

## **MEETING MINUTES**

Approved by the Committee on October 27, 2025

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Who: Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education  
Meeting Type: Committee on Equal Opportunities  
Date: June 23, 2025  
Time: 1:00 p.m. ET  
Location: ZOOM Teleconference

### **CALL TO ORDER**

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The Committee on Equal Opportunities (CEO) met Monday, June 23, 2025, at 1:00 p.m., ET. The meeting occurred by ZOOM teleconference. Chair Elaine Walker presided.

### **ROLL CALL**

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Committee Member attendance:

- Attended: Whitney Allen, Rochelle Brown, Robert Croft, Kellie Ellis and Elaine Walker.
- Did not attend: CB Akins, David Carpenter, Luv'Tesha Robertson.

Dr. Dawn Offutt, Executive Director for Student Access, served as recorder of the meeting minutes.

### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

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The minutes of the April 28, 2025, meeting were approved as distributed.

### **WELCOME/CPE UPDATES**

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CPE Executive Vice President Travis Powell provided an update on the Council's board retreat highlighting the interest in dual credit and the board's role in carrying the CPE message to the community. Mr. Powell expressed his excitement for the new direction of the CEO and emphasized its importance and longstanding history and commitment to historically disenfranchised students. He stated that CPE will continue to need guidance from the CEO as to how to serve all students.

### **DATA PRESENTATION: SUPPORTED POPULATION ENROLLMENT, RETENTION AND COMPLETION**

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Dr. Chris Ledford, CPE Director of Data and Advanced Analytics, gave an overview longitudinal trend data focused on enrollment, retention, and completion for supported

populations. The discussion included metrics for first generation and low income at both two- and four-year institutions. Dr. Ledford also shared data for students with disabilities and how collecting these data differs from other populations.

## **STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES AND POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION PRESENTATION – PART 1**

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Dr. David Beach, the University of Kentucky (UK) Director of the Disability Resource Center, shared data from the work UK does to accommodate students with disabilities. Highlights included the increasing number of students seeking services, the different types of disabilities including mental health, and the variety of accommodations offered.

## **COMMITTEE UPDATE – MEETING DATES**

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Chair Walker presented the following meeting dates for the 2025-26 academic year: October 28, 2025, January 26, 2026, April 28, 2026, and June 22, 2026.

MOTION: Mr. Croft moved to approve the meeting dates. Dr. Ellis seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

*Post meeting note: The date of October 28<sup>th</sup> was a mistake – it was meant to be October 27<sup>th</sup> and members agreed to the correction.*

## **COMMITTEE UPDATE - RESTRUCTURE**

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Dr. Offutt shared the proposed Committee restructure. The restructure included changing the name to the Committee on Educational Opportunities; focusing on supported student populations that include first generation, low-income, adult learners, and students with disabilities; and identifying the purpose of the committee as (1) monitoring educational attainment trends for the supported populations and; (2) serving as a liaison between the Council and the supported student populations' communities of practice in order to bring recommendations for bridging and closing gaps.

MOTION: Dr. Ellis moved the Committee approve the proposed restructure. Mr. Allen seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

## **STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES AND POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION PRESENTATION – PART 2**

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Mr. Johnny Collett, Deputy Director of UK's Human Development Institute, shared his perspective on the future of postsecondary education and students with disabilities. Ideas

shared included becoming more familiar with how the data inform the work of the postsecondary system as it relates to students with disabilities, modeling what initiatives could look like by asking the additional questions and elevating the issues to the appropriate stakeholders.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

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The Committee adjourned at 2:10 p.m. ET.