

**MEMO OF RECORD**  
Commonwealth Education Continuum

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Type: Commonwealth Education Continuum – Early Postsecondary Opportunities (EPO) Workgroup  
Date: May 11, 2021  
Time: 10:00 a.m. ET  
Location: Virtual meeting – Workgroup members by ZOOM teleconference. Public viewing at CPE YouTube Page

**CALL TO ORDER**

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The Commonwealth Education Continuum (CEC) EPO Workgroup held a regular meeting on May 11, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. ET. Pursuant to Executive Order 2020-243 and a memorandum issued by the Finance and Administration Cabinet dated March 16, 2020, and in an effort to prevent the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), the CEC met utilizing a video teleconference. Members of the public were invited to view the meeting on the CPE YouTube page.

**ATTENDANCE**

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The following members were present: Jason Glass, Paul Czarapata, Sandra Baker, Stacy Bassett, Dan Connell, Ted Franziem, Brad Hall, Melina Hettiaratchi, David Horseman, Gene Hutchins, Carla Kersey, Anthony Mires, OJ Oleka, Jenny Sawyer, Christine Tarquinio, James Tipton and LorryBeth Wilson.

The following member was not present: Kakie Urch.

Jennifer Fraker, CPE’s executive director of P-20 Policies and Programs, served as recorder of the meeting memo.

**WELCOME AND FRAMING**

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KCTCS President Paul Czarapata provided a welcome, introductions and highlighted the discussions of the first EPO Workgroup meeting to include the use of three priority areas: (1) Access, (2) Alignment, and (3) Attainment.

## **STRUCTURE AND PROCESS FOR FIRST WORK GROUP DELIVERABLE**

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Education Strategy Group (ESG) Senior Associate Lauren Norton provided an overview on the focus of the workgroup and key definitions for EPOs, then shared the proposed timeline, process and template for developing the first work group deliverable for the Continuum.

## **SETTING ASPIRATIONAL VISION**

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Education Strategy Group (ESG) Senior Associate Lauren Norton guided the group in co-creating an aspirational vision to guide the work of the EPO workgroup.

## **BREAKOUT DISCUSSIONS**

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CPE Executive Director Jennifer Fraker shared that the workgroup would be divided into three breakout rooms in order to engage in discussion on the identification of key challenges and opportunities for increasing access, alignment, and attainment of EPOs in small groups.

- Pres. Czarapata guided the Attainment breakout room and Jennifer served as the notetaker.
- Dr. Brewer guided the Access breakout room and Lauren served as the notetaker.
- Dr. Ellis guided the Alignment breakout room and Sofie served as the notetaker.

## **FULL GROUP SHAREOUT AND DISCUSSION**

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CPE Associate Vice President Amanda Ellis guided the group to: (1) share-out key themes from breakout discussions, then (2) collectively started to prioritize recommendations for policies, strategies and communications.

## **NEXT STEPS AND ADJOURNMENT**

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Lauren Norton wrapped up the meeting with a discussion centered on the identification of potential research and/or programs to inform the next meeting's agenda. Dr. Ellis gave a brief update on the status of focus groups and the intent to bring updates to the June workgroup meeting. Dr. Czarapata provided closing remarks and thanked everyone for their engagement, time and expertise during the day's meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m. ET. The next workgroup meeting is scheduled for June 16, 2021.