A Statement of Principles – September 2013

The Texas Transcript Server has ably served the higher education community since its launch in September 1995. Evolving from this service, the National Student Clearinghouse, in cooperation with global users of the electronic exchange network, is establishing the Global Registrar EduRecord Exchange Network (G.R.E.E.N.).℠ Building off of "A Statement of Principles" written by AACRAO and the AACRAO SPEEDE Committee, the statement of principles below are intended to establish a level of global understanding and cooperation surrounding electronic data exchange.

Institutional users, service providers, and supporters of the G.R.E.E.N. network agree to adhere to the following principles:

- Accessing the exchange network as well as sending and receiving electronic communications via the exchange network should be provided free of charge to participating institutions.

- The network should continue to support internationally approved electronic data exchange standards, like EDI, XML, and PDF, as well as any future internationally approved standards.

- All server services should be available to all institutions regardless of the service providers or electronic record solutions they currently use. To facilitate the secure delivery of electronic data exchange, server services should also continue to be made available to service providers. Institutions should be free to evaluate their own business processes and choose the delivery option that best meets their needs.

- Service providers should seek maximum interoperability between their systems and services to create efficiencies and optimize the capabilities of electronic records exchange.

- FERPA, student privacy and file document security should be considered paramount. Data from the exchange of student records should not be retained or mined unless specifically authorized by the participating institutions.

- The obligations of institutional users and service providers are to keep their registry and authorized user information up to date.

- The network will be available to all institutions and their service providers provided they adhere to the principles outline above.

Product Road Map Development and Maintenance

From AACRAO and the AACRAO SPEEDE Committee: *"The electronic records exchange is evolving rapidly. This evolution impacts institutions as well as the many service providers who help advance the technology. Because electronic records exchange is crucial for the professionals that AACRAO represents, it is important that they have a strong voice in the development of services and standards related to the electronic exchange of student records. AACRAO offers its expertise, and willingness to facilitate future discussions, with any interested parties concerning the network and other efforts aimed at expanding the adoption of electronic records exchange in higher education. Together we believe we can help forge solutions that best meet the needs of AACRAO's members and the students they serve."*

As one of its linchpins, the G.R.E.E.N. network, managed by the Clearinghouse, will have an advisory council composed of institutional users from the education community. The intent is for the advisory council to meet at least quarterly to discuss the functionality and evolving product roadmap for the network. Output from the council will be used to fuel ongoing dialogues with standards groups, such as PESC, regarding exchange standards development and evolution for the education industry.