

Minutes
Council on Postsecondary Education
February 2, 2018

The Council on Postsecondary Education met Friday, February 2, 2018, at 11:00 a.m., ET, at the Council offices in Frankfort, Kentucky. Chair Sherrill Zimmerman presided.

**WELCOME AND
ROLL CALL**

Chair Zimmerman called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

The following members were present: Ronald C. Beal, Benjamin Brandstetter, Kimberly Halbauer, Lucas Mentzer, Donna Moore, Kristi Nelson, Vidya Ravichandran, Shawn Reynolds, Robert H. Staat, Sebastian Torres, Carol Wright, and Sherrill Zimmerman. Joe Ellis, Dan Flanagan, Joe Papalia, and Commissioner Stephen Pruitt did not attend.

**APPROVAL OF
MINUTES**

The minutes of the November 2-3, 2017 meetings were approved as distributed.

RESOLUTIONS

The Council adopted resolutions honoring the following individuals for their dedication and service to the Council and the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

- Carl Rollins, Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority
- Sue Hodges Moore, Northern Kentucky University
- Karen Sue Cain, Council on Postsecondary Education
- Maryanne H. Elliott, Council on Postsecondary Education

**STRONGER BY
DEGREES:
NORTHERN
KENTUCKY
UNIVERSITY
ANNUAL REPORT**

Dr. Gerard St. Amand, interim president of Northern Kentucky University, delivered NKU's annual Stronger By Degrees presentation with Dr. Sue Hodges-Moore, Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance, Dr. Sue Rowlands, provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, and Mr. Shawn Rainey, executive director for Planning and Institutional Research. The presentation focused on baseline data, targets to be met by the end of the strategic plan, and strategies being implemented to meet those targets. During the presentation, Dr. St. Amand answered questions regarding NKU's progress with underprepared students, programs in place to meet targets set by the university, NKU's corequisite policy, and NKU's financial aid policies and the unmet financial needs of its students.

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STRONGER BY
DEGREES:
KENTUCKY STATE
UNIVERSITY
ANNUAL REPORT

Dr. Michael Christopher Brown, president of Kentucky State University, delivered KSU's annual Stronger By Degrees presentation, which focused on baseline data, targets to be met by the end of the strategic plan, and strategies being implemented to meet those targets. During the presentation, Dr. Brown answered questions regarding his vision for KSU and how the university is increasing enrollment and graduation rates.

2017 REPORT OF
THE KSU
MANAGEMENT
IMPROVEMENT
PLAN

The 2016-18 budget bill, HB 303, required Kentucky State University to submit to the Interim Joint Committee on Appropriations and Revenue:

“[A] four-year management improvement plan with annual goals and measurable metrics to meet those goals. Due by December 1, 2016, the management and improvement plan and all goals shall include performance standards established in consultation with the Council on Postsecondary Education, and shall be subject to the approval of the Council.”

The legislation also required KSU to provide an update on the institution's progress toward achieving the goals and performance standards identified in the management and improvement plan by December 1 each year.

KSU President Brown presented KSU's first annual update to the Council of the KSU Management Improvement Plan and answered questions regarding the university's continuing efforts to improve the institution's effectiveness and efficiency.

APPROVAL OF
2018-19 TUITION
SETTING TIMELINE
AND TUITION AND
MANDATORY FEE
POLICY

Mr. Bill Payne, CPE's vice president for finance and administration, and Mr. Shaun McKiernan, CPE's senior associate for finance and administration, presented the 2018-19 Tuition Setting Timeline, the Tuition and Mandatory Fee Policy, and the Asset Preservation Fee Exception Policy for approval. All three documents were developed in consultation with, and endorsed by, the members of the Tuition Development Work Group. If approved, the documents would guide

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the formation of a tuition and mandatory fee ceiling recommendation and facilitate submission and assessment of campus proposed tuition and fee rate schedules for academic year 2018-19. Tuition and Development Work Group members endorsed the policies as presented.

MOTION: Mr. Sebastian Torres moved that the Council approve the 2018-19 Tuition Setting Timeline, the Tuition and Mandatory Fee Policy, and the Asset Preservation Fee Exception Policy as presented. Mr. Ben Brandstetter seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously.

INTERIM CAPITAL PROJECT – KCTCS

Dr. Payne and Mr. McKiernan presented the staff recommendation to approve KCTCS's request for the Hopkinsville Community College Training Lab Addition and Renovation, which would be funded with a combination of Kentucky Work Ready Skills Initiative funds (\$2.4 million) and agency restricted funds (\$0.3 million).

The project was approved by the KCTCS Board of Regents on September 15, 2017, and would be funded with \$2,353,554 from the Kentucky Work Ready Skills Initiative, which is funded by the \$100 million Workforce Development Construction Pool included in the 2016-18 Budget of the Commonwealth. The remaining \$321,180 for the project would come from KCTCS agency restricted funds (12% of the total cost). Because agency restricted funds comprise less than 15% of the project total, the addition of agency restricted funds is permissible by state law.

The project would be used to renovate Hopkinsville Community College's welding facility and construct a 9,000 square foot addition to the facility for training labs. The design and construction of this project would be pursued through the Finance and Administration Cabinet. KCTCS officials estimate that the project would be completed by June 2019. KCTCS submitted this project in partnership with the Christian County Public Schools and it was funded in the second round of Work Ready Skills Initiative awards.

MOTION: Mr. Reynolds moved the Council approve KCTCS's

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request for the Hopkinsville Community College Training Lab Addition and Renovation as presented. Ms. Nelson seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF
CAMPUS
DIVERSITY,
EQUITY &
INCLUSION

At its September 23, 2016 meeting, the Council approved the 2016-20 Kentucky Public Postsecondary Education Policy for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. After that, Council staff worked with institutions to develop their campus-level plans, which identify strategies for achieving the goals of the plan and assessing strategy effectiveness. The campus plans for 4 universities and the all sixteen KCTCS campuses were presented for approval at the November, 2017 meeting; however due to several concerns from Council members regarding the targets set on the metrics, no motion was made.

Ms. Caroline Atkins, senior associate for academic affairs, and Dr. Aaron Thompson, executive vice president and chief academic officer, presented the plans for each of Kentucky's public college and university. Dr. Thompson stated that since the Council expressed disappointment in the targets set by the campuses in November, CPE staff worked with the president's offices to renegotiate more appropriate and challenging targets. Council member Kim Halbauer stated she felt the targets were still not challenging enough and that the Council and state should expect more of its institutions. Campus presidents that were present gave explanation on the targets set for their campuses and the challenges they face in order to have greater success within the time frame of the plan.

MOTION: Dr. Staat moved that the Council approve the diversity plans as presented for Kentucky's research, comprehensive, and KCTCS campuses. Ms. Moore seconded the motion.

VOTE: In a roll call vote, the motion passed 9-2. Council members voting nay were Kim Halbauer and Ron Beal.

CPE PRESIDENT'S

A written report from President King was provided in the agenda

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REPORT TO THE COUNCIL

book. President King remarked on several topics including the 2018 Student Success Summit, RFA process presently taking place with Kentucky Adult Education, and CPE staff accomplishments.

KENTUCKY COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION REPORT

Commissioner Stephen Pruitt provided a written report in the agenda book.

PROJECT GRADUATE UPDATE

Ms. Sue Patrick, CPE's executive director of communications, presented an update on Project Graduate, an adult learner completion program that seeks to recruit and graduate former students with 80+ credit hours toward a bachelor's degree. Launched in 2007, the Project Graduate model includes a statewide brand that all campuses use; student outreach materials; and campus staff who provide adult-friendly services and incentives, which vary by campus. Application fee waivers, academic advising, credit for prior learning and military service, and a one-stop area and single point of contact for assistance are a few examples. The Council's role is to serve as a convener, and to develop and deploy marketing and media promotions, as well as data analysis to track the progress.

The following individuals provided background information and additional information on how the program has helped their campus and/or individual experience:

- Lisa Cox, ECU's Director of Student Outreach and Transition
- Alesia Miller, recent ECU graduate
- Mike Shanks, UK's Associate Registrar for the Degree Audit Office
- Joseph Best, recent UK graduate

Council members thanked the guests for their story and congratulated the graduates on their achievements.

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FINANCIAL LITERACY ON KENTUCKY'S COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES

Ms. Lee Nimocks, CPE's vice president for policy, planning, and external relations, provided the Council with CPE's recent report, *Financial Literacy Efforts at Kentucky's Public Colleges and Universities: Addressing Student Debt and Improving Affordability*.

Improving the financial literacy of students and families is one of the strategies of Objective 5 of the 2016-21 Statewide Strategic Agenda. CPE staff began meeting with the financial aid directors of each public institution last summer, to discuss the current strategies taking place on Kentucky campuses to educate prospective and current students about college cost, student loans/debt, and financial aid. The report was an outcome of those meetings, and details the efforts taking place.

Tiffany Jackson, executive director of the University's new Financial Wellness Center, and Doug Cleary, Director of Financial Aid at KCTCS provided additional information on their efforts to provide students with the tools and support they need to build a strong foundation for their financial future.

Following all discussions, Mr. Brandstetter proposed and read aloud the following resolution:

WHEREAS, education beyond high school strengthens state and regional economies, ensures a stronger workforce, and improves economic opportunity for all citizens; and

WHEREAS, according to a report from Gallup, "young adults cite college costs as their top financial problem, and paying for college tops the financial concerns of U.S. parents who have children younger than eighteen"; and

WHEREAS, a strong foundation in financial literacy, or understanding how money is made, spent, and saved in order to make informed decisions, is particularly important during the transition to and through college; and

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WHEREAS, comprehensive, transparent information about college costs, financial aid, and student loans communicated regularly to students while in college can encourage them to borrow responsibly, finish a degree, and transition to a meaningful career; and

WHEREAS, several Kentucky universities have introduced or are exploring the use of annual loan letters to help provide clear information to students and families about cumulative debt, potential total payout, and potential monthly payments; and

WHEREAS, in recent years all of Kentucky's colleges and universities, in partnership with the federal government, state, and private organizations, have expanded financial literacy programs and introduced tools to provide students and families with clearer information about college costs and student debt;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council on Postsecondary Education commends the campuses for the work that has been done to improve the financial literacy levels of Kentucky's college students; however, the Council urges campus leaders to implement a financial literacy program at their campus that provides a concise snapshot of students' cumulative debt, potential total payout, and potential monthly payments. The attached template may be used to communicate this information so that this can be in place for the term beginning in January of 2019.

MOTION: Mr. Brandstetter moved that the Council approve the resolution as presented. Mr. Torres seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously.

LEGISLATIVE
UPDATE

Mr. Ron Carson, CPE's legislative liaison and senior fellow, presented an update on the beginning of the 2018 Regular Legislative Session. He introduced the attending campus

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legislative liaisons, provided the key dates of the 2018 session, and mentioned bills of interest to the Council that have been filed.

**KYAE SKILLS U –
UPDATE ON RFA
PROCESS**

On January 12, Kentucky Adult Education (KYAE) Skills U launched its Request for Application (RFA) for multiple-year adult education services grants. KYAE Skills U will be accepting applications from eligible applicants to develop, implement, and improve adult education activities within the state by establishing and/or operating programs to provide a comprehensive service model for adult education services, including programs that provide such activities concurrently for multiple fiscal years of July 1, 2018- June 30, 2021.

A written report of the activities thus far on the process was provided in the agenda book.

**REPORTS FROM
INSTITUTIONS**

Reports from the institutions were provided in the agenda book.

**CPE NOMINATING
COMMITTEE
REPORT AND
ELECTION OF THE
2018 CPE CHAIR
AND VICE CHAIR**

The Nominating Committee met on February 1, 2018 to discuss and recommend members to serve as chair and vice chair of the CPE for a one-year term from February 2018 through January 2019. The chair shall serve as the convener of all Council meetings and as the central voice of the Council. In the absence of the chair, or in the event the chair is unable to perform, the vice chair shall perform the duties of the chair. In the event the chair resigns and the vice chair assumes the duties of the chair, the Council may select a vice chair to complete the unexpired term of the vice chair. The chair and vice chair are limited to three consecutive one-year terms.

Ms. Donna Moore, chair of the Nominating Committee, presented the committee's recommendations.

MOTION: Ms. Wright accepted the committee's recommendations and moved that Sherrill Zimmerman continue to serve as the chair of the Council on Postsecondary Education and Ben Brandstetter

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as vice chair, with terms extended through January 31, 2019. Mr. Beal seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

OTHER BUSINESS Chair Zimmerman thanked the members for attending the retreat on February 1, and stated that follow up on the priorities discussed would be forthcoming.

Chair Zimmerman appointed Lucas Mentzer to The Kentucky Authority for Educational Television, which is the governing body for KET, with a term expiring November 30, 2021. KRS 168.040 states that of the nine members on the board, two members are elected by the Council on Postsecondary Education, and Mr. Mentzer will serve as the representative of the state universities.

ADJOURNMENT The next Council meetings will be held April 26-27, 2018 at the University of Louisville. The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m., ET.



Robert L. King
President



Heather M. Faesy
Associate, Board Relations & Special
Projects