

MINUTES
Council on Postsecondary Education
September 19, 2004

The Council on Postsecondary Education met at 12:30 p.m. (CT) September 19, 2004, at the Sloan Convention Center in Bowling Green, Kentucky. The meeting was held in conjunction with the 2004 Governor's Conference on Postsecondary Education Trusteeship. Vice Chair Ron Greenberg presided.

**OATH OF
OFFICE**

Mr. Greenberg introduced the new student member, Tony J. Stoeppel, of Lexington. Mr. Stoeppel received a B.S. in biosystems and agricultural engineering from the University of Kentucky in 2003 and is pursuing a master's degree in public policy and administration at UK. He is employed by Clearbrook & Co. Ltd. as a senior associate and chief office administrator.

Judge John Grise with Warren Circuit Court Division II administered the oath of office to Mr. Stoeppel.

ROLL CALL

The following members were present: Walter Baker, Peggy Bertelsman, Richard Freed, Ron Greenberg, Susan Guess, John Hall, Esther Jansing, Charlie Owen, Tony Stoeppel, Joan Taylor, John Turner, Charles Whitehead, and Ken Winters. Steve Barger, Lois Combs Weinberg, and Gene Wilhoit did not attend.

**APPROVAL OF
MINUTES**

The minutes of the July meeting were approved as distributed.

**WKU
PRESENTATION**

President Gary A. Ransdell made a presentation on the progress of Western Kentucky University toward achieving the goals of House Bill 1 and the Five Questions of Postsecondary Reform, specifically the partnerships and collaboration developed with other institutions in the state.

**MEASURING UP
2004**

Measuring Up 2004, the national report card on postsecondary education published by the National Center on Public Policy and Higher Education, was released September 15. Peter Ewell, Vice President of the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems in Boulder, Colorado, and one of the lead consultants on the report card, gave a preview of Kentucky's results with particular emphasis on the student learning category.

Kentucky is one of only four states in the nation that over the past decade improved in four out of five categories in Measuring Up 2004. In the student learning category, as one of five pilot states seeking ways to measure the educational capital of the state's college-educated population, Kentucky received a "+." All other states received a grade of "Incomplete." Pilot results show that

higher than average proportions of college graduates in Kentucky appear to be prepared for licensed technical careers or professions, while below-average proportions appear ready for further graduate study. Graduates of two-year colleges score above average on direct measures of student learning, while graduates of four-year institutions are less competitive.

Among the other findings of *Measuring Up 2004*:

- Kentucky is one of only eight states that showed improvement in college participation over the past decade. Over the past 10 years, the chance of enrolling in college by age 19 has increased by 11 percent, in contrast to a nationwide decline of 3 percent. While Kentucky still has work to do in this area, the improvements in this area are significant.
- Kentucky is closing the college participation gap between white students and minority ethnic groups, and between students from low- and high-income families. Over the past 10 years the percentage of young adults from minority ethnic groups enrolled in college increased from 15 percent to 32 percent of all young adult minorities. During that time the number of young adults from low-income families enrolled in college increased from 16 percent to 30 percent of all young adults from low-income families.
- The proportion of African Americans enrolled in postsecondary education in Kentucky (7.7 percent in 2003) outpaces the proportion of African Americans in Kentucky's population (7.3 percent in the 2000 census).
- Kentucky enrolls an insufficient number of working-age adults (age 25-49) in college-level courses compared to top performing states.
- Despite receiving its lowest grade in the "affordability" category (D-), Kentucky ranks as one of the most affordable states in the nation. No state received an "A" in this category, only one state received a "B," two states received a "C," 11 got a "D," and 36 received an "F."
- The cost of public higher education in Kentucky as a percent of family income is unchanged from a decade ago. This contrasts with the national trend that shows that higher education costs are outpacing family income. The report also shows that the state's investment in need-based financial aid has grown significantly over the past decade (from 20 percent of the federal Pell grant investment 10 years ago to 40 percent in 2004).
- Kentucky is among the fastest improving states on the proportion of students completing certificates and degrees

relative to the number enrolled; however, Kentucky ranks 47th in the nation in the percent of the adult population with a four-year degree or higher.

- The gap between blacks and whites receiving certificates and degrees has narrowed over the past decade. However, this gap remains substantial.

FUNDING MODEL REVIEW

Dr. Layzell reported progress continues on the comprehensive funding model review. The review involves close coordination among institutional representatives and linkages regarding the strategic planning process. Draft recommendations will be presented to the Council in November.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Dr. Layzell said that the process for updating the public agenda for postsecondary education continues to move forward. Nine forums are scheduled around the state in September and October to hear from the communities about the biggest issues and challenges facing the Commonwealth and the regions and how Kentucky's colleges and universities can help address these issues. The trusteeship conference is the kick-off event for the forums.

INTER-ALUMNI COUNCIL

The Inter-Alumni Council was established nearly a year ago to engage alumni from all Kentucky public institutions to work on promoting the value of postsecondary education across the state. Mike Foster, IAC chair, said that the group's mission is to serve as a collective voice for postsecondary education. He said that the primary purposes of the IAC are: 1) to promote the cause of postsecondary education by emphasizing the critical need that higher education plays in the economic development and general well being of Kentucky, 2) to raise public awareness concerning the financial challenges of maintaining our system of postsecondary education, and 3) to interact with the legislature and our elected state officials concerning the needs of our colleges and universities. He said that in February 2004 the IAC hosted a breakfast for the state legislators, select cabinet members, and Governor Fletcher. He said that the primary focus as a group has been the budget and the group wishes to advocate the need to adopt an adequate budget to properly fund the colleges and universities.

Mr. Winters asked about the involvement of independent institutions in the efforts of this group.

Mr. Foster said that the initial role of the group was to discuss public funding of the institutions in the state. He said that the independent institutions may be asked to participate in the future.

Mr. Whitehead asked the Council staff to gather information from the institutions about alumni giving.

ADULT EDUCATION

Dr. Cheryl King, Vice President for Kentucky Adult Education, said that the adult education enrollment for 2003-04 reached a record

ENROLLMENT high of 120,051, surpassing the enrollment goal for 2005. Adult education programs in 92 counties met or exceeded their enrollment and performance goals and will share \$997,859 in incentive funds to be distributed in Fiscal Year 2005. Dr. King said that Kentucky ranked 20th in the nation in the percentage of non-high school completers earning a GED in 2002. National rankings from the GED Testing Service are not yet available for 2003. Dr. King said that while these numbers are encouraging, it is important to note that Kentucky saw a growth of only 62 students statewide in GED core services and a very modest growth of 400 students in family literacy. There were declines in the corrections program and English as a Second Language programs. The growth occurred in workforce education programs, which are short-term flexible programs. Kentucky Adult Education worked with over 900 Kentucky employers in that regard and partnered with KCTCS and the Bluegrass State Skills Corporation to meet that impressive enrollment growth. Dr. King said that even though more GED completers are enrolling in postsecondary education institutions, there is a need to focus on the lower-level learners to make sure that students are learning to read, write, and compute and are completing the GED.

P-16 COUNCIL REPORT Richard Freed, chair of the P-16 Council, said that he recently attended the local P-16 Council network meeting and encouraged other state P-16 Council members to attend. He said that these meetings are very informative and a good way to learn what is happening specifically across the state. He added that the Kentucky Board of Education approved the expansion of the P-16 Council membership at its August meeting. The newly expanded P-16 Council will meet September 29.

KBE ACTIVITIES Dr. Layzell called attention to a written report from Commissioner Wilhoit on activities of the Kentucky Board of Education.

ENROLLMENT A report on fall 2004 estimated enrollment was distributed. Fall enrollments, at all levels, are predicted to continue the increases that began with reform in 1998. An estimated record high 231,355 students are enrolled at public and independent postsecondary institutions in Kentucky, an increase of 2,294 students or 1 percent. Public institutions alone enrolled 200,647 students. Official enrollment will be reported in January.

CEO REPORT A report from the Committee on Equal Opportunities was included in the agenda book. Mr. Whitehead, CEO chair, raised a continuing concern that recurring funds are not provided to support the Council's statewide equal opportunity programs. Lack of recurring funds is a particular concern for students participating in the SREB doctoral scholars program.

Mr. Whitehead read a resolution honoring and commending Beverly L. Watts for her service to the Committee on Equal Opportunities.

MOTION: Mr. Whitehead moved that the resolution be accepted.
Mr. Turner seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

MEETING
CALENDAR

RECOMMENDATION: The staff recommends that the Council
approve the 2004-05 meeting calendar.

MOTION: Mr. Turner moved that the meeting calendar be
approved. Ms. Bertelsman seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

DAVIS
RESOLUTION

Mr. Greenberg read a resolution honoring and commending J. P.
Davis for his service to the Council.

MOTION: Mr. Greenberg moved that the resolution be accepted.
Ms. Bertelsman seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Council is November 7 and 8. The
Council's Executive Committee will meet November 3.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Thomas D. Layzell
President

Phyllis L. Bailey
Associate, Executive Relations