

**MINUTES**  
**Council on Postsecondary Education**  
**November 21, 2014**

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The Council on Postsecondary Education met Friday, November 21, 2014, at 9:00 a.m., ET, at Bluegrass Community and Technical College in Lexington, Kentucky. Chair Pam Miller presided.

- WELCOME** Ms. Miller called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. She thanked President Augusta Julian and Bluegrass Community and Technical College for hosting the meeting. President Julian gave a few words of welcome. She also recognized KCTCS President Michael M. McCall, who gave a few words of welcome as well.
- ROLL CALL** The following members were present: Joe Ellis, Maryanne Elliott, Dan Flanagan, Joe Graviss, Dennis Jackson, Pam Miller, Donna Moore, Marcia Ridings, Carolyn Ridley, Robert Staat, Arnold Taylor, Joshua Tunning, and Sherrill Zimmerman. Glenn Denton, Terry Holliday, and Joe Wise did not attend.
- RESOLUTIONS** The Council presented four resolutions to: (1) Michael B. McCall, president of Kentucky Community and Technical College System, (2) Linda Linville, CPE's Senior Policy Advisor for Research, Development, and Health Initiatives, (3) Allen Lind, CPE's Vice President for Innovation and E-Learning, and (4) Yvonne Lovell, CPE's Executive Director of Gear-UP Kentucky. Each was recognized for his or her commitment to postsecondary education and the Commonwealth of Kentucky.
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES** The minutes of the September 16, 2014 meeting were approved as distributed.
- EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT** Ms. Miller discussed the FY 2013-14 audit results presented at the Executive Committee meeting on November 21, 2014. Due to the complexity and amount of funds flowing through the agency's budget, the Council annually contracts with an independent auditor to compile financial statements and perform the agency's financial audit. This audit is not statutorily required, but it serves the Council well to have an outside entity review Council finances, internal controls, and regulation and grant compliance. Blue and Company LLP, a certified public accounting agency in Lexington, conducted the audit this year.
- For the year ending June 30, 2014, the auditors issued an unmodified opinion, stating that the Council's financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the agency. The respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. In addition, the expenditures of federal awards and supplementary information are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole. The firm also noted that it did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that they consider to be material weaknesses.

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MOTION: Ms. Moore moved that the Council accept the audit results. Mr. Jackson seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

CPE PRESIDENT'S  
REPORT TO THE  
COUNCIL

A written report from President King was provided in the agenda book. Highlights of his report included Ms. Miller's induction into the Public Service Hall of Fame, and an update on the application processes of the Vanguard Project and how that project's efforts coincide with those currently being made by the Kentucky Department of Education.

COMMISSIONER OF  
EDUCATION REPORT

Commissioner Holliday was not available to attend the November 21 meeting. He provided a written report in the agenda book.

PERFORMANCE  
PRESENTATION –  
KENTUCKY STATE  
UNIVERSITY

Dr. Raymond Burse, KSU president, Steve Mason, chief of staff, and Beverly Downing, interim provost and vice president for academic affairs, provided the Council with an update on KSU's progress toward achieving its performance goals as set forth in the state's Strategic Agenda. Dr. Burse emphasized KSU's recent reviews and changes of internal processes and efficiencies to improve the functions at KSU. Dr. Burse also answered questions in regards to KSU's nursing program, the school's attempts to rectify KSU's low graduation and retention rates, and the faculties concerns regarding employment and tenure. After the presentation, Mr. Graviss and Ms. Zimmerman commented Dr. Burse on the positive publicity that KSU has received since he took the presidency, and Ms. Miller commended Dr. Burse on his courage to make hard decisions for the betterment of the university.

PERFORMANCE  
PRESENTATION –  
MURRAY STATE  
UNIVERSITY

Dr. Bob Davies, MuSU president, and Dr. Jay Morgan, provost, provided the Council with an update on MuSU's progress toward achieving its performance goals as set forth in the state's Strategic Agenda. Dr. Davies mentioned that MuSU's graduation rates will most likely remain in decline over the next academic year due to the admission methods employed five years prior. He stated that admission standards haven't changed since that time; however the university is focusing its efforts on keeping those underprepared students successful and enrolled. President King also praised Dr. Davies on MuSU's new Strategic Agenda planning process.

PERFORMANCE  
PRESENTATION –  
KENTUCKY  
COMMUNITY AND  
TECHNICAL COLLEGE  
SYSTEM

Dr. Michael McCall, KCTCS president, and Dr. Jay Box, chancellor, provided the Council with an update on KCTCS's progress toward achieving its performance goals as set forth in the state's Strategic Agenda. After the presentation, questions were answered regarding KCTCS's efforts to ensure its graduates are ready for the workplace, KCTCS's outreach services with hard-to-reach students, and what KCTCS is doing to help competency-based graduates transfer to four-year institutions. Dr. Box almost mentioned that his term as the new KCTCS president will take effect on January 16, 2015, and he looks forward to working with the Council in that role.

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**ACTION: CAPITAL  
PROJECTS – UofL and  
MoSU**

The Council on Postsecondary Education has statutory responsibility to review and approve public college and university capital projects costing \$600,000 or more and equipment items costing \$200,000 or more, regardless of fund source, that have been approved by an institution's governing board. During the interim, capital projects are evaluated under KRS 45.760(5), (7) and KRS 45.763.

Mr. Shaun McKiernan, CPE's senior associate of budget and finance, presented the staff recommendation that the council approve: (1) a request by the University of Louisville to authorize the construction of an Athletics Maintenance Facility, funded by the UofL Athletic Association, with a project scope of \$1,250,000; and (2) a project at Morehead State University titled Construct Volleyball Facility, funded with private funds, with a project scope of \$1,400,000. Mr. Taylor asked for clarification that both projects were being paid for solely by private funds, in which Mr. McKiernan answered that they were.

**MOTION:** Mr. Flanagan moved that Council approve both capital projects as presented. Ms. Zimmerman seconded the motion.

**VOTE:** The motion passed.

**ACTION: IMPROVING  
EDUCATOR QUALITY  
STATE GRANT  
PROGRAM**

The Improving Educator Quality State Grant Program awards grants to partnerships that deliver research-based professional development programs to P-12 teachers. To be eligible, a partnership must include a postsecondary institution's school of arts and sciences and its teacher preparation program, as well as at least one high-need local school district. The program enables states to fund training for teachers and administrators in any core academic subject.

Ms. Kathy Garrett, CPE's associate of academic affairs, presented the staff recommendation that the Council on Postsecondary Education award federal *No Child Left Behind*, Title II, Part A, funds in the amount of \$944,721 for January 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016 to the following seven projects:

1. *Integrating Engineering in the Sciences (IES)* (University of Kentucky): \$130,000 – Year 2
2. *Project-Based Investigations on Improving Water Quality in the Kentucky River Watershed* (University of Kentucky): \$130,000 – Year 2
3. *Enriching Science Learning through Simulations and Interdisciplinary Problem-solving* (Murray State University): \$99,000 – Year 2
4. *Designing Mathematics and Science Project-Based Environments: Spanning Astronomical and Atomic Spaces* (University of Kentucky): \$148,491
5. *Engineering Authentic Experiences in the Next Generation Science Classroom* (Morehead State University): \$149,999

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6. *FLIP-EKY: Flipping Mathematics & Science Classrooms in Eastern Kentucky* (Northern Kentucky University): \$137,292
7. *STEM PRIDE, Partnering with Research, Industries to Develop (STEM) Educators for College and Career Readiness* (University of Kentucky): \$149,939

Mr. Taylor asked if these funds would still be available if the 2014-16 budget allocation changes. Ms. Garrett stated that the funds for these grants are guaranteed and confirmed for the next eighteen months.

MOTION: Mr. Graviss moved that the Council approve the motion as presented. Dr. Staat seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

**ACTION: NEW  
ACADEMIC PROGRAMS**

KRS 164.020 (15) empowers the Council on Postsecondary Education to define and approve the offering of all postsecondary education technical, associate, baccalaureate, graduate, and professional degree, certificate, or diploma programs in the public postsecondary education institutions.

Dr. Paul Blankenship, CPE's senior associate of academic affairs, presented the staff recommendation that the Council approve the Master of Science in Nonprofit Leadership Studies from Murray State University, the Master of Science in Environmental and Occupational Health Science from Western Kentucky University, and the Doctor of Psychology from Western Kentucky University. Mr. Graviss asked for clarification that all three degrees were not duplicated at other institutions, and Dr. Blankenship stated they were not.

MOTION: Mr. Graviss moved that the Council approve the new academic programs as presented. Ms. Moore seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

**2012-13  
ACCOUNTABILITY  
REPORT**

The Council submits an annual Accountability Report to the Office of the Governor and the Legislative Research Commission as directed by KRS 164.020(3). The purpose of the report is to inform policymakers and the public of the system-wide progress made in advancing the goals of "Stronger by Degrees: A Strategic Agenda for Kentucky Postsecondary and Adult Education" and the *Kentucky Postsecondary Education Improvement Act of 1997* (HB 1).

Ms. Lee Nimocks, CPE's vice president of policy, planning and operations, and Ms. Melissa Young, CPE's director of grants development and special projects, presented the 2012-13 Accountability Report to the Council. Highlights of the report include the following:

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- Kentucky made impressive gains in the area of college readiness, thanks to an aggressive statewide effort to establish a common definition of readiness and improve the delivery of developmental and bridge programming. Kentucky is on track to reach the college readiness target established by Senate Bill 1 (2009).
- Kentucky continues to experience strong growth in degrees and credentials conferred. The system has achieved its targets for total degrees and credentials and graduate degrees, and is on track to meet associate and bachelor's degree targets.
- Kentucky continues to lose ground on metrics related to adequate funding and affordability.
- Kentucky is steadily improving the educational attainment of younger workers (25-44), an important indicator of the state's economic competitiveness.

Following the overview, questions were answered regarding the declining pool of eligible GED students and the cost of the GED modules, both of which are a continuing focus for Kentucky Adult Education.

2016-20 STRATEGIC  
AGENDA – INITIAL  
DISCUSSION

The *Kentucky Postsecondary Education Improvement Act of 1997* (House Bill 1) requires the Council to review its strategic agenda every four years and the strategic implementation plan every two years. The purpose of the strategic agenda is to "identify specific short-term objectives in furtherance of the long-term goals" established in HB 1. The current strategic (public) agenda covers the period 2011-15 and is called *Stronger by Degrees: A Strategic Agenda for Postsecondary and Adult Education*. It is focused on four policy areas: (1) college readiness, (2) student success, (3) research, economic and community development, and (4) efficiency and innovation.

Ms. Lee Nimocks and Ms. Melissa Young gave the Council an update on the initial planning discussions related to the 2016-20 Strategic Agenda. The Council staff has begun soliciting informal feedback from campus and key policy leaders on the strengths and weaknesses of the Council's current strategic agenda. That work will continue through the end of the year. Committees comprised of Council members, institutional representatives and key stakeholders will be established and begin meeting early in 2015 to create a more detailed development process and timeline.

Mr. Graviss asked if key policy workers will be involved in the planning process. Ms. Nimocks answered yes, especially in the areas of economic and workforce development.

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Following the agenda presentation, Ms. Miller appointed six members of the Council to the 2016-20 Strategic Agenda Steering Committee: Sherrill Zimmerman (chair), Arnold Taylor, Dan Flanagan, Maryanne Elliott, Joe Graviss, and Donna Moore.

**DUAL CREDIT  
PROGRAMS**

Ms. Sue Cain, CPE's senior policy advisor of College Readiness, Developmental Education, and Student Success, presented an update on student participation in dual enrollment courses, the implementation of the Statewide Dual Credit Policy, and the work of the Dual Credit Work Team (comprised of members from CPE, the Kentucky Department of Education, and the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority, among others) to enhance dual credit course opportunities for Kentucky students.

Dual credit courses are college-level courses that simultaneously earn both secondary and transcribed college credit that count toward a postsecondary degree or credential. They include academic courses as well as technical courses and can vary in three dimensions – where they are taught, by whom, and when they are taught. The opportunities presented by dual credit expansion increase a student's odds of enrolling in and completing college credentials and degrees. Both the secondary and postsecondary systems in Kentucky strongly support the use of dual credit as a college completion strategy.

Ms. Elliott asked how high school students can participate in dual credit courses while still meeting their high school course requirements. Ms. Cain answered that, in most cases, students use their high school elective time slots to enroll in dual credit courses.

**FUNDING MODEL  
STEERING COMMITTEE  
UPDATE**

President King gave a brief update on the work of the Funding Model Steering Committee and Funding Model Work Group. A full report was provided in the agenda.

**COMMITTEE ON  
EQUAL  
OPPORTUNITIES  
REPORT**

Dr. Rana Johnson, CPE's chief diversity officer, provided a report from the Committee on Equal Opportunities. Highlights of the report were the 2015 CEO meeting calendar, the 2014 Diversity Plan Assessment Reports, and the SREB Doctoral Scholars Program. Two SREB Doctoral Scholars, Aisha Skinner and Michael Mejia, provided positive remarks on their experiences at the 2014 SREB Institute on Teaching and Mentoring. The institute is designed for scholars currently supported by the Kentucky Doctoral Scholars Program and the goal is to address the shortage of minority faculty in college classrooms and labs around the nation.

**STATE  
AUTHORIZATION  
RECIPROCIITY  
AGREEMENT (SARA)**

Mr. Travis Powell, CPE's general counsel, and Ms. Sarah Levy, CPE's director of licensure, presented an informational report on the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) and the potential impact for Kentucky.

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SARA is a voluntary agreement among member states, districts, and territories that provides for interstate offering of postsecondary distance education courses and programs in member states and fulfills the requirement of state authorization. Activities such as offering distance education, advertising through any medium, faculty residence, proctored exams, and limited field experiences would be permitted in SARA member states for institutions that join. States may apply for membership in SARA through its regional compact (i.e. SREB) and must be authorized by the laws of their state to do so. Institutions may join if they are accredited by an accreditor approved by the U.S. Department of Education and maintain a federal financial responsibility rating of 1.0 or greater (only applicable to private institutions). As of November 21, 2014, seventeen states participate in SARA. If the Council wanted Kentucky to participate in SARA, it could only do so through legislative action.

COMMITTEE  
APPOINTMENTS

Ms. Miller appointed Joshua Tunning to the Committee on Equal Opportunities, to serve through the end of his term on the Council, June 2015. This committee advises the Council on strategies for achieving the equal opportunity and institutional performance objectives.

Ms. Miller appointed Donna Moore (chair), Marcia Ridings, and Joe Wise to the 2015 Nominating Committee. This committee will present nominations for Council chair and vice chair at the February 13, 2015 meeting.

REPORTS FROM  
INSTITUTIONS

Reports from the institutions were provided in the agenda book.

NEXT MEETING

The next Council meeting is February 13, 2015, at the CPE Offices in Frankfort, Kentucky. The CPE Retreat will occur on February 12, 2015.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m., ET.

  
Robert L. King  
CPE President

  
Heather M. Bingham  
Associate, Executive Relations