TERENA-EUNIS Workshop
“All things mobile”, showcasing the Groningen Declaration

1. Herman de Leeuw
2. secretary, Groningen Declaration
3. Dienst Uitvoering Onderwijs
4. Groningen, The Netherlands
Herman de Leeuw
secretary, Groningen Declaration

organizational coordinates

Department for International Services
DUO - Dienst Uitvoering Onderwijs/Education
Executive Agency,
Ministry of Education, Culture & Science,
Groningen, The Netherlands
What is this Groningen Declaration?

Groningen Declaration
on Digital Student Data Depositories Worldwide

We, the signatories of this Groningen Declaration on Digital Student Data Depositories Worldwide, are witnessing a growing awareness in large parts of the worlds of politics and academics, as well as in public opinion, of the need to establish a more complete and far-reaching delivery of digital student data. As we see it, digital student data portability and digital student data depositories are becoming increasingly concrete and relevant realities, and in the years to come, they will contribute decisively to the free movement of students and skilled workers on a global scale.

In order to make this free movement of students and skilled workers a reality, and in order to unleash the full potential of digital student data depositories, we want to look into privacy rights, identification, access, and forwarding/sharing of data, next to compatibility of systems and comparability of data. Respecting the principle of autonomy and diversity of systems and modes of delivery, the overriding principle is to seek convergence rather than to create uniformity.

It is understood that there are more stakeholders involved than just the digital student data depositories themselves. These other stakeholders include, of course, first and foremost the students themselves; then education institutions at the primary, secondary and tertiary level; national ministries of education; employers; and so forth. This group of stakeholders would not be primarily concerned with the technical part, but with acceptance and recognition and is, as such, of vital importance for the acceptance of the goals of this declaration. These stakeholders are therefore naturally included among the signatories.

The Groningen Global Founding Seminar of Digital Student Data Depositories Worldwide that is now coming to a close aimed at gathering the critical mass that may bring about global

The present declaration will take the above named issues as overarching themes for the road ahead.

We consider the following issues - privacy rights; identification; access; consulting; forwarding/sharing; compatibility; comparability; acceptance; and recognition - to be of primary relevance, in order to establish a global area of convergence on digital student data depositories, and we strive to co-ordinate our policies on the following goals and/or tasks:

- Discussion of purpose, feasibility and cost-efficiency of worldwide exchange of digital student data
- Looking into ways to make our systems more compatible, inter alia by looking into semantic interoperability
- Looking into ways to make data more easily comparable
- Sharing or forwarding of data through designated systems
- Promoting acceptance, for purposes of recognition, of digital student data in lieu of paper documents
- Compliance with national or federal privacy rights, both at the sending and at the receiving ends, when data are transferred
- Phasing out of paper based documents and of paper based authentications (legalisations)
- Establishment of a Global Standing Secretariat on Digital Student Data Depositories Worldwide, to develop a follow-up structure, consisting of a "consultative group" of representatives of all signatories, plus a smaller "follow-up group", in order to organize future events.

We hereby undertake to attain these objectives within the framework of our respective organisational competencies and taking full respect of the diversity of current systems. To that end, we will mutually seek intergovernmental and/or non-governmental co-operation.
What is it all about?

• Ownership of data sets
• Privacy rights
• E-identification
• Access
• Consulting or forwarding/sharing?
• Compatibility
• Comparability
• Acceptance
• Recognition
Behavioral trust

- person to person
- institution to institution
- person to institution
- reputation based
- supported by feelings
Technical trust

• institution to institution
• institution to network
• system to system
• procedure based
• supported by technology
Actor: Home HEI
Actor: Host HEI
Actor: National digital depository
Trust fabric
Moving from home HEI to host HEI
Seeking admission at host HEI
Host HEI contacting home HEI
Home HEI needs user authorization
User authorizes home
Home HEI releases

access token

Data access token
User forwards access token
Host HEI feeds back to home HEI
Transaction completed

[Diagram: A stick figure standing between two houses, labeled 'Student data transfer']
With this in place ..
We’ll do a better job
Headlines from the group "Jobs & Skills"

Actions recommended and commitments made (2/2)

- **ICT & Mobility**: Development of a global digital student data and digital skills data to facilitate mobility of skilled workers following Groningen Declaration
- **Encourage wide CSR use for e-skills**: Incorporate CSR so as to shift the balance of power that exists between the corporate world and the individual.
- **Use existing cost-effective infrastructure** such as public libraries for training activities
- **Encourage broad adoption of flexible working methods** including co-working, teleworking, homeworking
- **Facilitate the development of virtual work and virtual factories**
- **Setup infrastructure and high-speed networks in rural areas** so that they don’t stay behind and have the opportunity to provide services

**Highlighted quotes**
Do you know that public libraries contribute to the EU employment goals
Digitized Storage of Student Information Has Become a World Trend

2013-04-27 11:21 From CHSI

Digital Student Data Depositories Worldwide 2013 was held in Beijing

How to apply for universities easily? How to identify true or false qualifications? How to define the authenticity of overseas qualifications obtained by students? These headaches, for students, colleges and enterprises, are expected to be solved by cooperation and communication through global digital student data depositories. Digitized storage of student information has become a world trend.

Digital Student Data Depositories Worldwide 2013 was held in Beijing on April 9th. More than seventy Chinese and foreign representatives, from China, Netherland, the United States, Britain, France, India, Mexico and other 10 countries and regions, attended the meeting. Most of them are leaders or representatives from professional organizations engaged in qualification verification and student information management. There are also leaders from AACRAO, EAIE and other international organizations and experts in information technology. They introduced practices and experiences in student
A global initiative
What might happen?

The Groningen Declaration is the declaration of intent signed on 16 April 2012 in Groningen, the Netherlands, at the closure of the Global Founding Seminar "Digital Student Data Repositories Worldwide". Digital Student Data Repositories Worldwide, or “The Groningen Declaration” as the initiative has come to be known, aims to bring about mobility. In e-identity systems and in the education sector (enrollment and admissions; student loans; and institutional funding systems) there are existing common data infrastructures which may logically lead to a number of developments. These make personal educational results securely available to students and skilled workers themselves, and for the duration of their academic and professional careers. The text of the Groningen Declaration can be found here.

The Groningen Declaration, together with the signatures.

Some background information
Student data administrations worldwide nowadays keep their data mostly in digital form. Whether they be centralized in a national government unit, situated in a consortium of higher education institutions, or perhaps [etc.] – read on
Comes the goodie
Thank you for your attention

Herman de Leeuw

Dienst Uitvoering Onderwijs
Directie Onderwijsservice, afdeling Diploma-erkenning en Legalisatie

PO Box 30157 | 9700 LJ | Groningen
The Netherlands

T 31 50 599 8816

herman.deleeuw@duo.nl

http://www.ib-groep.nl/particulieren/diplomas/diplomas.asp