FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PESC Debut EdUnifySM Registry at EDUCAUSE 2010

EdUnify SOA Governance Framework Gains Broad Support from Institutions, States, Corporations, and Government

EDUCAUSE 2010, Los Angeles, CA, October 15, 2010 - The Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council (PESC) today publicly launched its EdUnify SOA Governance Framework with thirty-nine initial Web services at the EDUCAUSE 2010 Conference in Anaheim, California. The Web services were developed and listed on the EdUnify registry by numerous supporters including leading academic institutions, enterprise software companies, and education-focused service providers. The EdUnify initiative is designed to reduce costs of integration and improve efficiency within education by providing a service-oriented architecture framework.

PESC officially announces the availability of EdUnify during a featured presentation today Friday, October 15, 2010 titled, “Discovering and Using Web Services for Higher Education with PESC EdUnify” and provided by Emory University’s Stephen Wheat, Chief IT Architect, and Tod Jackson, Technical Lead.

“Mobility and changing learning patterns together obsolete long-standing paradigms of how data systems are built and used and drive their reengineering,” states Michael Sessa, President and CEO of PESC. “In this new reality whereby we are all learning to live within our limited budgets, open, community-based solutions like EdUnify draw critical attention as they create a platform for sharing of innovative ideas and services.”

“In our work with postsecondary institutions, government agencies, associations and industry, Decision Academic clearly recognizes the vital importance in developing new information technologies [like EdUnify] to support student mobility and the currency of learning. We need to dedicate resources to improve how credentials and recognition seamlessly follow learners as they move and aspire to complete degrees.” Stated Leslie Kaufman, Executive Vice President of Decision Academic.
“We believe that the EdUnify project...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.” Added Dr. Ken Sauer, Senior Associate Commissioner for Research and Academic Affairs for the Indiana Commission for Higher Education.

Partial List of Initial Web Services in EdUnify Registry

- Academic Web History
- Address Lookup
- College Transfer
- Course Atlas
- Course Management Sync
- Fedspending.org Database
- Financial Aid Family Contribution
- Microsoft Research Map
- Mobile Development Deployment
- Navigation Suite
- Person Management
- Web Index Search

PESC EdUnify Overview

EdUnify is a shared, neutral, community-based Web services registry and suite of semantic web tools designed to reduce costs of integration and improve efficiency. Providers can register their services; providers and users can search, rate and monitor services; and use EdUnify as a governance framework for service-oriented architecture. This initial lookup service enables institutions, states and others the ability to advertise their electronic services so others can find those services and automate their connections and their data trading needs. To view the beta version of EdUnify and sign up for an account, please visit https://www.EdUnify.PESC.org.

EdUnify Leadership and Members

Leadership of EdUnify includes project director David Moldoff of the PESC Board of Directors and CEO and Founder of AcademyOne; and co-chairs Jim Wager, Vice President & CIO of SCRIP-SAFE International, and Stephen Wheat, Chief IT Architect at Emory University and active member of OpenEAI. Over 75 people from 40 leading educational institutions, organizations, states and corporations serve on the PESC EdUnify Task Force. To enroll in the EdUnify Task Force, contact Michael Sessa, PESC President and CEO, at: michael.sessa@pesc.org.

About PESC

Established in 1997 at the National Center for Higher Education and located in Washington, D.C., the Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council (PESC) is a 501(c)(3)non-profit, community-based, umbrella association of colleges and universities; college and university systems; professional and commercial organizations; data, software and service providers; non-profit organizations and associations; and state and federal government agencies.
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. PESC envisions national and international interoperability, that is a trustworthy, inter-connected environment 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. For more information about PESC, visit: www.pesc.org.

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