



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**EdUnify<sup>SM</sup> SOA Governance Framework Initiative Now Supported by  
Twenty-Five Education Community Stakeholders  
*Initiative Gains Strong and Growing Support from Leading Educational  
Institutions, Organizations, Associations, States and Corporations***

**Washington, D.C., September 29, 2010** – [The Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council](http://www.pesc.org) (PESC) today announced an impressive list of supporters from leading educational institutions, organizations, associations, states and corporations for the EdUnify SOA Governance Framework Initiative. EdUnify is a shared, neutral, community-based Web services registry and suite of semantic web tools designed to reduce costs of integration and improve efficiency by providing a service-oriented architecture (SOA) governance framework for education. EdUnify will launch publicly on October 15, 2010 at the EDUCAUSE Conference.

The higher education industry spends approximately \$25 Billion per year (based on PESC research from industry resources) supporting proprietary connections and movement of data across disparate applications and systems inside and outside the institution. The utilization and effectiveness of data and information technologies is severely limited by differing access methods, protocols, data definitions, and proprietary designs.

“EdUnify will connect our global community of students, advisors, faculty, researchers, and administrators with essential information – no matter where the information resides – to enable better decision-making toward academic success,” stated Tim Calhoun, Director of the California Community Colleges Technology Center.

“Working with PESC to develop EdUnify will afford the broader educational community the opportunity to combine efforts, leverage reuse and improve transparency of information services in order to benefit learners of all types,” wrote Charles Leonhardt, Principal Technologist for Georgetown University.

“EdUnify will prove that an entirely standards-based approach can support large scale enterprise integration across the education industry. EdUnify fills a need for a standards-based directory service

that can support the scalable and open nature of the PESC architecture,” stated Shawn Bay, Founder and CEO of eScholar.

### **EdUnify Supporters Include:**

- AcademyOne
- Avow Systems
- California Community Colleges
- Choice Solutions
- ConnectEDU
- Datatel
- Decision Academic
- Emory University
- eScholar
- Georgetown University
- Indiana Commission for Higher Education
- Jenzabar
- Kualii Foundation
- Microsoft
- Mizuni
- National Student Clearinghouse
- Oracle
- RS3G
- SCRIP-SAFE International
- SIF Association
- SHEEO
- SunGard Higher Education
- USA Funds
- Virginia Department of Education
- XAP

### **EdUnify Leadership and Members**

Leadership of EdUnify includes project director David Moldoff of the PESC Board of Directors and CEO and Founder of AcademyOne; and co-chairs Jim Wager, Vice President & CIO of SCRIP-SAFE International, and Stephen Wheat, Chief IT Architect at Emory University and active member of OpenEAI. Over 75 people from 40 leading educational institutions, organizations, states and corporations serve on the [PESC EdUnify Task Force](#). To enroll in the EdUnify Task Force, contact Michael Sessa, PESC President and CEO, at: [michael.sessa@pesc.org](mailto:michael.sessa@pesc.org).

### **EdUnify Overview**

The first phase of EdUnify includes a registry for Web services, Web sites and web applications. Providers can register their services; providers and users can search, rate and monitor services; and use EdUnify as a governance framework for service-oriented architecture. This initial lookup service enables institutions, states and others the ability to advertise their electronic services so others can find those services and automate their connections and their data trading needs. For an advance preview of EdUnify, see the EdUnify demonstration environment and on-demand Flash demos at <https://demo.edunify.pesc.org>.

### **About PESC**

Established in 1997 at the National Center for Higher Education and located in Washington, D.C., the Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council (PESC) is a 501(c)(3)non-profit, community-based, umbrella association of colleges and universities; college and university systems; 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 participation, PESC enables cost-effective connectivity between data systems to accelerate performance and service, to simplify data access and research,

and to improve data quality along the higher education lifecycle. PESC envisions national and international interoperability, that is a trustworthy, inter-connected environment built by and between communities of interest in which data flows seamlessly from one system to another and throughout the entire eco-system when and where needed without compatibility barriers but in a safe, secure, reliable, and efficient manner. For more information about PESC, visit: [www.pesc.org](http://www.pesc.org).

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