Showcase: Southern New Hampshire University

Students face a host of challenges in higher education today — including inflexible time-based models that focus on degrees rather than competencies and don't provide transparency about what a person knows and can do. Additionally, most students don't have equitable access to information that can help them make the best decisions about flexible learning and career pathways.

Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) has partnered with Credential Engine to provide this level of transparency. SNHU is using the Credential Transparency Description Language (CTDL) a common data language that enables providers to organize, connect, and consistently describe their credentials and publish them to Credential Engine's Credential Registry.

SNHU is making a major contribution to innovative ecosystems by mapping its curriculum to CTDL and publishing it to the Registry. So far, SNHU has mapped to CTDL and published to the Registry 114 credentials, 1375 courses, and 957 competencies that are transparently linked to each other. SNHU's goal is to publish all data — credentials, courses, competencies, pathways, and transfer value — to the Registry.

Students deserve equitable access to information about their education and career options, including transparency about the skills and competencies they can learn through courses and credentials. They need clear, transparent information about credentials from multiple providers, across K-12, higher education, industry certifications, apprenticeships, military, informal learning, and more. As SNHU President Paul LeBlanc wrote in his book, *Students First: Equity, Access, and Opportunity in Higher Education,* "Imagine a new normal where students can see what knowledge and skills are required to earn a credential."

SNHU is a powerful example for other higher education institutions looking to map their curriculum and empower learners with increased transparency. It and thousands of other organizations publishing data to the Registry are building new learning ecosystems that put students first and empower them with interoperable information across a wider array of learning options.