

## **MEETING MINUTES**

*Approved by the Council, June 9, 2023*

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Who: Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education  
Meeting Type: Work Session  
Date: March 30, 2023  
Time: 2:00 p.m. ET  
Location: Eastern Kentucky University, Powell Student Center, Rm 219

### **WELCOME REMARKS**

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The Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education met Thursday, March 30, 2023, at 2:00 p.m., ET. The meeting occurred in Powell Student Center room 219 at Eastern Kentucky University. Chair Madison Silvert presided.

### **ATTENDANCE**

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Council Members attendance:

- In Person: CB Akins, Jacob Brown, Jennifer Collins, Kellie Ellis, Eric Farris, Meredith Figg, Karyn Hoover, Faith Kemper, Garrison Reed, LaDonna Rogers, Madison Silvert, Connie Smith, Elaine Walker, and Commissioner Jason Glass
- By teleconference: Kevin Weaver
- Did not attend: Muhammad Babar

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.

### **STRATEGIC DISCUSSION WITH WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY**

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President Tim Caboni provided the Council with an institutional update on Western Kentucky University (WKU). The update focused on WKU's key strategies for each of the strategic priorities of the new statewide agenda as well as the baseline data and 2023-24 targets for the key performance indicators. President Caboni answered questions from the Council on WKU's recruitment efforts of high school students as well as the types of students they service through the Project Graduate program.

### **STRATEGIC DISCUSSION WITH KENTUCKY STATE UNIVERSITY**

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Interim President Ronald Johnson provided the Council with an institutional progress update on Kentucky State University (KSU). This was the institution's first strategic agenda update,

and it focused solely on the institution's baseline data. Dr. Johnson discussed some strategies being used to make progress, however he mostly provided updates related to the management improvement plan. Council members asked the president to elaborate on the results of the APA audit released the week prior, as well as how many actions have already been implemented as a result of CPE's findings last summer. They also asked for clarification on why KSU has not yet set targets for the key performance metrics nor implemented a clear effort to communicate those with its board, staff, and faculty.

## **STRATEGIC DISCUSSION – FOCUS ON VALUE**

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The 2022-30 Statewide Strategic Agenda, "Higher Education Matters," is a blueprint for accelerating change and improvement in Kentucky's public postsecondary system. Equity is a cross-cutting focus of the agenda, and it identifies five specific strategic priorities: Affordability, Transitions, Success, Talent, Value.

The Council engaged in a conversation with CPE staff members on the Value priority, in which the goal is to improve public understanding that postsecondary education is key to greater opportunity and economic growth. The objectives of this priority are:

- Objective 10: Increase public belief in the power of postsecondary education.
- Objective 11: Build support for greater investment in postsecondary education.

Presenting staff included:

- Dr. Rick Smith, Vice President of External Affairs and Economic Partnerships
- Ms. Sue Patrick, Chief Communications Officer
- Mr. Darryl Parker, KYSSC Student Voice Intern

The presentation focused on the Higher Education Matters campaign, the Higher Education Matters Community Conversations Tour, and agency communication objectives and strategies including the monthly newsletter, news releases, weekly infographics, themed podcasts, CPE website, and social media presence. Data and outcomes were provided for each strategy discussed.

## **EKU SPOTLIGHT AND CAMPUS TOUR**

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The Council received a highlight of ECU's campus and took a tour by bus. Following the tour, the Council engaged in a social reception with ECU leadership staff.

## **CLOSING OF THE WORK SESSION**

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The Council adjourned at 6:00 p.m.