

MINUTES
Council on Postsecondary Education
April 14, 2008

The Council on Postsecondary Education met Monday, April 14, 2008, at 10 a.m. (ET) at the Council offices in Frankfort, Kentucky. Chair Turner presided.

ROLL CALL

The following members attended: Kevin Canafax, Dan Flanagan, Virginia Fox (via Internet2 from the University of Arizona at Tucson), Phyllis Maclin (via Internet2 from West Kentucky Community and Technical College in Paducah), Donna Moore, Lisa Osborne, Ryan Quarles, Jim Skaggs, John Turner, Mark Wattier, and Joe Weis. Peggy Bertelsman, John Hall, Alois Moore, and Jon Draud did not attend.

QUARLES
CONGRATULATIONS

Mr. Turner congratulated Ryan Quarles on his recent acceptance into Harvard's Education School to pursue a master's in higher education and also for being the recipient of a Zuckerman Fellowship. Mr. Turner said that only 25 of these fellowships are awarded so this is a great recognition for the state of Kentucky.

PRESENTATION OF
UNIVERSITY LICENSE
PLATES

Dan Glass, commissioner of the Department of Vehicle Regulation in the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, presented framed Kentucky university license plates to the presidents or their representatives. He said that the license plate program in 2007 generated \$437,040 for the state universities with \$10 for each license plate going to the general scholarship fund of that university. The license plates are designed by university personnel.

APPROVAL
OF MINUTES

MOTION: Mr. Wattier moved that the minutes of the February 1 and February 26 Council meetings be approved. Mr. Canafax seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

2008-10
BUDGET UPDATE

John Hayek, the Council's interim vice president for finance, said that the Council members have been receiving regular updates on the discussions in the General Assembly about the 2008-10 budget. On April 2 the 2008 General Assembly passed the Executive Branch budget bill (HB 406), which restores approximately 75 percent and 83 percent of the Executive Budget cuts in FY09 and FY10, respectively. With these funds restored, state funding for public colleges and universities is still 3 percent less than the current year (FY08) budget, which already received a 3 percent cut (\$32.5 million) earlier this year. The budget also includes a 3 percent cut to the CPE budget, in addition to the 3 percent reduction earlier this year. The General Assembly designated \$60 million for the Bucks for Brains program, with \$33.3 million for UK, \$16.7 million for UofL, and \$10 million for the comprehensive universities. A detailed preliminary summary was included in the agenda book. Governor Beshear could veto parts of the budget; this must be done by midnight April 14. The staff will receive the final budget memorandum with complete details of the

budget bill in a few days.

LEGISLATIVE
SUMMARY

Since bills are still pending, a report on actions related to postsecondary education resulting from the 2008 legislative session will be communicated to Council members and provided at the next meeting.

P-16 COUNCIL
REPORT

A report on P-16 Council activities was included in the agenda book. Mr. Wattier noted that at the December meeting the members heard a summary of the report of the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce Task Force on Postsecondary Education from Chamber president and CEO David Adkisson.

QUALITY &
ACCOUNTABILITY
POLICY GROUP
REPORT

Mr. Wattier reported that the Quality and Affordability Policy Group met earlier in the day and heard a report on transfer.

TRANSFER UPDATE

A presentation was given on transfer by Jim Applegate (CPE vice president for academic affairs), Catharine Penfold (director of transfer programs with Bluegrass Community and Technical College), and Gary Brockway (MuSU provost and vice president for academic affairs). The report showed that a record number of students transferred from community or technical colleges to four-year colleges and universities in 2007. After a significant downturn in transfers following the restructuring of postsecondary education in 1997, the state has experienced steady but modest growth since 2003. The update indicated that transfer students succeed and get degrees at rates comparable to, if not better than, students who begin college at a four-year institution. Despite the record 4,479 students who transferred in 2007, the system must dramatically increase transfers to 11,334 by 2020 if it is to meet its goal to double the number of college graduates. The report focused on the major challenges the state must meet to reach that goal including the improvement of transfer advising, the expansion of financial aid programs for transfer students, and the communication of the benefits of earning a bachelor's degree to better motivate students to transfer. The report outlined CPE strategies to address these challenges and highlighted transfer best practices at Bluegrass Community and Technical College and Murray State University. BCTC is the lead source of transfers for four state universities and accounts for one quarter of all community college transfers in the state.

Mr. Wattier reported that the Quality and Accountability Policy Group also discussed funding for the institutions participating in the Statewide Engineering Education Strategy and the Council staff provided information on the change in calculations of full-time equivalent back to a model utilizing student credit hours instead of calculations based on full- and part-time enrollment.

COMMISSIONER OF
EDUCATION REPORT

A written report from the Commissioner of Education was provided for information.

COLLEGE ACCESS
INITIATIVES –
KNOWHOW2GOKY
WEB SITE &

Sue Patrick with the Council staff presented information on the KnowHow2GOKy Web site which will be launched in the near future. The site will provide college-going information and motivational messages aimed at at-risk middle and high school students in the GEAR UP program. The site also

KENTUCKY COLLEGE
ACCESS NETWORK

incorporates the Council's outreach efforts to transfer students, GED students, and returning adults, including Project Graduate, a collaborative initiative with the institutions to target former students with 90 or more credit hours earned at a Kentucky institution. The launch of the Web site represents a convergence of several Council-sponsored college access initiatives, all accessible through a single Web site.

Dr. Joe McCormick, executive director of the Kentucky College Access Network (KyCAN), explained that this is a statewide network funded by a \$499,000 Lumina Foundation grant awarded to the Council and the Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence. One of the goals of the network is to support the grassroots component of the Council's college access initiative. Many KyCAN members are already coordinating or supporting existing college access programs that serve communities and target low-income, underrepresented, and first-generation college students. Currently over 130 organizations and 200 individuals are members of the network.

KENTUCKY ADULT
LEARNER INITIATIVE

Representatives of Kentucky's public and independent colleges convened the first-ever Kentucky Adult Learner Summit February 4 and 5. As the kickoff event for the Kentucky Adult Learner Initiative led by the Council and funded by Lumina Foundation for Education, the summit addressed the barriers that prevent adult learners from reaching their educational potential. Throughout 2008, the Council will convene policy work groups consisting of representatives from postsecondary and adult education, the General Assembly, state government agencies, business and industry, and Council members to draft policy recommendations to encourage more adults to pursue degrees. In conjunction with these policy efforts, the Council will provide each public university with \$50,000 to assess how adult-friendly their campuses are and make policy and organizational changes to address areas that need improvement.

COUNCIL
COMMITTEE
ASSIGNMENTS

Mr. Turner reported that he recently made these committee assignments: Budget and Finance Policy Group – Kevin Canafax and Ryan Quarles, Committee on Equal Opportunities – Lisa Osborne, and the Strategic Committee on Postsecondary Education – Donna Moore. The complete list of committee assignments was included in the agenda book.

CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Turner said that he would like the Council to go into closed session to discuss the appointment of an employee of the Council. He said that such a session is permitted under the Open Meetings Law, specifically KRS 61.810(1)(f).

MOTION: Mr. Flanagan moved that the Council go into closed session to discuss the appointment of an employee of the Council as permitted under KRS 61.810(1)(f). The motion was seconded by Mr. Weis.

VOTE: The motion passed.

Mr. Turner said that the Council will reconvene to take any action that is

necessary and to complete the remainder of the meeting agenda. The Council recessed at 11:45 a.m. and moved to Meeting Room B for the closed session. These members joined the closed session by telephone: Virginia Fox, John Hall, Phyllis Maclin, and Alois Moore. Former Council member Walter Baker also joined by telephone.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The Council reconvened in open session at 1:50 p.m.

MOTION: Mr. Flanagan moved that the Council come back into open session. Mr. Weis seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

Virginia Fox, John Hall, and Phyllis Maclin joined the meeting via videoconferencing. Walter Baker, a former Council member, also joined via videoconferencing.

APPOINTMENT OF CPE PRESIDENT

MOTION: Mr. Flanagan moved that the Council conduct a search for CPE president. Donna Moore seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion failed with only Mr. Flanagan and Donna Moore voting yes.

Mr. Turner said that over the course of the last eight months it has been a personal pleasure to work with Brad Cowgill who stepped in and served the Council on an interim basis during a very challenging time. He said that Mr. Cowgill has dispatched his duties and obligations very competently and with a tremendous amount of energy and has communicated very effectively. He said the Council asked Mr. Cowgill to do three things when he was named interim in July 2007: (1) be a strong advocate for postsecondary education, (2) work on the funding which was imperative in the budget for the 2008 legislative session, and (3) work towards aligning the public policy agenda more widely across the General Assembly and the executive branch of government. He said that Mr. Cowgill to a large degree has moved that forward very well and very effectively.

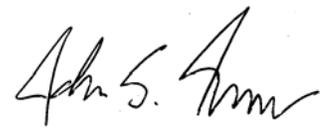
MOTION: Mr. Hall moved that Brad Cowgill be hired as the permanent president of the Council effective May 1, 2008. Mr. Skaggs seconded the motion.

VOTE: A roll call vote was taken. With 12 members voting, 10 voted in favor of the motion (Canafax, Fox, Hall, Maclin, Osborne, Quarles, Skaggs, Turner, Wattier, Weis) and two members abstained (Flanagan and Donna Moore). The motion passed.

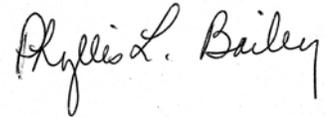
Mr. Turner congratulated President Cowgill on his appointment as permanent president of the Council.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.



John S. Turner
Chair, Council on Postsecondary Education



Phyllis L. Bailey
Senior Associate, Executive Relations