GRONINGEN DECLARATION NETWORK

Annual Meeting | Melbourne, Australia 2017

Symposium on Credential Evaluation Professional Issues

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Groningen Declaration

Background

- Goal: Develop a plan to lead and direct the evolution and progression of the transfer and use of student data, building on the work of the GDN as it pertains to credential evaluation.
- Justification: Credential evaluation is an integral part of the student mobility ecosystem
- Objective: Bring together professionals with expertise in the areas of data mobility and credential evaluation who will a) discuss, debate, and develop best practices, b) create a plan to lead and direct the evolution and progression of the transfer and use of student data, and c) suggest a data governance strategy to guide the future of student data mobility.

Organizers

- The Association for International Credential Evaluation Professionals (TAICEP)
- GDN
- Educational Credential Evaluators, Inc.
- Planning committee:
  - Liz Campbell-Dorning, Australian Government Department of Education and Training
  - Linda Tobash, World Education Services
  - Herman de Leeuw, GDN
  - Jessica Stannard, EP-NUFFIC
  - Meg Wenger, TAICEP and ECE

Process

- White papers

- Working groups:
  1) authenticity/verification/recognition
  2) data elements (including language and shared terminology)
  3) communication protocols/data standards (around security and privacy)
  4) integration/communication of different models and creating a global network

- Over 25 participants from five continents

Themes

- Authenticity of source
- Data elements, including shared terminology
- Records management/retention issues specific to CE
- Building networks
- Need for input from broader group of countries, especially underrepresented
- CE as stakeholder within GDN landscape

Recommendations:

- **Shared lexicon or commitment to having an accessible lexicon**
- **Student record issued in original language with English translation and includes a set of specific information**
- **Credential evaluation seen as a stakeholder group in GDN, and request that GDN advocate, champion, and promote the benefits of this group of stakeholders**
- **In the digitized record, include institutional and programmatic recognition information when appropriate**
- **The content of the information included in record takes into account the purpose**
- **Creation of a global directory that includes institutions and other stakeholders**
- **Trusted sources are fundamental**
  - **Define and determine best practices**
  - **Perhaps TAICEP serve as resource for best practices**

Next steps

- Explore defining terminology
- Explore ways to determine trusted sources
- Explore possibility of including evaluation report as part of student data package
- Explore issues surrounding document retention, data ownership and minimum standards for transparency
- Create deadlines and further define outcomes

Q&A

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Extending our Engagement