

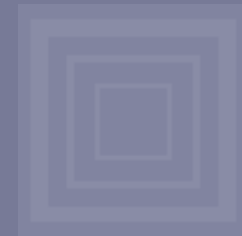
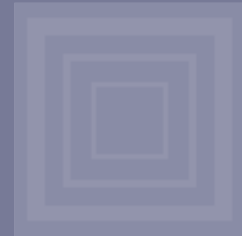
Partnership within the higher education
community committed to improving
service and controlling costs by promoting
standards for electronic data sharing



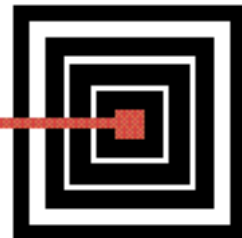
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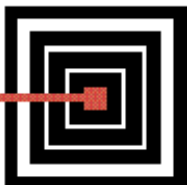
Year in Review 2001–2002



P O S T S E C O N D A R Y
E L E C T R O N I C S T A N D A R D S C O U N C I L



**POSTSECONDARY
ELECTRONIC STANDARDS COUNCIL**



Established in 1997 and located in Washington, D.C., the Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council is a non-profit 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 guide the higher education community in leveraging the value of electronic standards for data exchange with the overall goal of improving service, controlling costs, and attaining interoperability. PESC supports and promotes the use and adoption of existing electronic standards set through official standards-setting bodies, as well as open industry collaborations, and sets new industry standards where there are no national or international bodies to do so.

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From the Chair

In this, the fifth year of the Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council, I find it gratifying to be able to write this letter as part of our first ever, annual report. We started in 1997 with a mission of guiding the higher education community in leveraging electronic standards for data exchange with the overall goal of improving service and controlling costs, a mission that we hold to as strongly today as the day we started.

From the start, the Standards Council has been unique both in composition and purpose—a place where schools, vendors, commercial organizations, associations, and governmental agencies can come together as peers to promote the use of standards across higher education. And just as we are not limited to one type of constituency, we also do not limit ourselves to one vertical within higher education. The Standards Council's truly unique mission is to promote the use of standards across all areas of the campus.

This past year has been very prosperous for the Standards Council. Work by our XML Forum has laid the foundation for one set of XML standards that can be used in both financial aid and admissions and records. I am proud of the work that the dedicated members of this forum have accomplished, and continue to accomplish, in leading the way in establishing XML standards for higher education.



While I relish the work of the past year I also look forward to the year ahead. The XML Forum has plans to continue advancing their work; we will be kicking off a new work group focused on Web Services; and we are looking for strategic partnerships that will help us advance our purpose.

If you've been with us from the start, thank you for taking this journey with us. If you're not familiar with us, review this report and learn more. We are a membership organization, and I invite you to join us in making community-based electronic standards truly ubiquitous.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Keith Riccitelli".

Keith Riccitelli
Chair
PESC Board of Directors

From the Executive Director

Dear Colleagues:

PESC's 2001–2002 year has brought new directions, new energy, and new outputs for the higher education community to build on. Most of our effort went into the formation of the XML Forum, its leadership, processes, and accomplishments. The elected Steering Committee and the volunteers of the various work groups met the challenge of shaping this emerging organization and bringing the requirements of the sub-communities into focus. During this year XML became widely known as a powerful transport format, and when the Department of Education created its Common Record or the INS developed its SEVIS batch reporting schema, PESC members provided knowledgeable review and comment. Two new drafts of the XML Technical Specification for Higher Education were published in September and May, providing community XML developers and implementers a foundation for their technical decisions.



The creation of a postsecondary transcript schema and associated dictionaries capped the year's efforts in sharing information about XML and developing an application using it.

During the year we were involved in many other standards-associated efforts, including ongoing support of ANSI ASC X12 A Education Administration Subcommittee, our third Best Practices competition, presentations and articles, our fourth annual conference on standards in higher education, and the signing of an agreement between PESC and the U.S. Department of Education to support community-based

standards. In addition we've worked with the K–12 community to develop a dictionary and XML schema for the high school transcript.

As we approach our fifth birthday in October, I am reminded that PESC's valued members have been our most important asset. These volunteers, from the work group members to the leadership of the Architecture Team, the Steering Committee, and the Board of Directors, continue to step up to the plate to address the standards needs of our community. I am continuously appreciative of and impressed by their dedication, knowledge, and cooperative spirit.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lysbeth G. Bainbridge".

Lysbeth G. Bainbridge
PESC Executive Director,
1997–2002

Summary of PESC Programs

XML Forum for Education

Formed in August 2000, the XML Forum was created to focus on emerging XML specifications and develop XML standards for education where there are none. Among its tasks is the development and ongoing maintenance of a technical specification for education, establishment of an education data dictionary, development of needed schema,



XML Forum meeting

provision of an XML standards repository for education, monitoring of global standards initiatives, and harmonization of education XML standards with global specifications. In essence, the XML Forum is seen as education's industry standards group for XML. The Forum is open to all PESC members and affiliates and is governed by its elected Steering Committee.

2001–2002 XML Forum Steering Committee

The Steering Committee provides strategic guidance to the XML Forum's Architecture Team. It oversees operations of the Forum and provides budget oversight. The XML Forum for Education held elections at the end of August 2001 to form a Steering Committee of five representatives from the education community.

Currently serving on the Steering Committee are

Ed Hauser, *Chairman*,
SCT Banner Student and
Financial Aid Systems

Steve Hawald, U. S. Department
of Education's Office of Student
Financial Aid

Robert King, Citibank Student
Loan Corporation

Paul Ness, Sallie Mae

Candy Pfeiffer, NASLA

XML Forum Steering Committee Liaisons

Bruce Marton, *Architecture
Team Chair*, University of Texas
at Austin

Michael Sessa, *PESC Board
Liaison*, NASLA

Work Group Chairs

Steve Margenau, *Technology*,
NASLA



PESC's executive director

Adele Marsh, *Core Components -
Financial Aid*, AES

Jeanenne Rothenberger, *Core
Components - Admissions/Registrar*,
Purdue University

NCES Task Order

The U. S. Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) awarded PESC a Task Order for 2002 to (1) facilitate the electronic transmission of student transcripts; (2) develop comprehensive XML schemas for K–12 data; (3) establish a process of communication with the Schools Interoperability Framework project; and (4) participate in X12 A. With a half-time technical consultant, PESC staff have supported this effort and anticipate the completion of a schema for the high school transcript by the end of 2002. Software vendors and users have been included in the review processes, so the likelihood of this work being put to use is promising.



NCHELP's Tim Cameron, 2001 Best Practices Winner, is introduced by Chair Keith Riccitelli

Best Practices Competition

PESC holds an annual competition for best practices in the area of electronic standardization initiatives. First instituted in 1999, the competition is open to associations, organizations, institutions and individuals that have made a concerted effort to design and implement an electronic standardization initiative or foster the use of standards via a published article or other medium.

Past winners of the competition include:

- Ontario Universities' Applications Centre
- University of Northern Iowa; and
- NCHELP's Electronic Standards Committee

PESC Work Groups

Most of PESC's activities take place within ad hoc work groups. Their role is to study an issue, write a white paper, or create a publication. Past work groups focused on, among other topics, public key infrastructure, single student identifier, Hope Scholarship data transfer, and EDI transaction sets for prospect information and enrollment reporting. Plans for the 2002-2003 membership year include work groups on web services and a single institutional identifier.



PESC's holiday luncheon for volunteers, staff, and consultants



Neil Sattler, U.S. Department of Education, addresses PESC's May 2002 conference

Outreach

PESC's mission includes providing education about the role of standards in data exchange. In addition to an informative website and monthly newsletter, PESC provides speakers at conferences and articles in education publications. Our annual conference in May, attracting a national audience, provides a wide view of standardization efforts in the education community. During the 2002-2003 year PESC will be instituting web conferences on various topics of interest to its

members. Two membership meetings a year provide updates on PESC initiatives and products.

Products and Publications

PESC works with its members to provide support for electronic exchange. Among its support activities are the distribution of the institutional code crosswalk table, production of white papers on topical subjects, maintenance of archives for education code sets, and publication of EDI implementation guides.

Publications available in 2001 include:

- ***XML Technical Specification for Higher Education***, researched and developed by the XML Forum's Technology Work Group, published in September 2001 and May 2002.
- ***Namespaces and Schema Organization: Introduction and Issues***, by Michael Rawlins for the XML Forum for Education, March 2, 2001. This paper provides a brief introduction to namespaces and schema organization and highlights many issues associated with the choices the XML Forum must consider.
- ***IFX and ebXML: Comparison and Compatibility***, by Michael Rawlins for the XML Forum for Education, March 14, 2001. This paper provides a brief overview of the differences between IFX



Bob King of Citibank, XML Forum member

Forum standards and ebXML technical specifications and standards based on them.

- ***EDI Implementation Guides***
 - Transcript Suite (130, 131, 146, 147)
 - Application for Admission (189)
 - Prospective Student Information (138)

2001 – 2002 Highlights

- ***PESC & XML Forum meeting*** in Tampa, Florida, October 2001
- ***XML Forum meeting*** in Coral Gables, Florida, February 2002

- ***PESC-FSA Agreement***, The U.S. Department of Education's Office of Federal Student Aid (FSA) and PESC formally agreed to the support of standards in education exchanges. On February 25th, FSA CIO Steve Hawald and PESC Executive Director Betsy Bainbridge signed the agreement committing to use of standards set by national and international standards-setting bodies and industry groups and by PESC when there are no existing standards. This agreement formalizes FSA participation in PESC and PESC's mission in support of standards.

- ***Annual Conference on Electronic Standards in Higher Education*** in Arlington, Virginia, May 2002



Betsy Bainbridge and Steve Hawald sign the PESC-FSA Agreement

2001–2002 Membership Report



The Board of Directors of the Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council believes that membership services and support are the backbone of PESC's success. Each year PESC continues to grow and expand in both its membership and its role in the standards arena. Our current membership consists of postsecondary institutions, associations, federal agencies, software and service providers, lenders, guarantors, and servicers. With this broad base, PESC is well-positioned to address the needs of campus administrators in records, admissions, and financial aid and their external data trading partners. While our membership campaign takes place each spring to correspond with membership

renewal (effective July 1), we are constantly evaluating new benefits and ideas for improving members services.

Currently, our membership plan has two levels: Affiliate and Member. For Affiliates, we offer active participation in the PESC XML Forum for Education, representation in standards-setting bodies (ANSI ASC X12, for example), an invitation to our annual national conference with a discounted fee for one attendee, and invitations to membership-only information meetings. In addition to the benefits provided for Affiliates, Members have the right to vote on issues as proposed by the membership, are qualified to serve on XML Forum for Education Steering Committee, are eligible to vote in elections of the Steering Committee of the XML Forum for Education, are qualified to serve on the Board of Directors, are eligible to vote in elections of the Board of Directors, and receive one free registration for the annual national conference (in addition to one discounted fee listed above).

Association members can also take advantage of our "Umbrella" policy which allows an association to pass on PESC benefits to its own membership. In an effort to "spread the good word" about electronic standards, we also offer a referral discount for existing

Affiliates and Members to bring in new organizations into the PESC membership. Affiliates and Members may pay the membership costs for another organization as a way to sponsor those organizations, especially colleges and universities, that have a strong interest in joining PESC but have restrictions on funding.

All membership information—including the membership form, fee structure, and full listing of benefits—are posted on the PESC website at **www.StandardsCouncil.org** to be downloaded at your convenience. And, of course, monthly updates on issues and meetings are communicated through our informative newsletter, *The Standard*.

On behalf of the Board, I thank the entire PESC membership for its support as we look forward to another successful year!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Sessa".

Michael Sessa
Membership Chair
PESC Board of Directors

2001–2002 Members

Members

AACRAO
 American Education Services
 COHEAO
 College Board
 Citibank—The Student Loan Corporation
 Datatel
 Educational Testing Service
 George Washington University
 Miami-Dade Community College
 Miami University
 Mississippi State University
 National Student Clearinghouse
 NASFAA
 NASLA
 NCS Pearson
 Oracle
 PeopleSoft
 Purdue University
 Sallie Mae
 SAP
 SCT Corporation
 SLSA
 University of Illinois-Chicago
 University of Iowa
 University of Northern Iowa
 University of Phoenix-Apollo Group
 University of Texas-Austin
 University of Wisconsin-Madison
 USA Funds
 U. S. Department of Education
 U. S. Immigration and Naturalization Service
 Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Affiliates

American Council on Education
 ACT
 Educaid
 EDUCAUSE
 Education Finance Council
 ELM Resources
 Iowa Student Loan Liquidity Corporation

Lumina Foundation for Education
 NCHELP
 NSLP

Friends
 NACAC

2001–2002 Board of Directors

Elected to serve staggered terms, Board members oversee the business operations and provide guidance for the work of the Standards Council.



Keith Riccitelli,
*Sallie Mae,
Chair*



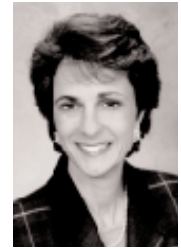
Jerry Bracken,
*AACRAO,
Secretary/
Treasurer*



Michael Sessa,
*NASLA,
Membership
Chair*



Lysbeth Bainbridge,
*Standards
Council*



Melanie Barton,
*NCS
Pearson*



Judith Flink,
*University of
Illinois at
Chicago*



Hal Higginbotham,
College Board



Jackie Kessler,
SCT Corp.



Dallas Martin,
NASFAA

Comparative Balance Sheet

As of June 30, 2002

	June 30, 2001	June 30, 2002
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Total Checking/Savings	144,176.06	235,654.13
Total Accounts Receivable	2,685.00	116,700.00
Total Other Current Assets	0.00	194.98
Total Current Assets	146,861.05	352,549.11
Fixed Assets		
Furniture & Equipment	9,677.69	9,377.69
Accumulated Depreciation	(7,516.70)	(8,527.06)
Total Fixed Assets	2,160.99	850.63
TOTAL ASSETS	149,022.04	353,399.74
LIABILITIES		
Liabilities		
Total Accounts Payable	2,386.68	3,610.00
Total Credit Cards	0.00	3,573.69
Other Current Liabilities		
Accrued Vacation	14,686.92	15,905.34
Accrued Expenses	1,837.61	0.00
Deferred Membership Revenue	11,000.00	126,000.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	27,524.53	141,905.34
Total Liabilities	29,911.21	149,089.03
Net Assets	119,110.83	204,310.71
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	149,022.04	353,399.74

Functional Income and Expense Statement

July 2001 through June 2002

	MEETINGS	OUTREACH	PROJECTS	PUBLICATIONS	ADMINISTRATION	TOTAL
INCOME						
Federal Government Contract	0.00	0.00	63,000.00	0.00	0.00	63,000.00
Meeting Income	25,244.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	25,244.66
Membership Fees	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	219,373.00	219,373.00
Publication Sales	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,899.60	0.00	1,899.60
Other Income	0.00	20.00	0.00	0.00	5,431.04	5,451.04
TOTAL INCOME	25,244.66	20.00	63,000.00	1,899.60	224,804.04	314,968.30
EXPENSE						
Salaries, Benefits, & Taxes	62,945.14	14,961.48	7,469.25	239.46	41,734.44	127,349.77
Professional Services	10,710.00	4,600.89	1,914.00	0.00	1,906.62	1,9131.51
Occupancy Costs	11,531.03	2,365.40	1,093.06	49.68	6,562.65	21,601.82
Office Costs	9,762.58	957.63	136.14	8.05	6,529.65	17,394.05
Meetings & Conferences	18,559.37	691.96	0.00	0.00	69.96	19,321.29
Travel	11,025.45	3,360.93	1,914.02	0.00	0.00	16,300.40
Advertising & Promotion	292.72	3,953.08	0.00	0.00	516.00	4,761.80
Publication Costs	0.00	0.00	0.00	512.78	0.00	512.78
Miscellaneous	0.00	275.00	0.00	0.00	3,120.00	3,395.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	124,826.29	31,166.37	12,526.47	809.97	60,439.32	229,768.42
INCREASE IN NET ASSETS	(99,581.63)	(31,146.37)	50,493.53	1,089.63	164,364.72	85,199.88