Collaboration for the Greater Common Good of Student Achievement

Powered by the strength and passion of volunteers from its membership base, PESC maintains a transparent, trusting, open and neutral environment. With this unique community perspective, together we are breaking down all costly, proprietary barriers, and we have mapped out a common, strategic path for the future.

This path includes continued development of common data standards, establishment and support of data networks and infrastructure, common authentication and web services protocols enterprise-wide, seamless connections bridging postsecondary education systems to secondary and labor and workforce systems, and an eye on emerging technologies like social networking.

Together we are not only helping students across the country and all over the world, but with transparent collaboration as our cornerstone principle, we are supplying state administrators and government officials, researchers, CIOs, admissions officers, registrars, financial aid officers and architects the tools they need to do their jobs better.

The political will and demand for improvement have never been greater and continue to increase with time as budgets tighten and common solutions like standardization are being viewed as wise, cost-saving investments.

With membership and active participation from all leading stakeholders in education technology, PESC serves as the umbrella organization to coordinate and advocate for student-centric data standardization and interoperability across the P20W education lifecycle.

We boldly accept that mission and work diligently to continue our proven record of success and achievement. We now elevate the mission to the next level.
PESC envisions national and international 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.

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 higher education lifecycle.

**Vision Statement**

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**Mission Statement**

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**Goals of the Vision & Mission**

- **Accelerate Performance and Service**
  - PESC develops and identifies tools for operational efficiencies and performance improvement in student data exchange from postsecondary preparedness and initial access of the student from high school into the college environment through successful completion of the education experience and into the workforce.

- **Reduce Cost**
  - PESC promotes cost effectiveness of data alignment across disparate systems and across sectors that help mitigate costs for state and local governments and institutions struggling to keep up with the demands of technology and real-time data exchange while maintaining competitive tuition rates.

- **Lead Collaborative Development**
  - PESC leads the establishment and facilitates the adoption and implementation of data exchange standards through direct community participation. Workgroups are continuously formed and follow specific policies and procedures, governed by the Steering Committee of the Standards Forum.

- **Set and Maintain Common Data Standards**
  - PESC serves as a standards-setting and maintenance body with open, balanced policies & procedures. The Change Control Board (CCB) is the standing committee that reviews and approves standards.

- **Promote Best Practices**
  - PESC highlights and supports successful business models for data standardization, access, and exchange. A competition is held each year and awards are provided each spring.

- **Link Public and Private Sectors**
  - PESC maintains collaborative relationships with public, private, governmental, and international stakeholders in a balanced, neutral, and trusting environment.

- **Serve as Data Experts**
  - PESC continuously improves its expertise and core competency in XML architecture and data modeling. The Technical Advisory Board (TAB) is the standing committee that provides technical expertise.

**Examples of Community Collaboration**

Many other industries collaborate on their respective common data standards through community-based, standards bodies.

- **INTER-STATE TOLL BOOTHS**
  - E-ZPass Interagency Group, a community-based association of states and agencies.

- **MORTGAGES**

- **ATM MACHINES**
  - Interbank networks such as PLUS, Cirrus, STAR, and LINK use international banking standards.

- **CREDIT CARDS**
  - Networks like MasterCard and VISA work with the PCI Data Security Standards Council, a not-for-profit community-based membership association.

"Systems must be designed to meet the standards and guidelines of NCES...including the schemas of PESC."

– Grant RFA for Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems
American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009

"In California's Community College System, we're implementing the PESC XML Postsecondary Transcript. It will save us time and most importantly resources and money. We are looking for one way to process transcripts and this will be it."

– Catherine McKenzie, Project Coordinator for the Chancellor's Office
California Community College System

"Embrace common standards and data systems so we can know where we stand and how to move forward."

– Bill Gates
Chair, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

For current meetings, events, new development efforts & how to join, visit www.PESC.org or call +1.202.261.6516.

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