

BETTER TOGETHER: PROGRESS THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS

2024 Postsecondary Education Trusteeship Conference

Hyatt Regency, 401 W. High St., Lexington, KY 40507



Monday, September 16, 2024

10:00-10:45 AM

WELCOME & OPENING KEYNOTE

LEADING THROUGH COLLABORATION: HARNESSING YOUR INSTITUTION'S STRENGTHS FOR INNOVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

In an era where challenges and opportunities intersect, collective impact offers a compelling framework for effecting meaningful change. Leadership in this context is not about solitary vision but about steering collective efforts toward shared goals. By embracing this approach, higher education institutions can forge stronger connections with local communities, businesses and other stakeholders, creating a synergy that drives progress and enhances educational outcomes. This session sets the stage for a conference dedicated to exploring how collaborative leadership can spark innovation and drive lasting impact, making it a must-attend for trustees, regents, administrators and educators committed to shaping the future of higher education.

- Elaine Walker, Vice Chair, Council on Postsecondary Education
- Dr. Nancy Zimpher, Chancellor Emeritus of The State University of New York, President Emeritus of University of Cincinnati and Interim Executive Director of the National Association of System Heads (NASH)

11:00-12:15 PM

CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS

EMPOWERING VOICES: A PEER EXCHANGE DISCUSSION

Facilitated by Kentucky's institutional leaders, peer exchange breakout sessions will foster reflective and dynamic discussions around the conference theme. Participants will delve more deeply into how collaboration can drive innovation and impact. Attendees will be assigned to specific breakout rooms to ensure diverse and balanced participation. Sessions will be facilitated by:

- Dr. Koffi Akakpo, President and Tammi Dukes, Board Chair – Kentucky State University
- Dr. Tim Caboni, President and Currie Milliken, Board Chair – Western Kentucky University
- Dr. Eli Capilouto, President and Todd Case, Trustee – University of Kentucky
- Dr. Joseph Morgan, President and Sanford Holbrook, Board Chair – Morehead State University

12:15-1:45 PM

LUNCHEON PLENARY

INSIGHTS AND ACTION: A PANEL DISCUSSION WITH KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTS

Following lunch, an in-depth panel discussion moderated by Dr. Nancy Zimpher features a distinguished group of Kentucky university presidents. Building on takeaways from the peer exchange sessions and themes explored in the keynote address, this panel will discuss opportunities for higher education to work more collaboratively and efficiently, as well as touching on broader issues related to higher education innovation, regional development and the strategic role of universities in shaping the future of the Commonwealth.

- Dr. Robert Jackson, President, Murray State University
- Dr. David McFaddin, President, Eastern Kentucky University
- Dr. Kim Schatzel, President, University of Louisville
- Dr. Cady Short-Thompson, President, Northern Kentucky University
- Dr. Aaron Thompson, President, Council on Postsecondary Education

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2:00-3:00 PM
and
3:15-4:15 PM

CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS (REPEATING)
Please choose one of the four breakout sessions to attend; sessions will repeat once.

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|---|--|
| 1 | <p>Charting the Future: The Evolving Role of Community and Technical Colleges in Postsecondary Education</p> <p>Community and technical colleges play a pivotal role in ensuring broad and affordable access to postsecondary education. This panel will explore the future of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS), focusing on strategic priorities such as transfer pathways, dual credit programs, workforce credentials and more. Panelists will discuss how community and technical colleges are adapting to meet the evolving needs of students and the workforce, and how they contribute to regional and economic development. Join this forward-looking discussion to explore the vital contributions of community and technical colleges in achieving Kentucky's higher education goals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Ryan Quarles, President, KCTCS• Dr. Phillip Neal, Executive Vice President and Provost, Southcentral Kentucky Community and Technical College• Tanelle Sawyer, Associate Vice President, Workforce and Economic Development, KCTCS |
| 2 | <p>Students Are Humans First: Addressing Student Basic Needs to Enhance Enrollment and Success</p> <p>Supporting students in meeting their fundamental human needs is essential to achieving the broader goals of higher education: increasing enrollment, persistence and completion. Join this session to discover how institutions are implementing strategies to ensure that students have access to the support they need to thrive both academically and personally. Hear about successful programs and partnerships that are making a tangible difference in students' lives; explore actionable approaches to removing obstacles to higher education engagement; and learn how to build more inclusive, supportive educational environments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Lilly Massa-McKinley, Executive Director of the Kentucky Student Success Collaborative, Council on Postsecondary Education• Carrie Welton, Senior Director of Policy and Advocacy, The Institute for College Access and Success |
| 3 | <p>Integrating Essential Workforce Skills into Modern College Curricula</p> <p>Because nearly 75% of the state's employers are struggling to find recent college graduates with the right skills, Kentucky has developed the Kentucky Graduate Profile. The Profile outlines key career-focused learning outcomes that every graduate should achieve by the end of their academic journey. We will discuss how these essential skills can be seamlessly woven into both academic curricula and co-curricular experiences, ensuring that students are well-prepared for the demands of the modern workforce. Learn about innovative strategies and best practices for integrating these core competencies into educational programs and discover how to align curricula with real-world needs to enhance graduate employability and meet the evolving expectations of employers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Melissa Bell, Vice President of Academic Excellence, Council on Postsecondary Education• Charla Long, President, Competency-Based Education Network (CBEN)• Dr. Janna Vice, Senior Fellow, Council on Postsecondary Education |

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	<p>Legal Insights in Higher Education: Interactive Panel Discussion</p> <p>Dive into the pressing legal issues facing higher education today with this dynamic panel of experts. The session will kick off with a presentation of key topics that are currently shaping the legal landscape of higher education, such Title IX, DEI, accreditation and artificial intelligence. To ensure the discussion is tailored to your interests, attendees will participate in real-time polls, allowing the conversation to focus on the topics most relevant to you.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jim Newberry, Member, Steptoe & Johnson• Travis Powell, Senior Vice President and General Counsel, Council on Postsecondary Education• Bill Thro, General Counsel, University of Kentucky• Judge Wilson, General Counsel, Berea College
4:30-6:00 PM	<p>CONNECTING FOR SUCCESS: NETWORKING RECEPTION</p> <p>Cap off day one at the networking reception, an opportunity to engage with fellow attendees in a relaxed, informal setting. Join us for an evening of lively conversation, refreshing beverages and delicious hors d'oeuvres. Whether you're looking to discuss the latest trends in higher education, explore potential collaborations, or simply catch up with colleagues, this reception provides the perfect environment to connect and share ideas. Cash bar will be open.</p>
6:00 PM	<p>DINNER ON YOUR OWN</p> <p>Please consult with your institution's board liaison for details on any planned group dinners.</p>

---- End of Day One ----

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7:30-8:30 AM

NETWORKING BREAKFAST AND TABLE TOPICS

Start your day with a delicious hot breakfast and dynamic discussions designed to spark insights and foster professional connections. Please note that the buffet will close 10 minutes prior to the morning keynote address, so plan to arrive early to make the most of this networking opportunity.

8:30-9:15 AM

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

BETTER TOGETHER: ADVANCING KENTUCKY HIGHER EDUCATION

As we kick off day two of the conference, join us for a compelling keynote from CPE President Aaron Thompson, who will deliver the annual state of higher education address. Dr. Thompson will detail Kentucky's progress toward its statewide educational goals, spotlight innovative strategies and approaches driving this progress, and explore how collaborative efforts are shaping the future of higher education in the state.

- Madison Silvert, CPE Board Chair and President of The Malcolm Bryant Corporation
- Dr. Aaron Thompson, President, Council on Postsecondary Education

9:30-10:30 AM
and

10:50-11:50 AM

CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS (REPEATING)

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1

Navigating Industry Needs and Innovations: The Future of Kentucky's Workforce

Join this engaging panel discussion focused on the rapid transformation of Kentucky's workforce and economy. Our panel of experts will discuss the critical role of partnerships and proactive preparation in developing a skilled talent pool. Learn about emerging trends, key challenges and effective strategies for aligning workforce development with industry demands. This discussion is essential for anyone looking to understand and influence the direction of workforce development in your region.

- Dylan Baker, Assistant Vice President of Workforce Initiatives, Appalachian Regional Healthcare
- Jason Bonham, FBO/Airport Manager, Eastern Kentucky University
- Jacob Brown, Founder and Principal of Marian Development Group, LLC and Council member
- Dr. Leslie Sizemore, Assoc. VP of Workforce and Economic Development, Council on Postsecondary Education

2

Innovative State Tools for Enhancing College Affordability

This session will explore how Kentucky is leveraging data-driven tools, cutting-edge research and technology to better monitor college affordability. Key topics will include CPE's research on unmet financial need and the "Students' Right to Know" website, which provides transparency regarding college costs. Explore how these innovations are changing the way the state is approaching the cost of higher education and empowering education leaders to make informed decisions about college pricing and financial planning.

- Dr. Beth Kelly, Research Director, Kentucky Center for Statistics (KYSTATS)
- Dr. Chris Ledford, Associate Director of Data and Advanced Analytics, Council on Postsecondary Education
- Lee Nimocks, Vice President and Chief of Staff, Council on Postsecondary Education

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3 Navigating the New Reality: Adopting Innovative Strategies to Boost your Campus Enrollment

As America’s birth rate continues to decline, high school graduating classes are getting smaller. Traditional recruitment strategies may no longer be sufficient to meet enrollment targets. In this session, panelists will discuss innovative enrollment strategies such as intentional communication and recruitment, the expansion of early college experiences, and the strategic use of artificial intelligence (AI). Learn what it takes to make lasting change to enrollment and matriculation processes, and what board members can do to support recruitment efforts.

- Dr. Amanda Ellis, Vice President of Access and Success, Council on Postsecondary Education
- Dr. Robin Hebert, Senior Fellow for K-12 Policies and Programs, Council on Postsecondary Education
- Alex Perry, Education Policy Advisor at Foresight Law + Policy and Coordinator at College in High School Alliance
- Kelly Sinacola, Vice President of Solution Engineering and Integrations, Element 451

4 Ensuring Success for All Students: Boards, Presidents and Institutional Leaders Partnering for Transformation

From fall 2021 through spring 2024, the Ascendium Education Group sponsored a groundbreaking national demonstration project led by the Gardner Institute in collaboration with the Association of Governing Boards, the Council on Postsecondary Education and eight public and private institutions across Kentucky. This initiative focused on how governing boards and institutional leaders can more effectively collaborate to enhance student retention, graduation rates and post-completion outcomes, particularly for students from low-income, rural and historically marginalized backgrounds. Join us to explore the progress made through this Ascendium-supported project and discover exciting next steps planned with continued support from the Lumina Foundation.

- Dr. Joe Chillo, President, Thomas More University
- Dr. Drew Koch, CEO, Gardner Institute
- Judith Marlowe, Board Chair, Thomas More University
- Dr. Vicki McGillin, Associate Vice President, Gardner Institute

12:00-1:15 PM

LUNCHEON KEYNOTE

MOVING KENTUCKY FORWARD: LEADERSHIP FOR TOMORROW

Join us for a special luncheon featuring a keynote address by Lt. Governor Jacqueline Coleman, where she’ll provide insights into the administration’s focus on higher education in Kentucky.

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1:30-2:30 PM

PREPARING FOR KENTUCKY’S FUTURE: LEGISLATIVE LEADERS’ PERSPECTIVES ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Kentucky legislative leaders will examine the key higher education issues poised to take center stage during the 2025 legislative session. Moderator Bill Bryant from WKYT will explore a number of topics such as governance, college affordability and performance funding.

- Moderator: Bill Bryant, Evening News Anchor for WKYT
- Senator Matthew Deneen, Chair of the Budget Review Subcommittee on Education
- Senator David Givens, President Pro Tempore
- Representative Bobby McCool, Chair of the Budget Review Subcommittee on Postsecondary Education
- Senator Reginald Thomas, Minority Caucus Chair
- Representative James Tipton, Chair of the House Education Committee

2:30-3:00 PM

CLOSING REMARKS AND ADJOURNMENT: A VISION FOR THE FUTURE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

CPE President Aaron Thompson will reflect on the key takeaways from the conference and offer a path forward to address the challenges and opportunities facing higher education institutions.