

MINUTES

Council on Postsecondary Education

Type: Business Meeting
Date: November 5, 2021
Time: 9:30 a.m. ET
Location: Transylvania University, William T Young Campus Center, Pioneer Room,
361 N. Broadway, Lexington, KY 40508

WELCOMING & CALL TO ORDER

The Council on Postsecondary Education met Friday, November 5, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., ET at Transylvania University in Lexington, Kentucky. Chair Lucas Mentzer presided.

ATTENDENCE

Members who attended in person: Kellie Ellis, Lucas Mentzer, Richard Nelson, Madison Silvert, Elaine Walker, Kevin Weaver, and Commissioner Jason Glass.

Members who attended by teleconference: Muhammad Babar, Eric Farris, Karyn Hoover, and Carol Wright.

Members not in attendance: Ronald Beal, Colby Birkes, Lori Harper, and Vidya Ravichandran.

CPE President Aaron Thompson served as Secretary of the board, per the CPE Bylaws. Ms. Heather Faesy, CPE's senior associate for Board Relations, served as recorder of the meeting minutes.

OATH OF OFFICE

Franklin County Judge Executive, Huston Wells, administered the oath of office for new Council member Kellie C. Ellis.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the September 14, 2021 meeting were approved as distributed.

RESOLUTION

The Council approved a resolution for Council member Robert H. Staat for his support and service to the Council on Postsecondary Education and the Commonwealth of Kentucky. He served on the Council as the faculty representative from July 2013 through September 2021.

REPORT FROM KDE COMMISSIONER JASON GLASS

Kentucky Department of Education Commissioner Jason Glass provided an update on Kentucky's continued response to the COVID pandemic, the department's 2022 legislative priorities,

REPORT FROM CPE PRESIDENT AARON THOMPSON

President Aaron Thompson provided an update on the upcoming legislative session and how the agency plans to communicate that a strong education system is important for the economy to prosper. He also discussed the Kentucky Student Success Collaborative Launch and the upcoming GO!vember week which is a collaborative campaign designed to inform Kentucky high school students and their key influencers about the college-going process and encourage them to complete the FAFSA and apply for and enroll in postsecondary education.

2021 COMMONWEALTH EDUCATION CONTINUUM RECOMMENDATIONS AND UPDATES ON CPE P-20 INITIATIVES

Dr. Amanda Ellis, CPE's Associate Vice President, K-12 Policies and Programs and Dr. Jennifer Fraker, Executive Director, K-12 Policies and Programs provided an overview of the work taken by the Commonwealth Education Continuum (CEC). Formed to strengthen the education pipeline, the CEC is co-chaired by Lt. Governor Coleman, President Thompson and Commissioner Glass, and consists of 28 members ranging from early childhood to the workforce. The CEC created three workgroups with distinct focus areas: Early Postsecondary Opportunities, Educator Workforce and Diversity, and Successful Transition to Postsecondary Workgroups. Dr. Ellis and Dr. Fraker shared each of the workgroups' recommendations as well as actions the Council has already taken in response to those recommendations. They

also highlighted the funding secured thus far and the additional funding sources will be sought to expand efforts. Future updates will be provided at upcoming Council and Committee meetings.

KENTUCKY STATE UNIVERSITY (KSU) FINANCIAL REPORT AND MANAGEMENT AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN AREAS

Mr. Travis Powell, Vice President and General Counsel, presented the Management and Improvement Plan areas for Kentucky State University (KSU). The request aligns with Executive Order signed by Governor Beshear on July 20, 2021.

The initial list of seven subject matter areas were adopted by the KSU Board of Regents at its October 19, 2021, upon recommendation of CPE staff after consultation with KSU leadership. Those areas were:

1. Comprehensive Cataloging and Review of University Policies and Procedures to Ensure Efficiency and compliance with state and federal law.
2. Guidelines for Salary Ranges and Benefits for all Faculty, Staff, and Administrators.
3. Board Member Training and Development, including but not limited to financial oversight and effective committee structure.
4. Organizational Structure and Development of Human Infrastructure.
5. Academic Program Offerings, Course Offerings, and Faculty Productivity Guidelines.
6. Accounting and Fiscal Reporting Systems, Collections, Budget, and Internal Controls Over Expenditures and Financial Reporting
7. Student Success and Enrollment Management Strategies

MOTION: Mr. Nelson moved that the Council approve the subject matter areas for the Kentucky State University Management and Improvement Plan. Mr. Silvert seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed. Kevin Weaver abstained from the vote.

DIVERSITY PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR BIG SANDY COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Mr. Powell and Dr. Dawn Offutt, Executive Director for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion presented the request from Big Sandy Community and Technical College

(BSCTC) to approve their Diversity Performance Improvement Plan. In the most recent annual review conducted by the CPE Diversity Equity and Inclusion Unit in partnership with the Committee on Equal Opportunities, BSCTC did not meet the minimum score required to automatically be eligible to apply for new academic programs. As a result, Big Sandy requested a waiver and submitted the required improvement plan.

The Committee on Equal Opportunities is charged with reviewing improvement plans submitted; however, the Committee did not have a quorum present on October 25, 2021 in order to review the request. Therefore, CPE staff requested the Council review the request directly.

The plan presented BSCTC's planned improvement areas of increased internal communication, incorporation of reviewer feedback received from conversations with the evaluation report review team lead and from internal peer groups, data collection, and clearly connecting strategies to results to future actions.

MOTION: Ms. Walker moved that the Council approve the Big Sandy Community and Technical College's Diversity Performance Improvement Plan. If approved, the college will receive a temporary waiver to offer new academic programs, per KRS 164.020(19). Mr. Silvert seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

Following the vote, Dr. Offutt invited Council members to attend the 3rd annual Higher EDquity Symposium, being held on November 16, 2021 at Western Kentucky University.

FINANCE COMMITTEE – REPORT AND ACTION ITEMS

Vice Chair Eric Farris presented the Finance Committee report and its recommendations of approval from the October 28, 2021 committee report.

Request for Postsecondary Institution Operating Funds, Capital Investment and Trust Funds: The request specified the following recommendations.

Component	Fiscal 2022-23	Fiscal 2023-24	Biennial Total
Operating Funds			
Performance Funding	\$67,500,000	\$90,000,000	\$157,500,000
Pension Relief Funds	2,209,900	4,419,800	6,629,700
KSU Land-Grant Program	671,500	671,500	1,343,000
Capital Investment			
New Construction	\$0	\$0	\$0
Asset Preservation	350,000,000	350,000,000	700,000,000
– Debt Service	25,217,000	50,434,000	75,651,000
Technology Infrastructure	0	0	0
Trust Funds			
Endowment Match Program	\$30,000,000	\$30,000,000	\$60,000,000
– Debt Service	2,418,000	4,836,000	7,254,000
Competitive Workforce Initiative	2,225,000	4,450,000	6,675,000

MOTION: Ms. Walker moved to approve the biennial budget request for 2022-24 Postsecondary Institution funds. Mr. Silvert seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

Request for CPE Agency Funds: The request specified the following recommendations.

Operating Funds	Fiscal 2021-22	Fiscal 2022-23	Fiscal 2023-24
Defined Calculations	\$222,900	\$214,900	\$323,900
SREB Doctoral Scholars		50,000	100,000
Expanded Duties and Responsibilities		1,032,500	1,383,400
Education Continuum			
Transitions and Early Postsecondary Opportunities		1,280,500	3,280,500
Healthcare Initiative		\$20,000,000	\$20,000,000
Capital Investment			
Student Portal		\$2,000,000	
Upgrade Regional Optical Network		\$1,000,000	

MOTION: Mr. Weaver moved to approve the 2022-24 biennial budget request for CPE Agency funds. Mr. Nelson seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

Special Appropriation Request: The request specified the following recommendations.

Funding Component	Fiscal Year 2021-22	Fiscal Year 2022-23	Fiscal Year 2023-24
Additional Budget Requests:			
Financial Stabilization Fund (NR)	\$23,000,000	\$0	\$0
Strategic Operating Funds	0	1,000,000	1,000,000
Total Additional Requests	\$23,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000

NR = Nonrecurring funds

MOTION: Ms. Walker moved to approve the Special Appropriation Request. Mr. Silvert seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed. Mr. Weaver abstained from the vote.

ACADEMIC AND STRATEGIC INITIATIVES COMMITTEE – REPORT AND ACTION ITEMS

Chair Lucas Mentzer presented the Academic and Strategic Initiatives Committee Report, and then asked staff to present on the new statewide strategic agenda up for approval as well as the 2021 Postsecondary Degrees and Credentials Report.

Higher Education Matters: A Statewide Strategic Agenda for Kentucky Postsecondary Education, 2022-2030

Ms. Lee Nimocks, CPE's Vice President and Chief of Staff; Mr. Travis Muncie, CPE's Executive Director of Data, Research, and Advanced Analytics; and Ms. Melissa Young, Executive Director of Special Projects and Lead Writer; presented the key points of the 2022-30 Statewide Strategic Agenda for Kentucky Postsecondary Education. The agenda sets performance goals for students and institutions that reflect high expectations and standards, emphasizes continuous improvement, and supports technology-based solutions and innovative practices.

Building on previous agendas, "Higher Education Matters" is a blueprint for accelerating change and improvement in Kentucky's public postsecondary system. The strategic priorities identified represent the primary issues and top concerns as Kentucky faces the demographic, economic, and technological forces reshaping higher education.

The following areas lead the directives of the agenda:

- Overarching Goal: Kentucky will increase the percentage of its adult population with a high-quality postsecondary credential to 60% by the year 2030.
- Cross-cutting Priority: Equity - Kentucky will ensure all students have equitable access to higher education and the necessary tools to complete their programs prepared for life and work.
- Statewide Priorities:
 1. Affordability - Kentucky will ensure postsecondary education is affordable for all Kentuckians.
 2. Transitions - Kentucky will ensure more students successfully transition to college prepared to succeed.
 3. Success - Kentucky will ensure more students earn high-quality degrees and credentials.
 4. Talent - Kentucky will increase talent and innovation to support our communities, employers and economy.
 5. Value - Kentucky will improve public understanding that postsecondary education is key to greater opportunity and economic growth.

MOTION: The Academic and Strategic Initiatives Committee recommendation of approval served as the motion. A second was not needed.

VOTE: The motion passed.

2020-21 Postsecondary Degrees and Credentials Report

Mr. Muncie provided the key findings of the Kentucky's Degree and Credential Report, which describes the state of postsecondary education degree and credential attainment for 2020-21. Using data from the Kentucky Postsecondary Education Data System (KPEDS), the report details the number and types of credentials earned at Kentucky's public universities, the campuses of the Association of Independent Kentucky Colleges and Universities (AIKCU), and the Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS), and the final report will release in the coming weeks.

CAMPUS "GOOD NEWS" REPORTS

Reports from the institutions were provided in the agenda materials.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Chair Mentzer appointed Kellie Ellis to the Finance Committee, the Academic and Strategic Initiatives Committee, and the Committee on Equal Opportunities to fulfill the faculty representative positions left vacated by Robert Staat.

ADJOURNMENT

The Council adjourned at 12:25 p.m. ET.

MINUTES REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL: January 28, 2022