

MINUTES

Council on Postsecondary Education

Type: Committee on Equal Opportunities
Date: October 26, 2020
Time: 1:00 p.m. ET
Location: Virtual Meeting – Committee member by ZOOM teleconference. Public viewing at: <https://youtu.be/PGyclJ8DYfU>

WELCOMING & CALL TO ORDER

The Committee on Equal Opportunities met Monday, October 26, 2020, at 1:00 p.m., ET. Pursuant to Executive Order 2020-243 and a memorandum issued by the Finance and Administration Cabinet dated March 16, 2020, and in an effort to prevent the spread of Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), the Committee met utilizing a video teleconference. Members of the public were invited to view the meeting virtually on the CPE YouTube page: <https://youtu.be/PGyclJ8DYfU>. Committee Chair Robert H. Staat presided.

ATTENDANCE

Members attended: Whitney Allen, Deborah Aparicio, David Carpenter, Alfonso De Torres Nuñez, Ling-Yuh Pattie, Luv'Tesha Robertson, and Robert Staat.

Members not in attendance: Colby Birkes, Robert Croft, Kim Halbauer, and Shawn Reynolds.

Jessica Romious, CPE's Associate for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, served as recorder of the meeting minutes.

INTRODUCTIONS

Dr. Staat welcomed Colby Birkes as the Council's new student member on the committee. Mr. Birkes is a law student at the University of Louisville.

WELCOME & UPDATES

Travis Powell, CPE Vice President and General Counsel, provided the Council updates, which included how Dr. Aaron Thompson, CPE President, has become a

local and national voice regarding COVID-19 response and social justice issues as it pertains to higher education. In regards to campus reopening plans, the Council provided guidance and flexibility to Kentucky's institutions in how students returned to campus for the fall semester, whether it be in-person, online, and/or hybrid instruction. Mr. Powell also reported that enrollment remained steady for the fall 2020 semester.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the June 22, 2020 meeting were approved as presented.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Institutional Improvement Plan

Mr. Deverin Muff presented Eastern Kentucky University's Institutional Improvement Plan for approval, which identified specific strategies and resources dedicated to addressing the deficiencies identified in its annual review. The strategies included a new leadership structure to lead the process, redirect the proper level of supports to ensure satisfactory engagement on a continual basis, and implement a better data collection and reporting system.

Approval of Institutional Strategy Revisions

Mr. Muff also presented qualitative strategy revisions for Ashland Community & Technical College, Big Sandy Community & Technical College, Eastern Kentucky University, Somerset Community College, and West Kentucky Community & Technical College.

MOTION: Ms. Pattie motioned to approve both Eastern Kentucky University's improvement plan as well as each of the institutions' strategy revisions as presented. Dr. Robinson seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

OTHER BUSINESS

Committee Chair Staat presented a new scoring template to be considered for future use in the evaluation process. The Committee discussed the elements of the template and decided to review it further at a future meeting.

Dr. Offutt presented a preview of what to expect at the virtual 2020 Higher EDquity symposium, to be held on November 9-10, 2020 in partnership with the University of

Louisville. She stated the event titled, The Urgency of N.O.W (No Opportunity Wasted), would highlight strategies for providing equitable services to students from enrollment to degree completion, particularly for underrepresented minorities and low-income students. Sessions will also focus on creating and maintaining support for students amid the effects of social injustices and the global pandemic.

Finally, the Committee thanked Ling-Yuh Pattie for her service as a member of the Committee on Equal Opportunities. She served a full four-year term from 2017 through 2020 and was a valued member.

ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 2:21 P.M. ET

MINUTES REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY THE COMMITTEE: January 26, 2020