On today’s call were

Keren Gavra, Product Development Manager, Docufide, Inc.
Bob Hewett, Principal Software Engineer, Pearson and Co-Chair of ERUG
Scott Hillman, Vice President, Operations and Customer Service, Docufide, Inc.
Tom Stewart, Miami Dade College in FL - Retired, & Member of AACRAO SPEEDE Committee

Bob started the call at 4 minutes after the hour.

Selected Data Elements on XML College Transcript: Keren has been working with the XML College Transcript and recently with a specific state. She had four issues to discuss.

Race and Ethnicity: Keren asked why there is no place in the PESC XML College Transcript to include a student’s race and/or ethnicity information.

Tom reviewed the history that included the fact that the AACRAO Academic Record and Transcript Guide recommends that this information not be included on the postsecondary student transcript. The only valid reason for including the information would be to assist in matching the student transcript with an applicant’s (or student’s) record at the school receiving the transcript. And the potential for discrimination is felt to outweigh the value as a matching tool.

It is usually included on the high school transcript and is now often used when sending student transcripts to state agencies, primarily now in the K-20 longitudinal follow-up processes.

Since the issue was raised, the group on the call felt that it should be a discussion item on the agenda for a future PESC ERUG call.

Previous Last Name: Keren raised this issue, but it was determined that there is a place to include this in the XML College Transcript in the data element Student. Person. AlternateName. NameCode (and LastName). NameCode would use the enumerated value of “Former”.

Student High School Graduation Year: Although it might not be the most logical place to include this information, there is a specific and unambiguous place for this information. It would be included in the complex data element Student. AcademicRecord. School to identify the high school and also Student. AcademicRecord. AcademicAward to include both the type of diploma and also the date the diploma was (or will be) awarded.
State Code for High School Attended: It was determined that the use of the MutuallyDefined Code Set in Student.Person.HighSchool.OrganizationIDGroup is currently being used to include this state code. However, this would mean that there would have to be a different process used by the sending school to send the MutuallyDefined Code when the transcript is being sent to a school or agency within the state than when it is being sent elsewhere.

After some discussion, it was suggested that one solution would be to make the data element OrganizationIDGroup repeatable (perhaps up to 5? times). This would allow the sending school to send the MutuallyDefined code, as well as several other codes (such as IPEDS, CEEBACT, CCD, ACT, FICE, ATP, etc.) and the receiving school could search for the code set normally used by that school.

It was agreed to make this an agenda item on a future call of the PESC ERUG.

Sample Transcripts: Tom announced that he is working with the University of Southern California to create 3 samples of real postsecondary transcripts and 3 equivalent XML instance documents that would be included in a new release of the XML College Transcript Implementation Guide.

Scott also mentioned that he has several sample actual paper high school transcripts with the equivalent PESC XML High School Transcript instance documents. When Tom receives them, he will draft a new version of the Implementation Guide to include these sample documents in the appropriate appendix.

PESC Fall Data Summit: Bob mentioned that the next face to face meeting will be at the Westin Airport Hotel on Century Blvd. in Los Angeles October 11-12, 2010. The ERUG will meet during the PESC Summit Meeting.

The call ended at 38 minutes after the hour.

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If you have any agenda items for the next call, please send them to Tuan Anh Do at doey@SFSU.edu and to Bob Hewett at rhewett@edustructures.com.

Next Conference Call: Next scheduled call is Tuesday, August 24, at noon Eastern (11:00 am Central, 10:00 am Mountain, and 9:00 am Pacific) Daylight Saving Time. Call 866.352.3799; Meeting Number *7696363*.