

**MINUTES**  
**Council on Postsecondary Education**  
**January 24, 2000**

The Council on Postsecondary Education met January 24, 2000, at 10:00 a.m. at the Council offices in Frankfort. Chair Whitehead presided.

**OATH OF OFFICE**

Thomas Wingate, Franklin County District Judge, administered the oath of office to the new Council members – Hilda Legg, Charlie Owen, and Joan Taylor.

**ROLL CALL**

The following members were present: Norma Adams, Walter Baker, Steve Barger, Peggy Bertelsman, Ron Greenberg, Merl Hackbart, Philip Huddleston, Hilda Legg, Kevin Listerman, Shirley Menendez, Charlie Owen, Joan Taylor, Lee Todd, Lois Weinberg, and Charles Whitehead. Kevin Noland, Acting Commissioner of Education, was represented by Gene Wilhoit.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the November 8, 1999, meeting were approved as distributed.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

A written report from the Council president was included in the agenda book. Mr. Davies said that Governor Paul Patton will join the meeting later to discuss the postsecondary education budget recommendations to be presented to the General Assembly January 25. Mr. Davies said that the Strategic Committee on Postsecondary Education has proven to be valuable in the development of the postsecondary education budget recommendations. Since the November SCOPE meeting, staff has talked with members of SCOPE and the administration. There have been some modifications to the recommendations passed by the Council at the November meeting, and the Council members are aware of these changes.

Mr. Davies reported that Kentucky State University's accreditation has been reaffirmed by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

The Kentucky Commonwealth Virtual University has been nominated by BellSouth for a ComputerWorld Smithsonian Award. The ceremony is in April in Washington, D.C. As part of the nomination, the KCVU was invited to compile a comprehensive package describing the KCVU, which becomes part of the permanent research collection of the Smithsonian.

Mr. Davies announced that Ron Carson, a long-time member of the Office of the State Budget Director, has joined the Council staff as a senior fellow for policy and finance. He also welcomed Sue Patrick, the new marketing director for the KCVU.

Mr. Davies read proposed resolutions honoring and commending former Council members Marcia Ridings and Leonard Hardin for their service to postsecondary education.

OCR PARTNERSHIP  
AGREEMENT

MOTION: Mr. Barger moved to accept the resolutions. Ms. Weinberg seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Council approve the Committee on Equal Opportunities' recommendation that the Commonwealth enter into a partnership with the U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights to bring Kentucky into full compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the *Fordice* standards.

MOTION: Mr. Barger made a motion to approve the recommendation. Ms. Weinberg seconded the motion.

Sherron Jackson of the Council staff said that development of the partnership agreement began in January 1999 when the U.S. Department of Education told Governor Patton it would review the state's progress in implementing the desegregation plan accepted by the OCR in August 1983. The Governor asked the Council to work with the OCR. Mr. Jackson pointed out two changes to the agenda material: 1) page 17, last paragraph, correct the number of KCTCS community colleges to 13 and technical colleges to 15, and indicate that the Lexington Community College is under the jurisdiction of the University of Kentucky; and 2) page 27, letter "e," line 6, after the word "include," add "but not be limited to."

Mr. Jackson said that the goals of the agreement are expected to be reached by December 31, 2002. He said that this is an aggressive schedule and calls for commitment and action from the Council, the Committee on Equal Opportunities, and the institutions. The partnership agreement places at the state's disposal the resources available at the Philadelphia OCR office and calls for continued monitoring and evaluation throughout the agreement so that issues can be resolved as soon as possible. The agreement addresses two major areas: 1) continued enhancement of Kentucky State University as the Commonwealth's historically black institution; and 2) better student recruitment and retention, attention to campus climate issues, and continued employment of African Americans at all levels within the institutions. The agreement also incorporates as part of its basic plan the *The 1997-2002 Kentucky Plan for Equal Opportunities*.

Ms. Wendella Fox, Director of the Philadelphia Office for Civil Rights, said that she has learned that Kentuckians really believe that "education pays." She said that the state is committed to and believes in education and understands that the only way to move Kentucky ahead politically, socially, economically, and educationally is for all Kentuckians to have equal access to education, and in particular to higher education. She said that the OCR formally acknowledges that Kentucky's *1997-2002 Kentucky Plan* is comprehensive and has as its goals and objectives the continued areas of student enrollment, retention, graduation, employment of faculty and staff,

and the continued enhancement of KSU. She formally presented to Mr. Whitehead the partnership agreement.

VOTE: The motion passed.

The Reverend Louis Coleman with the Louisville Justice Resource Center read a letter to the OCR urging it to continue monitoring the progress of the institutions in implementing the plan. He said that there have been significant improvements but much remains to be done.

**DEGREE PROGRAM  
ELIGIBILITY**

An information item on degree program eligibility was presented. The Council can receive new academic program proposals during calendar year 2000 from 18 of 22 postsecondary education institutions either through automatic eligibility or the waiver process as provided in 13 KAR 2:060.

**KCVU UPDATE**

An update on the activities of the Kentucky Commonwealth Virtual University was included in the agenda book. The KCVU has experienced rapid growth from its inaugural fall 1999 term. As of January 4, 2000, enrollment was at 1,862 students with 164 courses offered by 22 institutions. An estimated 400 full-time equivalent students generate approximately \$750,000 in tuition for Kentucky institutions.

Mary Beth Susman, CEO of the KCVU, distributed a chart of the course offerings by institution. Some institutions are heavily involved and others only minimally, but she expects participation to continue to increase. The comprehensive universities are playing the largest role and have the most enrollments.

Mr. Davies reported that The National Library of Australia recently visited with the staff of the Kentucky Commonwealth Virtual Library to discuss development of the KCVL. The National Library came to Kentucky because the KCVL provides access to materials to every citizen of the Commonwealth.

**KVHS**

Gene Wilhoit, Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Education, said that the Department of Education is registering students for the first semester of the Kentucky Virtual High School.

**GOVERNOR PATTON**

The Council welcomed Governor Patton who addressed the Council members. He thanked them for their work to implement the vision of House Bill 1. He said that this is the crucial legislative session for postsecondary education in Kentucky. The time has come for the people of the state to decide if they are willing to stand up for the future and do the things that have to be done if Kentucky is to compete in the knowledge-based economy. The Governor told the Council members that their budget recommendations will constitute his recommendation to the General Assembly. He said that Kentucky must continue to invest in postsecondary education or will be a third-rate state in the new century.

Governor Patton then took questions from the press about various aspects of the budget recommendations. Mr. Davies briefly explained the key components of the postsecondary education budget recommendations. The Governor said that the budget must stay intact and should not be picked apart or will fall apart. He said that he may propose projects not recommended by the Council, but it is his desire to fund all programs included in the Council budget recommendations. When asked if he believes the university presidents agree with the budget recommendations, the Governor responded that the original intent was to try to get the institutions to work together as a system with the Council as an advocate for postsecondary education.

Mr. Whitehead thanked the Governor for his support and leadership on behalf of the Council.

#### REVIEW OF RESEARCH CHALLENGE PROGRAMS & PROGRAMS OF DISTINCTION

The guidelines for the Research Challenge Trust Fund and the Regional University Excellence Trust Fund require the Council to assess at least once every two years the academic and financial performance of the programs supported by these trust funds. Representatives from Eastern Kentucky University, Morehead State University, and Murray State University gave presentations on the status of their programs of distinction: Justice and Safety (EKU), Institute for Regional Analysis and Public Policy (MoSU), and Telecommunications Systems Management (MuSU). Representatives from the other institutions will provide information about their programs of distinction at future Council meetings.

A general discussion about the programs followed. Several suggestions were offered for future reports: 1) list what the institutions are doing compared to what the Council approved; 2) place greater emphasis on visibility nationwide and create a vision for effecting change; 3) create a marketing piece on all of the programs of distinction to make the programs nationally known; and 4) develop measurable goals to report progress, such as percentage of extramural funding and the number of program graduates.

#### LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Davies gave a brief update on several bills being considered by the legislature.

#### P-16 COUNCIL REPORT

Mr. Davies reported that, at its December meeting, the P-16 Council addressed an array of projects undertaken statewide pertaining to teacher quality, curriculum alignment, and student transition from the P-12 into the postsecondary system. The bill proposing recommendations of the Governor's Task Force on Teacher Quality codifies the P-16 Council and adds to its membership the heads of the Association of Independent Kentucky Colleges and Universities and the Education Professional Standards Board. The P-16 Council has created two alignment teams on curriculum, one in mathematics and one in language arts, for the purpose of aligning the curricula of elementary-secondary and postsecondary education. Ms. Bertelsman will chair the language arts alignment team and

State Board member Carol Gabbard will chair the mathematics alignment team.

Mr. Davies mentioned legislation that would put in place a mathematics diagnostic test. High school students would be tested to determine whether their math skills are adequate to prepare them for college. This may reduce the need for remedial mathematics education when the students enter college.

#### RURAL ALLIED HEALTH & NURSING PROGRAM

An information item was included in the agenda book regarding the rural allied health and nursing program, one of several pass-through programs administered by the Council. The Council staff recently requested information from the institutions about the effect of RAHN programs and performed an independent assessment based on information provided by the Kentucky Board of Nursing and the Kentucky Occupational Therapy Association. It is clear from these reports that the RAHN projects are operating as intended and are increasing the supply of better-prepared professionals in rural areas of the state. Because of this success, and in the interest of reducing the number of pass-through programs that may unnecessarily consume institutional and Council staff time, funding for the RAHN program will be transferred to the base budgets of the participating institutions.

#### NEW ECONOMY INITIATIVES

Mr. Davies said that included in the Council's 2000-02 budget request is a recommendation for a Science and Technology Trust Fund to support commercialization of university research. The funding request is designed to advance scientific research at all institutions, assist technology transfer to the marketplace, and support regional efforts to help businesses access new markets and identify high-tech strengths. The Council staff is working with the Governor's staff and legislative staff to draft legislation so Kentucky can participate in the new, knowledge-driven economy.

Ms. Adams presented the report of the Academic Affairs Committee.

#### NEW PROGRAM PROPOSALS

##### RECOMMENDATIONS:

- That the Master of Science in Public Health and the Doctor of Philosophy programs in Epidemiology proposed by the University of Louisville be approved and registered in CIP 51.2203 (Epidemiology).
- That the Master of Science in Public Health and the Doctor of Philosophy programs in Biostatistics – Decision Science proposed by the University of Louisville be approved and registered in CIP 51.2204 (Health and Medical Biostatistics).
- That the Master of Urban Planning program proposed by the University of Louisville be approved and registered in CIP 04.0301 (City/Urban, Community, and Regional Planning).

- That the Associate of Applied Technology program in Medical Office Technology proposed by Mayo Technical College be provisionally approved and registered in CIP 52.0404 (Medical Administrative Assistant/Secretary).
- That the multi-disciplinary and multi-institutional Doctor of Philosophy program in Rehabilitation Sciences proposed by the University of Kentucky, in conjunction with Eastern Kentucky University, Murray State University, and Western Kentucky University, be approved and registered in CIP 51.2399.01 (Rehabilitation Sciences).

MOTION: Ms. Adams moved that the program proposals be approved. Mr. Huddleston seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

#### PROGRAM BANDS

RECOMMENDATION: That the Council approve the program bands for the research and comprehensive universities and Lexington Community College in order to devolve authority for approving many new academic programs.

MOTION: Ms. Adams moved that the recommendation be approved. Mr. Barger seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

MOTION: Ms. Adams moved that the Council staff will, at least twice a year, report to the Council the staff's review and analysis of new academic programs. Ms. Menendez seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

The Finance Committee did not meet so no report was given.

#### NEXT MEETING

The next Council meeting is March 20, 2000.

#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

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Gordon K. Davies  
President

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Phyllis L. Bailey  
Secretary