June 3, 2010

Michael D. Sessa
Executive Director
Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council (PESC)
1250 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Suite 200
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Mr. Sessa:

It is with great pleasure that I write you in support of the *EdUnify* project proposed by Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council (PESC) to develop the proof of concept for an innovative directory service model that will connect our global community of students, advisors, faculty, researchers, and administrators with essential information – no matter where it resides – to enable better decision making toward academic success.

The Indiana Commission for Higher Education – and more broadly, the State of Indiana, through funding from the General Assembly and participation of its colleges, universities, and high schools – has invested immeasurable time, energy, and resources to using technology to advance our P-20 system of education and to provide more educational opportunities to students. Our statewide e-transcript and transfer of credit systems are good examples in this regard. Furthermore, the Commission has worked with other states – either formally, through the Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC), or informally by networking with states using similar technologies and vendors – to advance the use of e-transcripts and transfer of credit technology systems and to work on common problems, especially those dealing with interoperability, such as obstacles that prevent technology systems from interacting and exchanging information with one another.

The Commission has found PESC to be an incredibly valuable asset in helping our state advance its technology- and data-related goals, and has been quick to respond to PESC initiatives. In fact, I believe Indiana was the first state to embrace the PESC electronic schema for high school transcripts. We believe that the *EdUnify* project proposed by PESC has the potential of dramatically improving the ability of software systems to talk with one another, thus allowing truly statewide, regional, and even national, information exchange technologies to develop.

For these reasons, the Indiana Commission for Higher Education enthusiastically supports the PESC *EdUnify* project and stands ready to help in any way we can to assist this effort.

Sincerely,

Ken Sauer, Ph.D.
Senior Associate Commissioner for Research and Academic Affairs