

**Council on Postsecondary Education**  
**November 7, 2008**

## **Committee on Equal Opportunities Report**

The Committee on Equal Opportunities met Wednesday, October 29, 2008. Following is the status of initiatives, recurring activities, and discussions related to the implementation of the Kentucky Plan for Equal Opportunities, the Partnership with the U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights, and the Committee on Equal Opportunities.

- The CEO adopted a meeting schedule for calendar year 2009. The meeting dates are February 16, April 21, June 16, August (retreat), and October 13.
- The CEO heard status reports of institutional implementation of recommendations from campus visit reports for Somerset Community College, Murray State University, and West Kentucky Community and Technical College. The committee commended the institutions for the level of progress experienced to date.
- Council staff informed the committee that OCR plans to inform the Commonwealth of its status within seven to fourteen days. In addition, the CEO provided direction to staff to work with institutional representatives, general counsels, a subgroup of the conference of presidents, and other education partners to create an action plan to develop the statewide diversity plan for Kentucky. The action plan will be included on the Council's January meeting agenda.
- The committee received a special report by Howard Bailey, WKU Vice President for Student Affairs, regarding the October 22 campus incident. To the extent possible, Mr. Bailey provided the committee with information regarding the impact of the incident and aftermath on African American students and others in the student body.
- The CEO received a special report by Terry Allen with the University of Kentucky regarding an incident on the UK campus October 29 and the quick and clear response by President Lee Todd regarding the inappropriate nature of the act. The incident is under investigation by appropriate law enforcement agencies. The committee adopted a resolution supporting the president and condemning the action of the perpetrator and asked the chair to write a letter to the university on the committee's behalf.
- The CEO will decide at its February meeting whether to postpone campus visits while developing the diversity plan.