

MINUTES
Council on Postsecondary Education
March 19, 2001

The Council on Postsecondary Education met March 19, 2001, at 11 a.m. at Eastern Kentucky University in Richmond, Kentucky. Chair Whitehead presided.

ROLL CALL

The following members were present: Norma Adams, Walter Baker, Steve Barger, Peggy Bertelsman, Ron Greenberg, Merl Hackbart, Philip Huddleston, Hilda Legg, Amanda Coates Lich, Shirley Menendez, Charlie Owen, Joan Taylor, Lois Weinberg, Charles Whitehead, and Gene Wilhoit. Lee Todd did not attend.

Mr. Whitehead thanked Eastern Kentucky University for hosting the council.

**APPROVAL OF
MINUTES**

The minutes of the February 4, February 5, and February 22 meetings were approved as distributed.

EKU CAMPUS REPORT

Dr. Robert Kustra, President of Eastern Kentucky University, introduced a presentation by ECU faculty on an interpreter-training program. In 1998, a memorandum of agreement established the University of Louisville as an off-campus site for ECU faculty to train interpreters. UofL offers primarily general education and supporting courses required for the program. ECU faculty teach the required interpreter training courses in cooperation with the UofL Classical and Modern Languages Department. Those graduating at UofL will graduate with an interpreting degree from ECU.

Dr. Kustra said he has discussed a University Center of the Mountains with the presidents of Morehead State University, Hazard Community College, and the Kentucky Community and Technical College System. Along this line, ECU and Hazard Community College have developed a joint bachelor's degree in social work. Dr. Hughes and Dr. Kustra signed the agreement between the two institutions.

**MoSU NASA SATELLITE
TRACKING STATION**

The Finance Committee discussed a NASA satellite tracking station, which has been transferred to Morehead State University. President Ronald Eaglin said that the partnership with NASA is a rare opportunity for the Commonwealth and the university. Dr. Ben Malphrus, Professor of Space Sciences and Director of the Space Science Center at Morehead State University, made a presentation.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A written report from the council president was included in the agenda book.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

A summary of legislation pertaining to postsecondary education resulting

AGENCY AUDIT
REQUEST FOR
PROPOSAL

from the 2001 General Assembly was included in the agenda book.

RECOMMENDATION: The staff recommends that the council authorize the issuance of a request for proposals for auditing services and that the Executive Committee be authorized to select the firm that will perform an annual audit of the council beginning with the 2000-01 fiscal year.

Mr. Davies said that the Council on Postsecondary Education and its predecessor, the Council on Higher Education, until recently, was a very small operation. The postsecondary education reform resulted in sizeable amounts of money appropriated to the council as trust funds or pass-throughs. Because of the size and complexity of the operating budget, an annual audit of the agency's finances is necessary.

MOTION: Mr. Barger moved approval of the recommendation. Mr. Baker seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

Mr. Whitehead asked the Executive Committee to review proposals from competing vendors and select the audit firm. Executive committee members are Mr. Whitehead, Ms. Weinberg, Ms. Adams, Mr. Baker, Mr. Barger, and Ms. Menendez.

COUNCIL STAFF

Mr. Davies announced that council staff member Rana Johnson successfully defended her doctoral dissertation at the University of Kentucky. He also introduced two additions to the council staff – Sherri Noxel as senior associate for information and Sue Hasbrouck as senior associate for finance.

KEY INDICATORS OF
PROGRESS TOWARD
POSTSECONDARY
EDUCATION REFORM

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- The staff recommends that the council approve the key indicators outlined in Attachment A to answer the five questions guiding postsecondary reform. These indicators will tell us whether Kentucky's system of postsecondary education is helping to improve the lives of Kentucky's people, the quality of the communities in which they live and work, and the economic well-being of the state.
- For the indicators included in Attachment B, the staff recommends that the council approve goals for 2002.
- The staff recommends that the council direct the staff to continue its work with the institutions and other agencies to propose the remaining goals by the end of 2001 according to the schedule outlined in Attachment C.

Sue Hodges Moore said the year-long effort involved the council, council staff, faculty and staff of the institutions, and the key stakeholders who

benefit from the postsecondary system. In November, the council discussed proposed indicators. Following that meeting, the staff again consulted with the key stakeholders and the institutions and then refined the proposal. Dr. Moore called attention to three characteristics of the indicator system:

1. It is short and easy to understand. It will stimulate change and improvement and is framed around the five questions.
2. It is oriented around statewide priorities, not necessarily around institutions. The questions tie directly back to House Bill 1, to 2020 Vision, and to the Action Agenda. The questions are aimed at improving lives. The systemwide goals are based on where the state wants to be in 20 years.
3. The accomplishment of many of the goals, particularly questions 1 and 5, rely as much on the efforts of those outside the postsecondary system as those within it.

Staff will continue to work with outside agencies to develop goals on some of the indicators. This information will be brought to the council at future meetings.

MOTION: Mr. Baker moved that the recommendations be approved. Mr. Barger seconded the motion.

Ms. Weinberg thanked the staff for working with others throughout the Commonwealth. She said the questions and indicators give council members an opportunity to organize the enormous amount of data that is available to track progress on House Bill 1 goals.

Mr. Wilhoit said that the Department of Education is involved in a similar set of activities for elementary and secondary, and its first report was issued recently. He said that the staffs of the council and the department also are developing a data system, which will allow the transfer of information from one agency to another. Results should be seen in about 18 months.

AMENDMENT TO MOTION: Mr. Greenberg amended the motion to ask the council staff to develop additional indicators for academic quality and research and that these measures be reported to the council by the end of October. Mr. Hackbart seconded the motion.

Ms. Bertelsman said that the trust funds are a mandated part of reform and there is no indicator that will allow the council to monitor the performance of both comprehensive and research university trust funds.

AMENDMENT TO MOTION: Ms. Bertelsman moved that the original motion be tabled and suggested that the council discuss the indicators at a retreat planned for early summer.

Dr. Moore said that these indicators do not replace all the other types of evaluation and monitoring conducted by the council staff and the council.

The objectives of the equal opportunities plan, indicators for adult education, new economy, Bucks for Brains, and evaluation of programs of distinction will continue. The indicators under consideration are the “dashboard” – the things that we need to pay close attention to to see if reform is working. Additional indicators can be added at any time.

Ms. Bertelsman withdrew her amendment to table the motion, noting that indicators can be added later.

VOTE ON MR. GREENBERG’S AMENDMENT: The amendment failed.

VOTE ON ORIGINAL MOTION: The motion passed.

NATIONAL SURVEY
OF STUDENT
ENGAGEMENT

At its March 2000 study session, the council endorsed the participation of Kentucky’s public universities in the National Survey of Student Engagement. The survey, sponsored by the Pew Charitable Trusts, is based on research suggesting that students learn more when they are actively engaged in their studies. Centre College was among the first institutions taking part in the survey. The Chronicle of Higher Education in November 2000 said Centre and three other liberal arts colleges “stood out among 276 institutions whose freshmen and seniors participated.” John Ward, vice president for academic affairs and dean of Centre College, and Elizabeth Perkins, associate dean, spoke with the council about the survey, why Centre chose to participate, and the reasons for the college’s high ratings.

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

ADULT EDUCATION
NEW OPPORTUNITY
GRANTS

The Adult Education Action Plan for fiscal year 2000-01, approved by the council in November, set aside \$1.5 million for New Opportunity Grants and authorized council staff to select the recipients. Sixty-two applications were received and nine proposals totaling \$1,060,723 were selected. Information about the grants is included in the agenda book.

MA IN TEACHING, NKU

RECOMMENDATION: The staff recommends that the council approve the master of arts in teaching proposed by Northern Kentucky University. NKU should bring a report to the council in May and report on the progress of creating a presence in the Kentucky Virtual University.

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

VOTE: The motion passed.

MS AND DSc IN
CLINICAL SCIENCES,
UK

RECOMMENDATION: The staff recommends that the council approve the master of science and doctor of science in clinical sciences proposed by the University of Kentucky. UK should bring a report to the council in September and report on the progress of creating a presence in the Kentucky Virtual University.

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

VOTE: The motion passed.

The Academic Affairs Committee discussed the seriousness of involving the KYVU in proposed programs that are being placed on the Web. The committee requested that a statement be included in proposals, making clear the institution's intentions.

Mr. Baker presented the report of the Finance Committee.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

POSTSECONDARY
EDUCATION TRUST
FUNDS INVESTMENT
INCOME

- The staff recommends that the interest income earned through June 30, 2000, on the five trust funds listed in the attached chart be allotted to the institutions in accordance with the trust fund criteria and policy statements put into effect when the trust funds were established in 1997-98.
- The staff recommends that, using funds from the Technology Initiative Trust Fund (see Agenda Item I-2), the council provide the required one-for-one match of interest income from the Regional University Excellence Trust Fund if used by the comprehensive universities to advance the statewide strategy for engineering. The staff further recommends that the council match funds allocated internally by the University of Kentucky and the University of Louisville for the statewide engineering strategy up to an amount equivalent to the interest income accumulated in the Research Challenge Trust Fund. The staff recommends that the council limit the total amount of the matching funds from the Technology Initiative Trust Fund to \$650,000, as presented in Agenda Item I-2.

MOTION: Mr. Baker moved that the recommendations be approved. Mr. Barger seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

RECOMMENDATION: The staff recommends that the council approve the following allocations from the 1998-2000 General Fund appropriation to the Technology Initiative Trust Fund:

TECHNOLOGY
INITIATIVE TRUST
FUND

- \$650,000 for academic program development, primarily the statewide strategy on engineering education.
- \$300,000 for the development and administration of surveys that support the key indicators.
- \$100,000 for the council's Web development.
- \$400,000 for degree audit and course transfer systems.
- \$100,000 for local P-16 councils.

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

VOTE: The motion passed.

Mr. Baker called attention to a preliminary timeline developed to submit the 2002-04 operating and capital budget recommendations for the public institutions and the council. The recommendations are to be submitted to the Governor's Office for Policy and Management and the Legislative Research Commission by November 15, 2001.

2002-04 OPERATING
AND CAPITAL BUDGET
RECOMMENDATIONS:
PRELIMINARY
TIMELINE

Mr. Baker said that the Finance Committee had extensive discussion on the draft 2002-04 tuition-setting guidelines. The guidelines need further discussion by the council members.

2002-04 TUITION-
SETTING GUIDELINES

RECOMMENDATION: The staff recommends that the council approve the University of Kentucky's request to renovate the Gluck Equine Research Center with \$4,700,000 in private and agency funds.

UK GLUCK EQUINE
RESEARCH CENTER
RENOVATION

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

VOTE: The motion passed.

RECOMMENDATION: The staff recommends that the council approve Morehead State University's request to spend \$4,200,000 in federal funds to relocate the operations of the NASA-Goddard satellite tracking station to Morehead from Wallops Island, Virginia.

MoSU NASA SATELLITE
TRACKING STATION

Mr. Baker noted that the council has the statutory responsibility to review and approve postsecondary education capital construction projects costing \$400,000 or more, regardless of fund source.

MOTION: Mr. Baker moved that the recommendation be approved. Ms. Menendez seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

The Finance Committee discussed the buy-out of coaches' contracts at the University of Kentucky and the University of Louisville. The committee took no action but expressed informally its dissatisfaction.

ATHLETIC CONTRACTS

Mr. Whitehead appointed a nominating committee to select officers before June 30. Members of the committee are Mr. Whitehead, Ms. Weinberg, Ms. Adams, and Mr. Baker, with Mr. Baker serving as chair.

NOMINATING
COMMITTEE

Mr. Huddleston asked the council members to consider combining the Finance Committee and the Academic Affairs Committee as a committee of the whole. This would eliminate the split sessions and would allow all council members to hear presentations and discussions on all issues.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE

STRUCTURE

Mr. Whitehead said that the council members should discuss this proposal at the retreat planned for early summer.

The next meeting is May 21 at the council offices in Frankfort.

NEXT MEETING

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Gordon K. Davies
President

Phyllis L. Bailey
Secretary

