

## **Summary of Meetings and Conference Calls of the AACRAO SPEEDE Committee Months of October and November 2006**

This is an update for interested members of the AACRAO membership about the ongoing activities of the AACRAO SPEEDE Committee. SPEEDE is a committee that is more active year round than many of the other AACRAO standing committees.

**Face to face meetings held:** October 21 and 22, 2006, in San Diego, California, prior to the Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council (PESC) Fall Workgroup Summit. Seven of the ten members of the Committee attended this meeting.

**AACRAO SPEEDE Committee conference calls held (with number of participants):** 10/5/06 (9), 10/19/06 (9), 10/26/06 (5), 11/2/06 (8), 11/9/06 (6), 11/16/06 (7), and 11/30/06 (7).

**Activities related to PESC:** AACRAO is a founding member of, and an active participant in PESC. Much of the real work of PESC is accomplished in workgroups.

### **PESC workgroups of interest to AACRAO members include:**

**XML High School Transcript** - The XML High School Transcript was approved as a PESC standard by the PESC voting membership in June 2006. The Implementation Guide and the three .xsd files needed to view it in a tool such as Altova's XML Spy (HS Transcript v 1.0.0, Academic Rec. v 1.1.0, and Core Main v 1.2.0) are located on the PESC web site at <http://www.pesc.org/info/approved/hs-transcript.asp>.

The scope of the PESC XML High School Transcript was for high schools to send transcripts to postsecondary institutions and to state or other agencies.

In Canada, the Ontario College Application Services (OCAS) has implemented a pilot that is now using the PESC standard for secondary schools to send XML transcripts to OCAS to support applications for admission to colleges in the province.

The Schools Interoperability Framework (SIF) has also been working for quite some time on data standards for K12 schools' Student Information Systems. This includes all the data elements that need to be maintained by schools related to student records, as well as staff, food service, school bus routes, etc. In October, SIF released Version 2.0 of its standards, which also included the data elements required to exchange student records (transcripts) among high schools as well as to send to postsecondary schools.

## October and November 2006 Report from AACRAO SPEEDE Committee

Dr. Barbara Clements, from the National Transcript Center and a member of PESC and SIF, prepared a comparison of the data elements in the two standards. In November, the PESC Workgroup reviewed the data elements that were included in the PESC standard, but do not appear in the SIF standard, and shared these differences with SIF. In December, a review of the data elements in the SIF standard and not in the PESC standard will also be reviewed to determine if they should be added in the next version of the PESC Standard.

Bruce Marton made a presentation at the Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics Data Conference in Washington, DC in October. He was assisted by Barbara Clements and Tom Stewart. The presentation described the PESC XML High School Transcript Standard.

Bruce Marton, Tom Stewart, Robin Greene, and Clare Smith-Larson, from the AACRAO SPEEDE Committee, are active participants in this Workgroup.

**XML Request for Transcript and Response** - This workgroup is developing the XML equivalent to the EDI TS146 and TS147. Bruce Marton, Clare Smith-Larson and Tom Stewart are officially members of the workgroup. Doug Falk of the National Student Clearinghouse is chair of the workgroup. The workgroup plans to submit these two schemas for approval as PESC standards in March 2007.

**XML College Transcript** - This schema was approved in 2004 and the first major effort to implement it has occurred in the State University System of Georgia. SunGard Higher Education has incorporated this standard into its Banner product and is included in version 7.3 which was released at the end of May 2006. All of the Georgia SUS schools are in various stages of implementation. The Ohio Board of Regents has also mandated use of the XML standard for its member schools and the implementation process is beginning. And the California Community College Transcript (CCCTran) project has adopted this standard for its constituency. In addition, the Canadian province of Alberta has mandated the electronic exchange of student high school and college transcripts, as well as the application for admission during 2007. It is expected that the PESC standards will be used.

The SPEEDE Committee again reviewed the crosswalk rules for converting from the EDI to the PESC XML standard, and vice versa, and has presented them (with minor changes) to the University of Texas at Austin. A new priority at UT Austin has delayed the programming of the translation software for a short time, but is expected to begin early in 2007.

## October and November 2006 Report from AACRAO SPEEDE Committee

**XML Student Transcript Acknowledgment** - The use of an acknowledgment of a student transcript received is an important part of the security advantage gained by the electronic exchange of student records. In EDI, this was accomplished by the use of Transaction Set 131. Not only can the sender of the transcript be assured that the transcript was received with no alterations, but the receiver can be certain that the transcript did originate from the sender indicated in TS130. This information may also be relayed to the student who originated the request.

In September, the Workgroup (primarily AACRAO SPEEDE Committee members) submitted the schema and the draft Implementation Guide to PESC for approval. PESC approved it for posting on the PESC web site at [www.pesc.org](http://www.pesc.org) for a 30 day review of interested parties. It is expected that it will be posted in early 2007 and approved as a PESC standard by April 2007.

**Batch Transmittal Schema** - A draft of this schema and the Implementation Guide has been prepared by Bruce Marton from the University of Texas at Austin and a member of the AACRAO SPEEDE Committee. It will enable a school to bundle multiple XML documents for transmission to the Texas Internet Server or to other institutions or agencies. It will also allow the Texas Internet Server to bundle multiple XML documents for transmission to schools and agencies such as the American Medical Colleges Admissions Service (AMCAS). This fairly simple schema has been submitted to PESC for posting on the PESC web site for a 30 day review. It is expected to be approved as a PESC standard by April 2007.

**Course Inventory** - Rick Skeel has volunteered to chair this new PESC workgroup, with Anne Valentine from SmartCatalog as co-chair. The kick off meeting is now scheduled for January at the PESC Workgroup Summit in Las Vegas.

**Application for Admission:** This workgroup is now holding weekly conference calls each Thursday at noon Eastern Time. Six calls were held in October and November, and the workgroup also met for three hours at the PESC Summit in San Diego. The workgroup is chaired by Adriana Farella of Xap Corporation and co-chaired by Tom Stewart of the AACRAO SPEEDE Committee. The Workgroup is extremely interested in having more participants from those individuals working in admissions at a postsecondary institution. If you know of anyone who might be interested, please send the name, title, school and email address to Tom Stewart at [stewartj@aol.com](mailto:stewartj@aol.com).

## October and November 2006 Report from AACRAO SPEEDE Committee

**National Test Score Reporting:** Information on this workgroup is located on the [www.pesc.org](http://www.pesc.org) web site under the tab for PESC workgroups. It is developing the PESC XML standard that serves essentially the same purpose as the EDI Transaction Set 138 so that test scores can be exchanged electronically. Clare Smith-Larson and Tom Stewart of the AACRAO SPEEDE Committee are active participants on this workgroup.

### Other SPEEDE Activities in October/November:

**SPEEDE pages on the AACRAO web site:** An effort led by Tuan Anh Do of the AACRAO SPEEDE Committee has resulted in updating the pages on the AACRAO web site that deal with the membership of the committee, the work of the committee and electronic data exchange in general. You may see these updated pages and links at <http://www.aacrao.org/speede/index.cfm>

**Codes for Subtests:** These codes appear in Appendix B to the EDI TS 130 Implementation Guide. The AACRAO SPEEDE Committee has added a few needed new subtest codes to this appendix. The revised Appendix B is now posted on the PESC web site at <http://www.pesc.org/info/implementation-guides.asp>.

**Future Meetings:** The following are future events at which the AACRAO SPEEDE Committee plans to attend, meet, and present sessions:

**PESC Winter 2007 Workgroup Summit:** This will be held in Las Vegas January 29-30, and the AACRAO SPEEDE Committee will meet there on January 27 and 28.

**AACRAO 2007 Conference in Boston:** The AACRAO SPEEDE Committee has submitted ten proposals for program sessions and round tables for this wintry conference in February and March. The AACRAO SPEEDE Committee will meet following the conference on March 4<sup>th</sup>.

**PESC Annual Technology and Standards Conference:** This will be held at the Wyndham Washington Hotel in Washington, DC April 23-25, 2007. The AACRAO SPEEDE Committee will meet on April 21 and 22.

**AACRAO Student Services Technology Conference:** To be held at the Hilton in Minneapolis July 15-17, 2007 and the AACRAO SPEEDE Committee will meet on July 14<sup>th</sup>.

## October and November 2006 Report from AACRAO SPEEDE Committee

### AACRAO SPEEDE Committee Members for 2006-2007:

Clare Smith-Larson, Chair	SPEEDE/Project EASIER Coordinator, Iowa State University
Terri Amatuzzi	Associate Registrar, Community College of the Air Force, Maxwell AFB, AL
Barry Billing	Senior Business Analyst, Ontario (Canada) College Application Services
Tuan Anh Do	Operating Systems Analyst, Undergraduate Admissions, San Francisco State University (CA)
Robin Greene	Associate Director of Technology and Internet Services, College Foundation of North Carolina, University of North Carolina Systems Office
Bruce Marton	Associate Director, Student Information Systems, Office of Admissions/Registrar, University of Texas at Austin
Linda Sather	Programmer and Senior Analyst, Office of the Registrar, University of Idaho
Rick Skeel	Director of Academic Records, University of Oklahoma
Monique Snowden	Director of Information Technology, Texas A & M University
John T. "Tom" Stewart	Retired College Registrar from Miami Dade College (FL)

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