



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 11, 2009

Contact: Michael Sessa  
PESC Executive Director  
202-261-6516

**California Statewide Electronic Exchange Program and the  
University System of Georgia Board of Regents' Implementation of  
High School and Postsecondary XML Transcripts  
Tie for Top Award in PESC's 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Best Practices Competition**

Steve Biklen of NASLA, David Moldoff of AcademyOne, and  
Clare Smith-Larson of Iowa State University Honored  
with Distinguished Service Awards

Washington DC – The Board of Directors of the Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council (PESC) is very pleased to announce "*California Statewide Electronic Exchange Program*" and the "*University System of Georgia Board of Regents' Implementation of High School and Postsecondary XML Transcripts*" as Winners of PESC's 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Best Practices Competition for 2008. Their submissions received high praise from the PESC Board Review Committee for the Best Practices Competition. Awards will be presented at the opening session of the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Technology and Standards being held April 5 – 7, 2009 in Washington, D.C. The Best Practices Competition is held each year by PESC to promote innovation and ingenuity in the application of standards for business needs.

"Utilizing this functionality [High School and Postsecondary XML Transcripts] creates a seamless and timely flow of transcript data between institutions," states the submission from the Georgia Board of Regents. "Electronic transcript implementation...will not only help the system but will reduce local data entry. Most importantly, the electronic transcript will also save money for paper and postage and in this time of budget shortfalls, institutions are looking for additional ways to cut costs."

The California submission, also known as CCCTran – California Community College Transcript Program states, "CCCTran enables highly flexible, secure transcript request and delivery services between the State's 110 California Community Colleges and between the University of California (UC) and California State University (CSU) systems, as well as other higher educational institutions. Beyond significant cost savings and environmental benefits of electronic transcripts over paper, the most exciting promise of CCCTran is its potential to improve student outcomes by facilitating online academic planning and K-12 to College longitudinal studies from combined academic record data."



PESC will also honor Steve Biklen of NASLA, David Moldoff of AcademyOne, and Clare Smith-Larson of Iowa State University with “Distinguished Service Awards.” Steve Biklen has served on the PESC Board of Directors since November 2002; and for most of those years, as Treasurer. Mr. Biklen is the founding President of the Citibank Student Loan Corporation and served as Chair of the Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance for a number of years. Mr. Biklen, who currently sits on the Board of Directors at American Student Assistance, has decided that he will not be renominated when his current term on the Board expires this June 30. David Moldoff has served on the PESC Board of Directors since July 2003 and currently Co-Chairs PESC’s Academic Progress XML Development Workgroup. Mr. Moldoff joined the Board as Senior Vice President of Solutions Architecture and Infrastructure at SCT (now SunGard Higher Education) and currently serves on the PESC Board as Founder and CEO of AcademyOne, Inc., a company he launched several years back. Clare Smith-Larson of Iowa State University is a long-time champion of PESC having been involved with PESC since its launch. Ms. Smith-Larson has also served as Chair of AACRAO’s SPEEDE Committee and currently serves as Chair of PESC’s Steering Committee for the Standards Forum for Education.

#### **About PESC**

Established in 1997 and located in Washington, D.C., the Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council (PESC) is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) 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. Through open and transparent community development, PESC leads the alignment of data across disparate stakeholder systems to ensure simplified and cost-effective student progression along the higher education lifecycle. Goals and strategies that support the mission include: Lead the establishment & facilitate the adoption & implementation of data exchange standards; Highlight & support best practices for data access & data exchange; Maintain collaborative relationships with all public, private, governmental & international stakeholders; Serve as a standards-setting body; Advocate for operational efficiencies & improved performance in student data exchange from initial access of the student from high school into the college environment through successful completion of the education experience; Promote cost effectiveness of data alignment across disparate systems & across sectors that help mitigate costs for institutions struggling to keep up with the demands of technology & real-time data exchange while maintaining competitive tuition rates, and; Continue building a core competency in XML architecture & data modeling. For more information, please visit [www.PESC.org](http://www.PESC.org).

# # #