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PESC Joins Multi-Industry Electronic Authentication Partnership

September 27, 2005 (Washington DC) ~ The Board of Directors of the Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council (PESC) is very pleased to announce that PESC has joined, as a full voting Member, the Electronic Authentication Partnership (EAP). The EAP is the multi-industry partnership working on the vital task of enabling interoperability among public and private electronic authentication systems. Interoperability of e-authentication systems is essential to the cost-effective operation of safe and secure systems that perform critical electronic transactions and tasks across industry lines.

In December 2002, Johns Hopkins University convened a symposium of experts from both the public and private sectors to examine the best approach for governing identity management. The symposium issued a paper calling for creation of a “Stakeholder Council” to develop operating rules on identity management. The Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) provided further elaboration on the need for electronic authentication on an international scale. The efforts to organize continued and in December 2003, the first community meeting was held to begin the organization and formalization of this effort.

Now in 2005, the EAP is formally established as a 501(c)(3) non-profit membership-based association with Members that include PESC; the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA); BITS Financial Services Roundtable; the U.S. General Services Administration; Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS); Microsoft Corporation; Mortgage Bankers Association (MBA); the National Automated Clearinghouse Association (NACHA); the National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers, and Treasurers (NASACT); and Wells Fargo, among many others.

The next meeting of the EAP is November 2, 2005 at the Microsoft Innovation and Technology Conference Center in Reston VA. At this meeting, elections for the Board of Directors and officers will take place during the EAP’s 1st Annual Membership Meeting.

For more information about the EAP, please visit www.EAPartnership.com. For more information on PESC, please visit www.PESC.org.

About PESC
Established in 1997 and located in Washington, D.C., the Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council (PESC) is a non-profit, community-based, umbrella 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 lead the establishment and adoption of data exchange standards in education. The goals of the mission are to enable the improvement of institutional performance and foster collaboration across educational communities in order to lower costs, improve service, and attain system interoperability.