PESC Course Catalog/Inventory Workgroup
Meeting Summary August 29, 2007
Present: Anne Valentine, Tom Stewart, Jim Farmer, David English, Rick Skeel, Troy Holaday, Steve Mills, Luke Marinchak, Char Hulsebus, Larry Borgione

Discussion:
The meeting started about 5 minutes after the hour.

The first part of the call was spent reviewing the work from the previous call and catching up on where we left off, and agreeing, with the larger audience , the decisions we had reached the last time.

The first new item of discussion revolved around the course override school section, which consisted of 46 lines of potential data fields. We discussed the use of this structure in the college transcripts, and fairly quickly came to the consensus that this was not useful in the Course Inventory, and agreed to remove that entire section from the final schema. There was some discussion during this section as to information about course instruction method versus site location, and how they often intertwine. While the group realized that this information can be useful in some settings, it is not something we want to take on with this first course inventory schema.

The next part of the discussion was about the RAP, or requirements, attributes and proficiencies section of the straw man. Tom provided a good description of how those elements came to be added to the transcript schema, and some of their potential uses. A branch of this discussion took us to a conversation about prerequisites and co-requisites for courses. There was good consensus that these elements were important to the course inventory. It was agreed that for the co-requisites we would use the course ID structure that we utilized for previous course and related (cross-listed) course. However, the prerequisite information was more difficult, or at least more diverse. It was agreed that this should be a text field called prerequisite condition, which could include a course, courses, student status, grade, etc. Most often these conditions are included in the course description, but it was felt by the group that it would be helpful, even as a text field, to have this information in a consistent place in the schema.

The call was ended on the hour.

Next Meeting:
September 12,, 4:00 pm Eastern time (3:00 Central, 2:00 Mountain, 1:00 Pacific) The call info is: 800-508-7631 and the pass code is *__9976409__*.