On today’s call were

Barbara Clements (ESP Solutions Group), Co-Chair
Scott Hillman (Docufide, Inc.)
Anne Johnston (Edustructures/Pearson)
Michael Morris (ACT, Inc.)
Tom Stewart (AACRAO SPEEDE Committee & Miami Dade College in FL - Retired)

Barbara started the call at about 6 minutes after the hour.

1. **XML High School Transcript and Academic Summaries:** We discussed the need to identify several specific summaries that are child to the Academic Session.

   The initial agenda item was to add one enumerated value “NonCumulative” to the simple data element “AcademicSummaryType”. Since Version 1.0.0 was released, we had added a new value “Cumulative”. The use of “Cumulative” was intended to be used when a set of totals are included with the session, that include all credits and grade points up to and including that session. Then we felt that some enumerated value needed to be added to clearly indicate a set of totals for that session only.

   The group felt that “NonCumulative” was not clear enough. So, we are recommending that we add, instead, a new value called “CurrentSessionOnly”.

   After a fair amount of discussion, it was also agreed that two of the enumerated values ("Weighted" and "NonWeighted") should be removed from the list of enumerated values of “AcademicSummaryType”. These will be deprecated and removed from the list of values at the time of the next major change to the schema.

   We also agreed to add a new optional simple data element “WeightedGPACode” as child to “AcademicSummary” of “AcademicSummaryFType”. It would be located immediately above “AcademicSummaryLevel”. It would have four enumerated values:

   "AcademicOnlyNonWeighted"
   "AcademicOnlyWeighted"
   "NonWeighted"
   "Weighted"

   We agreed to approve the above tentatively, but to confirm it on the next call, since the one taking notes might not have captured all the discussion perfectly.
2. **Tests and Subtests:** Barbara had previously distributed two documents that provide a list of tests used by the various states as well as common tests used to measure a student’s command of a native language. We also discussed them at the meeting in DC last week.

Several issues were raised:

a. Should the state mandated tests include the two digit state code in the “TestCode”, or should we add a new optional data element that would identify the type of test (State Test, Regional Test, National Test, Language Test, etc.) as well as the state in which the test is used?

b. For each of the tests on Barbara’s lists, are the subtests already included on the previously approved list of subtests?

c. Would it be helpful to add a new appendix to the Implementation Guide that would indicate which subtests are to be used for the major national tests?

Michael Morris volunteered to take another look at the way SIF identifies its tests and subtests to see if we might utilize the same technique.

3. **Identification of Instructor on HS Transcript:** One of the issues to be addressed in the PreK through Grade 20 studies is the evaluation of teacher training programs and of the teachers they produce.

At present, there is no information on the PESC XML HS Transcript that can identify the instructor. Barbara thinks that the plan in the future is to link the teacher to the student by means of a code that would identify the individual class taken by the student.

In reviewing the attributes of the “Course” complex data element, we do have a simple data element called “CourseSectionNumber” which could be used for this purpose.

4. **Excel Spreadsheet for PESC XML HS Transcript:** Scott Hillman from Docufide has created a spreadsheet that can be collapsed and expanded to show the hierarchy of the schema and includes each of the many data elements included in the schema. For those who do not have a tool such as XML Spy to view the schema, it might be very helpful to understand the schema.

Scott offered it to anyone who’d like to use it. It will be distributed with these notes.
PESC ERUG Conference Call Notes for October 26, 2009

The call ended at the end of the hour.

**Next Conference Call** is Monday, November 2 at 1 pm Eastern (noon Central, 11 am Mountain and 10 am Pacific) Standard Time. Call 866.352.3799; Meeting Number *7696363*;