FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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National XML Test Score Reporting Workgroup Launches  
Data Transport Specification Set for PESC Member Vote

April 26, 2006 (Washington DC) ~ The Board of Directors and Steering Committee of the Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council (PESC) are very pleased to announce the launch of the National XML Test Score Reporting Workgroup. The request to form this workgroup under PESC originated from ACT, Inc. through a Letter of Intent submitted on December 6, 2005. This workgroup intends to work collaboratively with all interested parties in the education community to develop and submit for PESC approval, a National Test Score Reporting standard that can be used by any testing agency to fully communicate test score information to high schools, colleges and universities, affiliated third parties (clearinghouses, employers, research facilities, etc.), and local, state and federal agencies. The Workgroup will be co-chaired by: R. Bruce Nielsen, Senior Technical Associate of Enterprise Standards in Information Technology at ACT; and Monica Montoya, Director of Business Development at the College Board.

"The creation of a national standard to officially communicate test score information has been contemplated by various organizations, but has yet to become an official project," states Arthur C. Peters, Vice President of Information Technology at ACT, Inc. "I am most pleased on behalf of ACT, Inc to submit this request, and look forward to preparing a national standard that will greatly enhance the process of communicating test score report information," Mr. Peters continues.

The official launch of this workgroup takes place through a conference call hosted by PESC on Wednesday June 14, 2006 at 12noon EDST. All parties interested in this development effort are welcome to join this call (dial 800-508-7631, then *9976409*). The agenda for the call will include history and background of this development effort, an overview of the business case, and next steps (meeting dates, times, and locations). The moderator of the call will be Purdue University’s Jeanenne Rothenberger, a longtime champion of standards and assigned mentor from the Standards Forum for Education’s Submission Advisory Board to the National Test Score Reporting Workgroup.

In other news regarding the Data Transport Specification, all public comments received during the 30-day public comment period and their respective responses are now posted on the PESC.
website at [http://www.PESC.org/Workgroups/DataTransport/](http://www.PESC.org/Workgroups/DataTransport/). As all requirements related to the public comment have been satisfied, the Data Transport Specification will be presented to the PESC Members for a *Vote of Approval* on May 1, 2006 during the 8th Annual Membership Meeting. Note that per PESC’s Policies and Procedures, the PESC Board of Directors is provided with a 7-calendar-day grace period to review the proposed candidate before it is present for a *Vote of Approval*. The voting period for PESC Members will then be 10 business days and expires on May 12, 2006.

**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.

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