



NEWS RELEASE

# American Public University System Extends Online Learning Collaboration with WCET for Predictive Analytics Reporting Framework

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## **Ten Additional Higher Education Institutions to Share Expanded Data Pool of More than One Million Student Records and Best Practices in Shaping Learning Outcomes**

CHARLES TOWN, W.Va.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Aug. 30, 2012-- [American Public University System](#) (APUS) today announced that it will continue its leadership role for expanded research under the Predictive Analytics Reporting Framework (PAR) project, initiated by the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education's Cooperative for Educational Technologies ([WCET](#)). Funded by a new grant and supplemented by ten additional institutions, the consortium will validate and extend the successful, ground-breaking PAR work concluded in early 2012 by six schools exploring effective uses of "big data" predictive analytics to help improve student learning outcomes.

The Predictive Analytics Reporting (PAR) Framework helps predict risks to student retention and progression in their pursuit of a post-secondary degree or credential. The trends identified through the PAR Framework and shared through reports and risk profiles allow institutions to take steps to remove obstacles to student success and reduce problems with student retention. In his continuing role as principal investigator, APUS Vice President of Research and Development Dr. Phil Ice will oversee technical and analytical strategy for the program, which incorporates many of the best practices and award-winning predictive analytical methods for which he has been recognized by the [Sloan Consortium](#).

The grant funds will enable the creation of a unique, collaboratively created multi-institution dataset containing more than one million anonymized student and five million course records from across 16 WCET member institutions. A dataset of this size will enable the identification of trends at the course, student, institutional and pan-institutional level.

"With 16 participating institutions sharing over one million anonymized student records, we'll be even

better able to identify trends contributing to student success, program momentum, and online course completion," said Dr. Ice. "The cross-section of community college, four-year and online institutions, offering traditional to progressive and competency-based programs, will also help significantly advance our modeling capabilities."

The WCET member institutions include the six founding PAR Framework partner institutions American Public University System, Colorado Community College System, Rio Salado College, University of Hawaii System, University of Illinois Springfield, and the University of Phoenix as well as ten new institutional partners, each committed to raising the quality bar on student success and online learning excellence. New partners committing to share their student and institutional data, and best practices for student intervention with the project include Ashford University, Broward College, Capella University, Lone Star College System, Penn State World Campus, Sinclair Community College, Troy University, University of Central Florida, University of Maryland University College, and Western Governors University.

### **About WCET**

The WICHE Cooperative for Educational Technologies (WCET) is a cooperative, membership-driven, non-profit provider of solutions and services that accelerate the adoption of effective practices and policies, advancing excellence in technology-enhanced teaching and learning in higher education. More information about WCET's institutional membership resources, services and common interest groups can be found on WCET's website, [wcet.wiche.edu](http://wcet.wiche.edu).

### **About American Public University System**

[American Public University System](http://www.apus.edu), winner of the Sloan Consortium's 2009 Ralph E. Gomory Award for Quality Online Education and two-time recipient of Sloan's Effective Practices Award, offers 87 online degree programs through [American Public University](http://www.apus.edu) and [American Military University](http://www.apus.edu). APUS's relevant curriculum, affordability and flexibility help more than 100,000 working adults worldwide pursue degrees in subjects ranging from homeland security to management and liberal arts. For further information, visit <http://www.apus.edu/>

### **Forward Looking Statements**

Statements made in this press release regarding American Public Education, Inc. or its subsidiaries, that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements based on current expectations, assumptions, estimates and projections about American Public Education, Inc. and the industry. These forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual future events or results to differ materially from such statements. Forward-looking statements can be identified by words such as "anticipate", "believe", "could", "estimate", "expect", "intend", "may", "should", "will" and "would". These forward-looking statements include, without limitation, statements regarding expected growth and share repurchase activity. Actual results could differ materially from those expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements as a result of various factors, including the various risks described in the "Risk Factors" section and elsewhere in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011, and Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the three months ended June 30, 2012, as filed with the SEC. The Company undertakes no obligation to update publicly any forward-looking statements for any reason, even if new information becomes available or other events occur in the future.

Source: American Public University System

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