



NORTH AMERICA'S STANDARD FOR EDUCATION DATA
MULTIPLE STAKEHOLDERS | ONE VISION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 25, 2015

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PESC APPOINTED *SIGNATORY* TO WORLDWIDE GRONINGEN DECLARATION NETWORK

GLOBAL FORUM LOOKS TO ENHANCE MOBILITY AND DIGITILIZATION OF STUDENT EDUCATION DATA AND CREDENTIALS

Washington, D.C. The Board of Directors of PESC is pleased to announce that PESC has been appointed by the Groningen Declaration Network as *Signatory*. The global initiative launched in Groningen, The Netherlands in 2012 seeks common ground in best serving the academic and professional mobility needs of citizens worldwide by bringing together key stakeholders in the Digital Student Data Ecosystem. The cornerstone principle is that citizens worldwide should be able to consult and share their authentic educational data with whomever they want, whenever they want, wherever.

With each annual meeting held after the inaugural 2012 meeting in Groningen (Beijing in 2013, Georgetown University in 2014 and University of Málaga in 2015), a new class of Signatories is invited to join the global network. PESC was honored to be invited to attend and sign-on as Signatory for the May 4-6, 2015 Annual Meeting at the University of Málaga. PESC President & CEO Michael D. Sessa, who moderated several sessions and presented to the international audience of global leaders on trust, collaboration and interoperability, was in attendance to sign the Groningen Declaration on behalf of the PESC Membership and Board of Directors.

"Recognized, credible standards are an essential component of the secure networks and repositories making up the Groningen Declaration Network initiatives," Michael Reilly, AACRAO Executive Director, expresses. "PESC provides us with these standards to ensure the efficient exchange of educational records around the world."

"The addition of PESC to the Groningen Declaration Network as a signatory is a clear recognition by the Executive Committee of PESC's efforts and the importance of working with international standards organizations in this global effort," states Rick Torres, President & CEO of the National Student Clearinghouse. "As a founding member and Executive Committee member of the Groningen Declaration Network, the Clearinghouse has been working with Ministries of Education and other government representatives globally to raise the importance of the establishment of an international framework for education credentials to be exchanged in a trusted and secure fashion. We are looking forward to PESC's helping to inform all the work of the Groningen Declaration Network!"

"PESC's active engagement in the Groningen process helps ensure alignment between the work being done in North America and similar efforts around the world," explained Matthew Pittinsky, Parchment CEO. "It's exciting to participate in the early formation of a global ecosystem of governments, educational institutions and service providers committed to enabling the secure exchange of electronic student records."

Janie Barnett of AACRAO welcoming 84 invitation-only attendees at the University of Málaga May 4, 2015.



Rick Torres of the National Student Clearinghouse provides an update on a data exchange pilot with China.



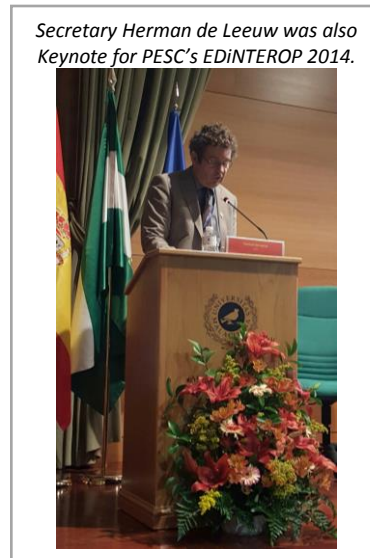
Michael Sessa of PESC introduces CommIT, with Ann West of Internet2 and Tom Black of Stanford University.



“Everyone is very pleased with the instant resonance the Groningen Declaration Network generated on the part of PESC,” states Herman de Leeuw, Secretary, Groningen Declaration Network and DUO - Education Executive Agency, Netherlands Ministry of Education, Science and Culture. “It is this conjunction of expertise in standards, data traffic, authentication and recognition, coupled with international academic and professional mobility that will breathe life into the Global Digital Student Data Ecosystem.”

The sixteen organizations for the class of 2015 include:

- **Australia** – Universities Australia
- **Canada** – ARUCC (Association of Registrars of the Universities and Colleges of Canada)
- **India** – CDSL (Central Depository Services Limited) and C-NAD (National Academic Depository)
- **Latvia** – Academic Information Centre
- **Netherlands** – EP-Nuffic
- **Netherlands** – Groningen University
- **Russian Federation** – Glavexpertcentr – National Information Center
- **Spain** – Universidad de Málaga
- **United States of America**
 - CollegeNET
 - IMS Global
 - IERF (International Education Research Foundation)
 - Parchment
 - PESC
 - Stanford University
 - TAICEP (The Association for Credential Evaluation Professionals)
 - University of Texas at Austin



Former classes include PESC Members: AACRAO, ECE and National Student Clearinghouse. The complete list of Signatories along with all relevant information about the Groningen Declaration Network is available at www.GroningenDeclarationNetwork.org. The 2016 Annual Meeting of the Groningen Declaration Network is scheduled for May 17-19, 2016 in Cape Town, South Africa. Victoriano Giralto, Systems and Telematic Services Administrator and Groningen Chair, will serve as featured speaker at PESC's Fall 2015 Data Summit EDiINTEROP 2.0.

For more information about PESC, please visit www.PESC.org. For questions or concerns about events & activities, please contact Jennifer Kim, PESC's Membership Services Director, at 202.261.6516 or jennifer.kim@pesc.org.

ABOUT PESC

Established in 1997 and located in Washington, D.C., PESC is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit, community-based, umbrella association of data, software and service providers; local, state and federal government agencies; schools, colleges and universities; college, university and state 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 we call EdUnify built by and between communities of interest (systems, states, districts, etc.) 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.