged to collaborate in order to further interoperability. Several organizational meetings are already underway. We expect a series of meetings, events and deliverables and many opportunities for community input and participation.

For PESC, this collaborative CREDENTIAL MAPPING effort falls under PESC’s Academic Credentialing and Experiential Learning Task Force, chaired by Tom Black of Stanford University, and co-chaired by Joellen Shendy of University of Maryland University College and Alex Jackl of Bardic Systems. This Task Force also led the development of the Common Credential for Certificates, Degrees and Diplomas through PESC as an approved standard, now released to the education community for adoption and implementation.

The Task Force is convening during Breakout Sessions on Thursday afternoon May 4, 2017 at the Spring 2017 Data Summit. This new CREDENTIAL MAPPING initiative will be the primary agenda item for the Task Force and discussion will include the probable formation of subcommittees to undertake the data comparison and analysis work of mapping.

Mapping, or crosswalks, are a common method, in which data items are listed by columns for each and then compared across for analysis, to initiate efforts and determine how each aligns. Additional methods will be considered as well as part of the overall analysis.