FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PESC Members Elect Steering Committee for Standards Forum for Education
University of Mississippi’s Eddie Upton Appointed Chair
Iowa State University’s Clare Smith-Larson Appointed Vice Chair

Washington DC – At the Annual Fall Membership Meeting held October 6, 2008 in Washington DC, members of the Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council (PESC) elected Kristi Blabaum of Great Lakes Higher Education Corporation, Susan McCrackin of the College Board, and Harrison Smith of Datatel to its Steering Committee of the Standards Forum for Education. Terms are for two years and begin January 1, 2009. The full Steering Committee listing is as follows:

- **Kristi Blabaum**, Senior Business Analyst, Great Lakes Higher Education Corporation, Representing the National Association of Student Loan Administrators (NASLA) – 2010
- **Susan McCrackin**, Director of Program Development and Implementation, College Board – 2010
- **Harrison Smith**, Director of Software Architecture, Datatel – 2010
- **Clare Smith-Larson**, Systems Support Specialist, Iowa State University – 2009
- **Eddie Upton**, Systems Analyst Manager, University of Mississippi - 2009

Under the guidance of the PESC Board of Directors, the Steering Committee provides overall direction for the Standards Forum for Education and manages all development and maintenance workgroups and boards. Founded on August 4, 2000, the Standards Forum for Education sets and maintains standards for use in data exchanges between colleges and universities and their various trading partners. To date, the Standards Forum for Education has produced 6 PESC approved, community standards (High School XML Transcript, College XML Transcript, Common Origination and Disbursement (COD) [for government issued federal loans and grants], Common Record: CommonLine – CRC [for federal and private bank-based, student loans], the Data Transport Standard, and Online Loan Counseling), an extensive Policies and Procedures Manual which includes PESC Guidelines for XML Architecture and Data
Modeling, Documentation Standards, and in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Education the XML Registry and Repository for the Education Community.

Subsequently, at its last monthly meeting of 2008, Steering Committee members elected Eddie Upton from the University of Mississippi as Chair for a second term and Clare Smith-Larson of Iowa State University as Vice Chair.

For more information on PESC and the Standards Forum for Education, 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; non-profit organizations and associations; 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.