

Summary of Meetings and Conference Calls of the AACRAO SPEEDE Committee Months of July and August 2009

This is an update for interested members of the AACRAO membership about the ongoing activities of the Standardization of Postsecondary Education Electronic Data Exchange (SPEEDE) Committee of the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO). SPEEDE is a committee that is more active year round than many of the other AACRAO standing committees. The SPEEDE committee reports to the AACRAO Vice President for Information Technology (Group VI), Jeff von Munkwitz-Smith.

Face to Face Meetings Held: The SPEEDE Committee met at the end of the AACRAO Technology Conference in July in Tucson. All nine members attended.

AACRAO SPEEDE Committee conference calls held (with number of participants): 7/16/09 (7), 8/6/09 (6), 8/13/09 (6), and 8/20/09 (6). The average number of participants per call was 6.

Activities related to PESC: AACRAO is a founding member of, and an active supporter and participant in the Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council. PESC is the standards setting organization for the electronic exchange of student records in higher education in North America.

- Rick Skeel represents AACRAO on the PESC Board of Directors.
- Clare Smith-Larson is Chair of the PESC Steering Committee.
- Tuan Anh Do and Tom Stewart serve on the Change Control Board.
- Tuan Anh Do also serves on the Technical Advisory Board.

And, much of the real work of PESC is accomplished in workgroups.

PESC Standards and Workgroups of Interest to AACRAO Members Include:

XML College Transcript - PESC approved this schema as a standard in May 2004. PESC approved a new version (1.1.0) of the schema in October 2007. The three .xsd files to view the schema with a reader such as Altova Corporation's XMLSpy, and Version 1.1.1 of the Implementation Guide are posted on the PESC web site at http://www.pesc.org/interior.php?page_id=164 . It is recommended that all users update to Version 1.1.0 of the schema. All users who have updated to the latest version can still accept all documents created with Version 1.0.0. All users of Version 1.0.0 can also receive documents created in Version 1.1.0 provided that no data were included that use the new data elements, or new values of old data elements.

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XML High School Transcript - The XML High School Transcript was approved as a PESC standard in June 2006. The Implementation Guide Version 1.0.2 in PDF format and the three files needed to view the schema (Version 1.0.0) are available on the PESC web site at http://www.pesc.org/interior.php?page_id=163 .

XML Application for Admission - The XML Application for Admission to Postsecondary Schools in the US and Canada schema was approved as a PESC standard in August 2009. The Implementation Guide Version 1.0.0 in PDF format and the three files needed to view the schema (Version 1.0.0) are available on the PESC web site at http://www.pesc.org/interior.php?page_id=136 .

XML Education Test Score Reporting - The XML Education Test Score Reporting schema was approved as a PESC standard in August 2009. The Implementation Guide Version 1.0.0 in PDF format and the three files needed to view the schema (Version 1.0.0) are available on the PESC web site at http://www.pesc.org/interior.php?page_id=132 .

XML Transcript Acknowledgment: This schema became an approved PESC XML Standard in July 2007. Information about this Standard is located on the PESC web site at http://www.pesc.org/interior.php?page_id=184 .

Academic Record Batch Submittal: Since each XML instance document is a stand-alone document for transmission, several schools and agencies had asked for some way to bundle multiple XML documents in the same manner that multiple EDI documents were bundled inside the ISA/IEA envelope. This schema became a PESC XML Standard in July 2007 and information about this Standard may be viewed on the PESC web site at http://www.pesc.org/interior.php?page_id=185 .

XML Transcript Request and Response: The XML schemas for the Request for a Student Transcript and also for the (Negative) Response to that Request for a Student Transcript were approved in October 2007 as PESC standards. The three .xsd files to view the schema and the two Implementation Guides are available on the PESC web site at http://www.pesc.org/interior.php?page_id=174. The latest Guide (4/20/08) is more appropriate for a school requesting a transcript from a current or prior school attended by a student.

Standardization of PDF Education Documents: A workgroup was formed to deal with the issue of standardization of PDF documents and their electronic transmission. Armando Rodríguez from Xap Corporation and Jim Bouse of the AACRAO SPEEDE Committee co-chair this group. It now holds regular conference calls and welcomes the participation of anyone whose school or company is a member of PESC.

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XML Functional Acknowledgment of XML Instance Documents: Another workgroup was formed to create the XML equivalent of the EDI TS997. Rob Moore from the National Transcript Center and Monterey Sims from the AACRAO SPEEDE Committee are the co-chairs of this workgroup. It held regular conference calls and presented the schema to the PESC Change Control Board for approval. It now awaits posting on the PESC web site for a 30 day comment period.

Academic Progress (formerly Degree Audit): Clare Smith-Larson from the AACRAO SPEEDE Committee co-chairs this newly activated group with Dave Moldoff from AcademyOne. New participants whose school or company are members of PESC are welcome.

IPEDS Reporting Schemas: The US Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) is in the process of creating PESC XML Schemas to give schools an XML option for reporting data to NCES. The schemas for reporting enrollment data have been approved by PESC. The schemas for reporting graduation rates have been approved by the PESC Change Control Board (CCB) and are awaiting posting on the PESC web site for the 30 day comment period. The remaining IPEDS schemas are in the final stages of development before seeking approval of the PESC CCB.

Education Record User Group for Approved XML and EDI Standards: PESC formed a user group (ERUG) that will deal with maintenance of all of the approved XML schemas in the student records area, as well as all of the ANSI ASC X12 EDI Standards for the admissions and student records area.

Tuan Anh Do of the AACRAO SPEEDE Committee and Dr. Barbara Clements from the ESP Solutions Group co-chair the User Group. All members of the AACRAO SPEEDE Committee plan to be active with this workgroup, and other participants whose schools or companies are members of PESC are welcome.

Among the items approved and/or being discussed by the User Group are

- a. Provisions to allow either the old or the new versions of race and ethnicity information;
- b. Provisions to allow either the old code set of education tests and sub-tests or the newer, updated code set being included in the XML Admissions Application schema;
- c. Modification for a student's agency assigned ID to specify the agency that assigned the student's ID as well as the student number;

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- d. Timing of new releases of the XML College Transcript (Version 1.2.0) and of the XML High School Transcript (Version 1.1.0) to include a few approved enhancements, as well as other enhancements included in the XML Application for Admission.
- e. Addition of a new code set for private secondary schools and a new set of values to describe academic programs in secondary schools.
- f. Inclusion of a few additional User Defined Extensions in the two XML Transcripts.
- g. Addition of a new simple data element in the academic session to indicate why a student withdrew. This will use a code set available from the US National Center for Education Statistics.

ERUG currently holds conference calls each Tuesday at 2 pm Eastern.

Crosswalks for High School and College Transcripts (EDI to XML and vice versa):

These rules for crosswalks were developed by the AACRAO SPEEDE Committee and approved by the PESC Education Record Group and have now been posted with the associated XML schemas on the PESC.org web site:

College Transcript: XML Version 1.0.0 and EDI TS 130 Version 4010 (both ways);

Transcript Acknowledgment: XML Version 1.0.0 and EDI TS 131 Version 4010 (both ways);

Request for Student Transcript: XML Version 1.0.0 and EDI TS 146 Version 4010 (both ways).

Current Activities of the AACRAO SPEEDE Committee:

State and Province Electronic Transmission Initiatives and Mandates: The SPEEDE Committee now updates, approximately every two months, a spreadsheet of all the activities, mandates and initiatives of which we are aware in each US State and Canadian Province. We encourage you to review the spreadsheet to insure it is up to date for your state or province. Please send updates and corrections to stewartj@aol.com. It is now posted on the SPEEDE page on the AACRAO web site at <http://www.aacrao.org/speede/statestat.cfm> .

State EDI and XML Contacts: The SPEEDE Committee also recently updated the

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contacts list. It is now posted on the AACRAO web site at <http://www.aacrao.org/speede/statecont.cfm> . Please send updates and corrections to cssmith@iastate.edu .

Crosswalks: Work is in progress (or at least scheduled) for these crosswalks:

High School Transcript - XML Version 1.0.0 to EDI TS 130 Version 4010 (and vice versa);

(Negative) Response to a Request for a Student Transcript - XML Version 1.0.0 to EDI TS 147 (and vice versa);

College Transcript - XML Version 1.1.0 to EDI TS 130 Version 4010 (and vice versa).

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University of Texas at Austin SPEEDE Internet Server: Shelby Stanfield, University Registrar at UT Austin has provided us with the following information about the use of the Server as of the end of August 2009:

| Description | Last Year | This Year | Percent Change |
|--|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| Number of TS130 Transcripts for August | 102,280 | 158,576 | 55% |
| Number of TS130 Transcripts for past 12 months | 793,662 | 961,795 | 21% |
| Number of TS131 Transcript Acknowledgments for August | 102,280 | 134,114 | 31% |
| Number of TS131 Transcript Acknowledgments for past 12 months | 640,593 | 779,336 | 22% |
| Number of TS189 Applications for Admission for August | 42,624 | 58,856 | 38% |
| Number of TS189 Applications for Admission for past 12 months | 819,693 | 994,957 | 21% |
| Number of Total Transactions for August ** | 302,390 | 416,412 | 38% |
| Number of Total Transactions for past 12 months ** | 3,035,561 | 3,662,221 | 21% |
| Number of TS130 Sending Schools in August *** | 166 | 161 | -3% |
| Average Number of TS130 Sending Schools per month for past 12 months *** | 153 | 157 | 3% |
| Number of TS130 Receiving Schools in August *** | 266 | 295 | 11% |
| Average Number of TS130 Receiving Schools per month for past 12 months *** | 230 | 274 | 19% |

** Total Transactions include TS130 Transcripts, TS131 Acknowledgments, TS997 Functional Acknowledgments, TS 189 Applications for Admission, and TS138 Test Scores.

*** In addition to this number of schools, there are other entities that distribute transcripts through the Server, such as Docufide, Florida K-12, Florida Postsecondary, National Transcript Center, Texas Education Agency, Triand, and Xap Corporation.

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The schools or other entities that sent the most TS130 transcripts through the UT Austin SPEEDE Server in August were

North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (42,161) facilitated via the College Foundation of North Carolina's statewide college access web portal;

Florida Public K-12 Schools (23,522);

Texas Education Agency via National Transcript Center (15,064);

Florida Public Postsecondary Schools (13,123);

Xap Corporation (3,522);

Maricopa Colleges in Arizona (3,461);

Triand on behalf of Public High Schools in Arkansas (2,547).

Schools in 17 US states and one Canadian province (BC) sent TS130 transcripts through the Server in August.

In addition, 40 PESC XML College Transcripts were exchanged among postsecondary schools in Tennessee through the Texas SPEEDE Server in August; 34 PESC XML Transcripts were sent via the Server to schools in California and to the National Transcript Center; 23 XML Transcripts were exchanged among 4 schools in Georgia; 22 XML Transcripts were sent to Xap Corporation by the National Transcript Center; and the U of Minnesota-Twin Cities sent 19 XML Transcript to AMCAS.

And, the College Foundation of North Carolina processed 643 PESC XML High School Transcripts for 8 pilot high schools in the Wake County Public School district in **May and June 2009**.

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Future Meetings: The following are future events at which the AACRAO SPEEDE Committee normally participates:

PESC Fall Data and Workgroup Summit in Washington, DC October 19-20, 2009:

In the past, the SPEEDE Committee has typically met in conjunction with this Summit. However, AACRAO is attempting to limit travel in these difficult economic times and it is unlikely that the SPEEDE Committee will be represented this year.

AACRAO Annual Meeting April 21-24, 2010 (Wednesday through Saturday) in **New Orleans** at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center.

AACRAO Technology Conference July 18-20, 2010 (Sunday through Tuesday) in Kansas City, MO at the Westin Hotel.

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AACRAO SPEEDE Committee Members for 2009-2010:

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|--------------------------------|---|--|
| Barry Billing, Chair | Associate Registrar, <i>Conestoga College Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning (Ontario)</i> , and representative to the AACRAO SPEEDE committee from the Association of Registrars of the Universities and Colleges of Canada (ARUCC) | bbilling@conestogac.on.ca |
| James M. "Jim" Bouse | Associate Registrar for Technology, <i>University of Oregon</i> | jbouse@uoregon.edu |
| Tuan Anh Do, Vice-Chair | Assistant Director, Systems Support Group, Undergraduate Admissions, <i>San Francisco State University (CA)</i> | doey@sfsu.edu |
| Robin S. Greene | Senior Associate Director of Technology and Internet Services, College Foundation of North Carolina, <i>University of North Carolina General Administration</i> | greeners@northcarolina.edu |
| Monterey E. Sims | Director of Operations/Intake, <i>University of Phoenix (AZ)</i> | monterey.sims@phoenix.edu |
| Rick Skeel | Director of Academic Records, <i>University of Oklahoma</i> | rskeel@ou.edu |
| Clare Smith-Larson | SPEEDE/Project EASIER Coordinator, <i>Iowa State University</i> | cssmith@iastate.edu |
| John T. "Tom" Stewart | Retired College Registrar, <i>Miami Dade College (FL)</i> | stewartj@aol.com |
| Tim Tashjian | Associate Director, Student Information Systems, Office of the Registrar, <i>University of Texas at Austin</i> | tim.tashjian@austin.utexas.edu |

And that's the update for the past two months from the AACRAO SPEEDE Committee.