

## STRONGER by DEGREES



# MEETING AGENDA

Friday, February 14, 2014  
Marriott Griffin Gate, Lexington, Kentucky

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### Members, Council on Postsecondary Education

Glenn D. Denton, Paducah  
Maryanne Honeycutt Elliott, Louisville  
Joe E. Ellis, Benton  
Dan E. Flanagan, Campbellsville (*vice chair*)  
Joe Graviss, Versailles  
Terry Holliday, Commissioner of Education  
(*ex officio, nonvoting*)  
Dennis M. Jackson, Paducah  
Glenn Means, Mount Sterling (*student member*)

Pam Miller, Lexington (*chair*)  
Donna Moore, Lexington  
Marcia Milby Ridings, London  
Carolyn Ridley, Bowling Green  
Robert H. Staat, (*faculty member*)  
Arnold Taylor, Edgewood  
Joseph B. Wise, Louisville  
Sherrill B. Zimmerman, Prospect

Robert L. King, CPE President

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The Council on Postsecondary Education is Kentucky's statewide postsecondary and adult education coordinating agency charged with leading the reform efforts envisioned by state policy leaders in the *Kentucky Postsecondary Education Improvement Act of 1997*. The Council does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, or disability in employment or the provision of services, and provides, upon request, reasonable accommodation, including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford individuals with disabilities an equal opportunity to participate in all programs and activities.

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**AGENDA**  
Council on Postsecondary Education  
Friday, February 14, 2014  
11:30 AM  
Marriott Griffin Gate, Lexington, Kentucky

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Council on Postsecondary Education  
February 14, 2013

## **Election of CPE Chair and Vice Chair**

The Nominating Committee will present the slate of officers to serve until January 31, 2015, for consideration by the full Council.

Staff preparation by Heather Bingham

**Minutes**  
**Council on Postsecondary Education**  
**November 7, 2013**

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The Council on Postsecondary Education met Thursday, November 7, 2013, at 9 a.m., CT, at Madisonville Community College. Chair Pam Miller presided.

- WELCOME** Ms. Miller called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. She thanked President Rhoads and Madisonville Community College for hosting the meeting. President Rhoads gave a few words of welcome.
- ROLL CALL** The following members were present: Glenn Denton, Joe Ellis, Joe Graviss, Dennis Jackson, Glenn Means, Pam Miller, Marcia Ridings, Carolyn Ridley, Robert Staat, and Arnold Taylor. Dan Flanagan, Terry Holliday, Donna Moore, Joseph Wise, and Sherrill Zimmerman did not attend.
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES** The minutes of the September 12 meeting were approved as distributed.
- STRATEGIC AGENDA  
FOCUS AREA –  
RESEARCH,  
ECONOMIC, AND  
COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT** Mr. Allen Lind, CPE’s vice president for information and technology, provided an overview and update on the efficiency and innovation objectives and strategies. Dr. Lind shared detailed information about online learning trends, both nationally and in Kentucky. He also discussed state strategies to improve broadband access, particularly in rural areas.
- Dr. Jay Box, Chancellor, Kentucky Community and Technical College System, presented information to the Council about the KCTCS Learn on Demand program. This program is competency-based and module-based tuition. It has flexible enrollment, 24/7 support, and eTextbooks embedded in the courses. Courses usually take 3-5 weeks, but students can finish early if they meet the required competencies. As of 2012, there are 2,684 students enrolled in Learn on Demand. Over 1,000 are new to the program. It has an 88 percent success/pass rate.
- Mr. Lind and Dr. Box answered several questions regarding the Learn on Demand program’s access in rural areas, the professors’ reluctance to adopt online learning, and KCTCS’s marketing efforts.
- PERFORMANCE  
PRESENTATION –  
EASTERN KENTUCKY  
UNIVERSITY** Dr. Michael Benson, Eastern Kentucky University’s president, and Dr. Janna Vice, Provost, provided the Council with an update on EKU’s progress toward achieving its performance goals as set forth in the state’s Strategic Agenda. Dr. Benson and Dr. Vice answered questions regarding achievement gaps in the graduation rates of low income and underprepared students. Council member Dr. Ellis also commended EKU on their programs for veterans and eastern Kentucky area programs.

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PERFORMANCE  
PRESENTATION –  
KENTUCKY STATE  
UNIVERSITY

Dr. Mary Evans Sias, Kentucky State University's president, Dr. Joel Thierstein, Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Stephen Mason, Chief of Staff and Executive Assistant to the President, provided the Council with an update on KSU's progress toward achieving its performance goals as set forth in the state's Strategic Agenda. Dr. Sias, Dr. Thierstein, and Mr. Mason answered several questions regarding KSU's decreasing graduation rates, as well as their admission and enrollment guidelines.

PERFORMANCE  
PRESENTATION –  
MURRAY STATE  
UNIVERSITY

Dr. Tim Miller, Murray State University's interim president, Jay Morgan, Provost, and Catherine Sivills, Assistant Vice President for Communications, provided the Council with an update on MuSU's progress toward achieving its performance goals as set forth in the state's Strategic Agenda. Dr. Miller shared their strategies for their increasing graduation rates, and Council member Mr. Denton commended them on their involvement in the high schools.

2014-16  
POSTSECONDARY  
EDUCATION BUDGET  
RECOMMENDATION

The Kentucky Postsecondary Education Improvement Act of 1997 (House Bill 1), codified under KRS 164.020, authorizes the Council on Postsecondary Education to submit to the Governor and General Assembly the biennial budget recommendation for the postsecondary education sector and its nine institutions. The 2014-16 postsecondary education budget recommendation was provided in the agenda book. Details for the four specific areas of institutional operating funds; strategic investment and incentive trust funds; capital investments and information technology; and CPE agency budget were provided in the agenda book as well.

MOTION: Mr. Ellis moved that the Council approve the budget recommendation as submitted for 2014-16. Ms. Ridley seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

CPE PRESIDENT'S  
REPORT TO THE  
COUNCIL

A written report from Mr. King was distributed at the meeting. Highlights of his report included Kentucky's selection for the Educator Prep program; Council staff presentations to legislative committees; an award received to improve broadband access in rural parts of the state; statewide efforts to increase student success and closing achievement gaps; college readiness outreach efforts by GEAR UP Kentucky; McDonald's campaign to encourage GED attainment (initiated by Council member Joe Graviss); and CPE staff member news showing the impact made in Kentucky and across the nation. Mr. King verbally reported on the Rural Access Work Group implementation efforts being made and gave a SOAR update. Mr. King also thanked the Budget Development Work Group and the CPE Budget staff for their assistance in developing the 2014-16 budget recommendation.

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COMMISSIONER OF  
EDUCATION REPORT

Commissioner Holliday was not available to attend the November 7 meeting. He provided a written report in the agenda book.

IMPROVING EDUCATOR  
QUALITY (IEQ) STATE  
GRANT PROGRAM

Mr. Shannon Gilkey, CPE's senior associate of P-20 and College Readiness, presented the staff recommendation that the Council award federal *No Child Left Behind*, Title II, Part A, funds in the amount of \$839,000 for January 1, 2014-June 30, 2015, to support seven projects. The Improving Educator Quality State Grant Program awards grants to partnerships that deliver research-based professional development programs to P-12 teachers. To be eligible, a partnership must include a postsecondary institution's school of arts and sciences and its teacher preparation program, as well as at least one high-need local school district. The program enables states to fund training for teachers and administrators in any core academic subject.

MOTION: Mr. Denton moved that the Council approve the staff recommendation to award federal *No Child Left Behind*, Title II, Part A, funds in the amount of \$839,000 for January 1, 2014-June 30, 2015, to support seven projects. Mr. Means seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

NEW ACADEMIC  
PROGRAMS: MURRAY  
STATE UNIVERSITY AND  
WESTERN KENTUCKY  
UNIVERSITY

Dr. Aaron Thompson presented the staff recommendation that the Council approve the Doctor of Education P-20 and Community Leadership and the Master of Arts in Postsecondary Education Administration at Murray State University; and the Bachelor of Arts in Chinese and the Bachelor of Arts in Arabic at Western Kentucky University. Jay Morgan, Provost at Murray State University, and Gordon Emslie, Provost at Western Kentucky University, were at the table to answer questions.

MOTION: Ms. Ridley moved that the Council approve the Doctor of Education P-20 and Community Leadership and the Master of Arts in Postsecondary Education Administration at Murray State University. Mr. Means seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

MOTION: Mr. Taylor moved that the Council approve the Bachelor of Arts in Chinese and the Bachelor of Arts in Arabic at Western Kentucky University. Mr. Jackson seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

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13 KAR 3:050 GED®  
ELIGIBILITY  
REQUIREMENTS

Mr. Travis Powell, CPE's general counsel, and Rae Smith, CPE's associate of Kentucky Adult Education, presented the staff recommendation that the Council approve the proposed response to the public comments received on the proposed amendment to 13 KAR 3:050, and that the regulation not be amended in response. At its September 12, 2013, meeting, the Council approved a proposed amendment to 13 KAR 3:050, which sets forth the eligibility requirements for individuals to take the GED® exam. The proposed amendment was filed with the regulations compiler on September 13, 2013. A public hearing was scheduled for October 22, 2013, but there were no requests to attend and therefore the hearing was cancelled. However, written comments were received before the October 31, 2013, deadline and were reprinted in the Statement of Consideration included in the agenda book. Staff responses to those comments were also included in the agenda book. Based on the comments received, which seek to prohibit adults from certifying GED® test ready through online examination, the CPE staff recommended that the regulation not be amended in response.

MOTION: Mr. Denton moved that the Council approve the proposed response to the public comments received on the proposed amendment to 13 KAR 3:050, and that the regulation not be amended in response. Mr. Graviss seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

ANNUAL ASSESSMENT:  
2014-15 DEGREE  
PROGRAM STATUS

Dr. Rana Johnson, CPE's chief diversity officer, presented the Committee on Equal Opportunities recommendation in regards to the annual assessment. At the October 21, 2013, meeting, the Council's Committee on Equal Opportunities (CEO) voted to recommend that the Council on Postsecondary Education allow each public postsecondary institution to maintain its 2013 new degree program eligibility status for 2014. The basis for the recommendation is that a year is needed for Council and institutional staff to allow clarification/application of the new definitions established by the federal government, under IPEDS (Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System). Furthermore, Council staff will determine how the established definitions will impact the assessment of institutional workforce diversity goals.

MOTION: Mr. Means moved that the Council allow each public postsecondary institution to maintain its 2013 new degree program eligibility status for 2014, and direct the next evaluation of equal opportunity goals, as required by KRS 164.020(19) and implemented through 13 KAR 2:060, to be conducted for calendar year 2015. Mr. Ellis seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

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COMMITTEE ON  
EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES  
REPORT

Dr. Rana Johnson provided a report from the Committee on Equal Opportunities. The report included the 2014 meeting schedule; a status report on the Governor's Minority Student College Preparation Program; an update on the SREB Doctoral Scholars program; and an update regarding Kentucky Latino Education Alliance's participation in the Lumina Latino Student Success Annual meeting in Washington, DC.

Dr. Johnson invited Council members to attend the next CEO meeting on January 28<sup>th</sup> at the CPE offices. Council member Mr. Taylor stated that he and the CEO wanted to go on record requesting that the CEO favor the Council instructing Dr. Thompson and Dr. Johnson to develop a plan for assisting the institutions in the manner similar to the process used to support Madisonville Community College in their waiver request in 2012. Dr. Rhoads later spoke to the Council about their summer Boost program.

FOR THE GREATER  
GOOD: HOW KYVL  
STRIVES TO SERVE  
KENTUCKY

Mr. Lind presented an update on the Kentucky Virtual Library and how it strives to serve Kentucky. The Kentucky Virtual Library provides leadership to the library community of the Commonwealth through sharing financial and human resources, best practices in service and resource sharing, and coordinating statewide, P20 delivery of digital content to serve education, workforce, and the citizenry. KYVL successfully brings together colleges and universities, schools, and public libraries to lower costs and improve efficiencies through joint purchasing of services and acquisitions of content. KYVL is available to all Kentuckians and regularly serves over 1.8 million people from the 1,500 designated locations of its 300 cost-sharing member organizations. Through its economies of scale, KYVL is highly cost efficient and effective, and it ensures equity of access for all to its valuable resources.

Mr. Lind answered questions regarding the KYVL's usage within the Kentucky prison system and how KYVL was presented in the budget request.

TUITION SETTING  
PROCESS

The Council's Tuition and Mandatory Fee Policy used to guide the tuition-setting process last year was presented in the agenda book. The process contained five fundamental policy objectives: (1) funding adequacy; (2) shared benefits and responsibility; (3) affordability and access; (4) attracting and importing talent; and (5) effective use of resources. Ms. Miller appointed a Tuition Review Committee to review the current policy, develop a tuition setting timeline, and make recommendations regarding tuition and mandatory fee ceilings to the full Council. The members appointed to this committee are Glenn Denton, Joe Ellis, Glenn Means, Robert Staat, Arnold Taylor, and Sherrill Zimmerman.

15 TO FINISH

Ms. Lee Nimocks, Vice President for Operations and Senior Policy Advisor, and



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- CAMPAIGN Ms. Sue Patrick, CPE’s director of Communications, presented on the statewide communications and marketing campaign to promote on-time graduation. Called *15 to Finish*, the campaign will kick-off Wednesday, January 8, 2014, at a press event scheduled at 11:30 a.m. ET in the Capitol Rotunda. The purpose of the campaign is to encourage students to complete 15 credit hours per semester, or 30 credits per year. It will also inform parents and families, high school teachers, guidance counselors, and campus advisors of the benefits of taking 15 credits a semester.
- ANNUAL ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT The 2011-12 Accountability Report was distributed at the meeting. The report will be discussed in more detail at the CPE retreat in February 2014.
- COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS Ms. Miller appointed a nominating committee to present nominations for Council chair and vice chair at the February 14, 2014, meeting. The appointments will be one-year terms, from February 14, 2014, to January 31, 2015. The following members were appointed to this committee: Joe Graviss, Donna Moore, and Marcia Ridings. Donna Moore will chair this committee.
- REPORTS FROM INSTITUTIONS Reports from the institutions were provided in the agenda book.
- OTHER BUSINESS After requests from two university presidents and the Council, Mr. King proposed a resolution regarding the 2014-16 postsecondary education budget recommendation. The resolution stated:
- The Council on Postsecondary Education expresses its unqualified support for the 2014-2016 Postsecondary Education Budget Recommendation and particularly the development of funding requests for strategic investments in addition to the traditional base funding.*
- The Council hereby resolves that, as a result of budget deliberations over the past year, it is evident that there is a need for the development of a comprehensive funding model that aligns the Commonwealth's investment in postsecondary education with the Commonwealth's postsecondary education policy objectives. As such, the Council president is hereby directed to establish a working group that, at minimum, includes leadership of each of the public universities and KCTCS and members of this Council, for the purpose of developing a comprehensive model for the allocation of state General Fund appropriations for institutional operations that incorporates elements of campus performance, mission, and*

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*enrollment as well as any other components as determined through the process. The new model shall be developed for implementation in the 2016-2018 biennial budget recommendation.*

MOTION: Mr. Denton moved that the Council accept the resolution as drafted. Mr. Staat seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

Ms. Miller discussed the audit results presented at the Executive Committee meeting.

MOTION: Ms. Ridley moved that the Council accept the audit results. Mr. Means seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

NEXT MEETING

The next Council meeting is February 14, 2014, at the Marriott Griffin Gate, Lexington, KY. The CPE Retreat will occur on February 13, 2014.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m., CT.

## President's Report

### Council member Means featured in Forbes

Congratulations to our student Council Member Glenn Means III, whose work was recently featured in Forbes.com. As one of three fellows with Health for America, Means participated in an eight-week program in the summer of 2013 to tackle the problem of childhood asthma, the results of which were reported in the article, "The Power of Youth: Using the Tech Startup Mentality to Solve Healthcare Challenges." The fellows developed a white paper that outlined potential solutions and developed a device to improve the delivery of medicines used for the treatment of asthma. They also developed a game to help children manage their condition.



The results were very successful and their white paper has been accepted for presentation at the International Conference on Health, Wellness and Society in Vancouver in March. Health for America is working with its partners to develop and commercialize a prototype developed by the fellows. The article can be accessed at <http://www.forbes.com/sites/ashoka/2013/12/26/5980/>.

### King attends White House Summit

I had the pleasure of attending an invitation-only White House summit in January that focused on helping more low-income students enroll and succeed in college. The national education summit was hosted by President Obama and the First Lady. The summit discussed ways that higher education, as well as other partners, can come together to help connect more low-income students to college opportunities.

The higher education leaders attending the summit pledged to do more to assist low-income students. [Kentucky's plan](#) calls for a wide range of ongoing efforts to meet strategic goals related to student success and readiness.

### Presidents, board chairs co-sign op-ed calling for renewed commitment to funding

As you have probably seen, an opinion editorial signed by all public university presidents and their board chairs or designees, as well as myself and Chair Miller, appeared in major newspapers throughout Kentucky in mid-January. The op-ed called for a renewed commitment to higher education funding. The op-ed is available on the Council's website at <http://cpe.ky.gov/commitment-highered>



### Transfer Madness press event and online fair set

Transfer Madness, a completely online and statewide transfer fair, is set for Wednesday, March 5 from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. EST. The event will raise awareness of transfer opportunities, programs and scholarships, and will connect Kentucky Community and Technical College System students to campus advisors at four-year institutions. We are very pleased that Governor Steve Beshear will join us at the press conference announcing the fair on Tuesday, February 25 at 2:30 p.m. EST in the Capitol Rotunda in Frankfort.

The transfer fair will feature real-time text and video chats with campus transfer, admissions and financial aid advisors. To attend the fair, students will log on and register at <http://transfermadness.org>. Transfer Madness is sponsored by the Council and Kentucky's colleges and universities. Participating institutions include all eight of Kentucky's state universities, the 16 colleges of KCTCS, Sullivan University and the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority.

### '15 to Finish' campaign promotes on-time graduation

We were pleased to launch the "15 to Finish" campaign last month with Lt. Governor Jerry Abramson and the state's colleges and universities. The campaign urges full-time college students to finish college faster by completing a full 15-credit schedule each semester, or 30 credits a year, the standard course load for on-time-graduation.



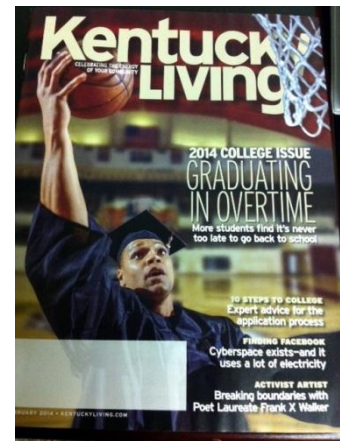
The "15 to Finish" campaign will promote the benefits of completing a full course schedule, which include saving time and money, and getting into the workforce sooner. To learn more, visit the website at <http://15tofinishky.org/> or visit the Council's online newsletter at <http://insight.councilonpostsecondaryeducation.org/>

### Save the Date: Student Success Summit set April 7-8

The Council will sponsor its annual Student Success Summit on April 7-8 at the Louisville Marriott East. The summit will bring together faculty, staff and administrators from across the commonwealth to learn about high-impact educational practices. More details will be announced soon.

Kentucky Living features Project Graduate and King op-ed on career services

Project Graduate, a program to recruit and graduate former students with 80 or more credit hours, was featured as the cover story in the February issue of Kentucky Living, a statewide publication of the Kentucky Association of Electric Cooperatives. "Graduating in Overtime" showcased a wide range of student success stories over seven pages, in addition to the KCTCS Learn on Demand model and preliminary information on Commonwealth College. Additionally, I was pleased to have my op-ed printed on how career centers can save students time and money, and even help them get a better degree.



Staff accomplishments

--Dr. Aaron Thompson was the keynote speaker for the Black History Month Celebration, sponsored by the Kentucky Black Legislative Caucus held last week in the Capitol Rotunda. The event also showcased the contributions of Kentucky State University and Simmons College.

--Dr. Rana Johnson was the keynote speaker last month for the Martin Luther King celebration at Hazard Community and Technical College.

Kentucky's SREB Doctoral Scholars introduced at CEO

Kentucky's SREB Doctoral Scholars, graduates, and faculty were introduced at the January meeting of the Committee on Equal Opportunities. They are shown at right with House Education Chair Derrick Graham.



## Commissioner of Education Report

**Letter Withdrawing Kentucky from the PARCC Consortium** – The attached letter from Governor Beshear, Kentucky Board of Education Chair Roger Marcum and me has been sent to Mitchell Chester, Chair of the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Career (PARCC) consortium. The letter indicates Kentucky’s withdrawal from the consortium and provides specific reasons for this action.

**USED Approves Request to Extend the Timeline for the Professional Growth and Effectiveness System** – As commissioner, I received the official approval letter from the United States Department of Education approving the Kentucky Department of Education’s request to amend the timeline for the Professional Growth and Effectiveness System with respect to its use for personnel decisions and accountability. The system will roll out as follows:

- 2013-14 – Pilot in every school district in selected schools
- 2014-15 – Full implementation in every school within every district but not used for personnel decisions or accountability purposes
- 2015-16 – Full implementation in every school within every district with use for personnel decisions and accountability purposes

This Kentucky Board of Education will be reviewing the regulation that finalizes the elements of this system in February with final approval in April.

**K-Screener Data Publicly Released.** At a press conference on January 30 at the Capitol, Governor Beshear publicly announced the results from the first statewide implementation of the common Kindergarten Readiness Screener. Terry Tolan, Executive Director of the Governor’s Office of Early Childhood, and I also participated in the news conference. See the full press release at the following web address:

<http://migration.kentucky.gov/newsroom/governor/20140130preK.htm>.

The good news is that 49 percent of students started kindergarten this school year ready to learn and succeed. However, nearly 26,000 students entered school unprepared for kindergarten work.

The BRIGANCE K-Screener was administered to 50,532 kindergarten students in all 173 school districts at the beginning of the 2013-14 school year. The screener measures how well a child is prepared to succeed at the time the screener is administered.

This data will help us prevent and close achievement gaps before they become insurmountable. It will not only help kindergarten teachers make sure they are providing the best instruction to meet individual student needs, but also will ensure our primary grades are building on a student's knowledge. Our goal is for every child to be reading on grade level or above by the time they leave the 3rd grade.

You can find the kindergarten readiness screener data in the supplemental data section of KDE's Open House at <http://openhouse.education.ky.gov/> and it will be added to the school report card in the fall.

### **Kentucky Board of Education Updates**

**Board Approves 2014 Legislative Agenda** – At its December 4 session, the Kentucky Board of Education approved the 2014 Legislative Agenda, which can be found at the following web address under agenda item XII:

<http://portal.ksba.org/public/Meeting.aspx?PublicAgencyID=4388&PublicMeetingID=10169&AgencyTypeID=1>.

Funding is the top priority in that agenda with requests to the General Assembly to:

- restore Support Education Excellence in Kentucky (SEEK) funding to 2009 levels, raising per pupil funding from \$3,827 to \$3,866;
- restore Flexible Focus Funds for professional development, safe schools, extended school services, textbooks and preschool to 2008 levels (*Professional Development \$9,700,000; Safe Schools \$6,200,000; Extended School Services \$19,600,000; Textbooks \$21,700,000; Preschool \$3,800,000 – TOTAL FY 15: \$61,000,000 FY 16: \$61,000,000*);
- provide technology funding to increase bandwidth and pay back a bond that would support district replacement of computers and/or mobile devices with up-to-date instructional devices (*FY 15: \$20,300,000 FY16: \$20,300,000*);
- provide funding that would expand career opportunities and technical skills attainment for high school students in support of college/career-readiness (*FY15: \$7,755,500 FY16: \$7,779,500*);
- support district turnaround efforts that would assist schools, especially persistently low-achieving schools and districts in need of improvement and turnaround (*FY15: \$3,400,000 FY16: \$4,770,000*);
- provide funding for capital projects at the Kentucky School for the Blind, the Kentucky School for the Deaf, a maintenance pool and \$50 million Instructional Device Replacement Bond (*Capital Plan TOTAL: \$62,364,000*)

**Next Kentucky Board of Education Meeting to Occur on February 5<sup>th</sup>** – The next meeting of the Kentucky Board of Education will occur on Feb. 5<sup>th</sup>. Highlights of the meeting will include review of the new regulation on the Professional Growth and Effectiveness System, an update

on the performance of Priority Schools, review of the K-Screener data, approval of Cohort 2 of the Districts of Distinction, and recognition of the Districts of Distinction.

The agenda and materials for the meeting can be found at the following web address:

<http://portal.ksba.org/public/Meeting.aspx?PublicAgencyID=4388&PublicMeetingID=10511&AgencyTypeID=1>.

Preparation by Kentucky Department of Education





COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
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January 31, 2014

Mr. Mitchell Chester  
Chair, PARCC  
1400 16<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Suite 510  
Washington, DC 20036

Dear Chair Chester:

This letter serves as written notice of Kentucky's withdrawal from the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Career (PARCC). This withdrawal takes effect ten (10) days from the date of this letter. There are several strategic reasons for this decision:

1. Kentucky anticipates that it may have to engage in a Request for Proposal (RFP) process as part of the next wave of assessments for the Commonwealth. Kentucky state law requires a fair and equitable RFP process. We want to ensure that PARCC has the opportunity to participate in this process as a potential bidder, if it wishes to do so, without any perception of a conflict of interest or bias being created. Accordingly, it makes practical sense for Kentucky to withdraw from PARCC, before any competitive bid process is initiated.
2. Kentucky's current "participating state" status has caused some confusion in the state and on the national scene. Teachers, the media, and the public do not understand the subtle differences between "participating" and "governing" status. This leads to misinterpretation of Kentucky's role in PARCC and causes Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) staff to constantly explain the role of a participating state and to address rumors about upcoming PARCC launch dates. Our official withdrawal will eliminate such confusion.
3. Finally, resources are extremely limited in Kentucky and, with competing priorities, we are finding it difficult to monitor and significantly contribute to this work, thus opening the door to the state missing out on important PARCC evolutions. By missing these keystone events, it lends itself to more confusion with our public and withdrawal makes sense for this reason also.



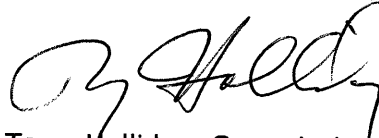
MR. MITCHELL CHESTER  
January 31, 2014  
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It has been a pleasure to have coordinated with PARCC since its inception. We will continue to observe the work of PARCC at arms-length, as we would work the work of any other potential vendors, and we would hope that PARCC would participate in any future procurement opportunities in Kentucky to the extent it is interested in doing so. We wish you well on the upcoming field test and the eventual operational test.

Sincerely,



Steven L. Beshear, Governor  
Commonwealth of Kentucky



Terry Holliday, Commissioner  
Kentucky Department of Education



Roger L. Marcum, Chair  
Kentucky Board of Education

**New Academic Programs**  
**Morehead State University, Northern Kentucky University,**  
**University of Kentucky, University of Louisville, and Western**  
**Kentucky University**

**ACTION: The staff recommends that the Council approve the Bachelor of Arts in Convergent Media and the Bachelor of Arts in Strategic Communication at Morehead State University; the Bachelor of Science in Radiologic Science and the Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Care at Northern Kentucky University; the Bachelor of Science in Information Communication Technology at the University of Kentucky; the Master of Fine Arts in Studio Art and Design at the University of Louisville; and the Bachelor of Arts in Criminology at Western Kentucky University.**

KRS 164.020 (15) empowers the Council on Postsecondary Education to define and approve the offering of all postsecondary education technical, associate, baccalaureate, graduate, and professional degree, certificate, or diploma programs in the public postsecondary education institutions.

**Morehead State University**

**Bachelor of Arts in Convergent Media (CIP Code: 09.0799)**

The proposed Bachelor of Arts in Convergent Media program will replace two tracks that are currently part of the B.A. in Communication: Multimedia Journalism and Multimedia Production. This new program combines the previous two into one inclusive curriculum, while adding aspects of graphic design and Web design. The program integrates traditional print and broadcast content into an interactive online medium, providing students with the knowledge and skills necessary to be media professionals.

**Bachelor of Arts in Strategic Communications (CIP Code: 09.0999)**

The proposed Bachelor of Arts in Strategic Communications will replace three tracks that are currently part of the B.A. in Communication: Communication Studies, Leadership Studies, and Public Relations. This new program combines the previous three while emphasizing communication via electronic devices, such as email, chat rooms, social media, and instant messaging. This integrated approach is in response to industry demands for graduates with a diverse set of communication knowledge and skills.

## Northern Kentucky University

### Bachelor of Science in Radiologic Science (CIP Code: 51.0911)

The proposed program will replace the existing associate degree at NKU. The program will strengthen the professional component of the curriculum and will include courses in research, leadership, advanced patient care, and quality and safety in healthcare. These changes are consistent with the recommendations of the American Society of Radiologic Technologists to emphasize critical thinking, diversity, research, and communication skills.

### Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Care (CIP Code: 51.0908)

The proposed program will replace the associate degree program at NKU. This program was developed in response to industry demands for baccalaureate-trained respiratory care specialists, as advocated by the American Association of Respiratory Care. Specialist positions in airway clearance, asthma management, education, and research, requiring bachelor's degrees and advanced skills, are being created within hospitals. Currently, there are 49 programs in the United States and Puerto Rico that offer this degree, with Kentucky having only one at a private university.

## University of Kentucky

### Bachelor of Science in Information Communication Technology (CIP Code: 11.0401)

The proposed Bachelor of Science in Information Communication Technology program focuses on the intersection of technology, the people who use that technology, the policies and regulations governing or affecting use of that technology, and the community or environment in which that technology is used. Unlike other programs in Kentucky, the proposed program is not largely based on computer science or specific to one particular discipline.

## University of Louisville

### Master of Fine Arts in Studio Art and Design (CIP Code: 50.0702)

The proposed Master of Fine Arts in Studio Art and Design program will emphasize the interdisciplinary nature of current art practices, transcending the traditional division of media. Students will have the flexibility to concentrate on one of many media, including glass. This program will be one of only 13 programs in the country with graduate courses in glass, offering the possibility of productive relationships with other programs and institutions. Additionally, this will be the only program in Kentucky to offer graduate courses in graphic design.

## Western Kentucky University

### Bachelor of Arts in Criminology (CIP Code: 45.0401)

The proposed Bachelor of Arts in Criminology has an interdisciplinary focus, drawing from an examination of social systems and behaviors, social inequality, and social justice. These core issues will be directly applied to a theoretically grounded examination of the root causes of

criminal offending, victimology, and broader societal implications. While criminal justice programs focus on components of the system, such as the courts, police, and corrections, criminology programs examine issues such as equality, alternatives to incarceration, deviance, and social forces. This will be the only criminology program in Kentucky.

Staff preparation by Paul Blankenship

## 2014-15 Tuition Policy and Timeline

**ACTION: The staff recommends that the Council approve the attached Tuition and Mandatory Fee Policy and 2014-15 Tuition Setting Timeline that provide a framework for establishing public postsecondary tuition and fees for AY 2014-15.**

At the November 7, 2013 meeting, staff provided a copy of the Council's current Tuition and Mandatory Fee Policy for member review and discussion. At that meeting, chair Miller announced formation of a Tuition Development Work Group (TDWG) to work with campus officials and CPE staff to review and suggest possible changes to the policy, to develop a proposed timeline for the 2014-15 tuition setting process and to participate in developing proposed resident undergraduate tuition and fee ceilings that will be submitted for Council action at the April 29 meeting.

Since the November meeting, CPE staff has worked with campus presidents, institution chief budget officers, and TDWG members to finalize tuition and mandatory fee policy and tuition setting timeline recommendations. There were no suggested changes to the Council's current tuition policy. Proposed changes in the tuition setting timeline include accelerating the data collection process, providing campus officials with preliminary ideas about tuition and fee ceilings in mid-February, and scheduling joint meetings of Council members and campus presidents at critical stages in the process.

Staff recommends that the Council approve the attached Tuition and Mandatory Fee Policy (Attachment 1) and 2014-15 Tuition Setting Timeline (Attachment 2). Once approved, these documents will guide development of tuition and fee ceilings and facilitate submission and assessment of campus rate proposals for academic year 2014-15.

As can be seen in the attached timeline, it is anticipated that the Council will review and approve the tuition policy and timeline documents at the February 14 meeting, take action on staff's recommended tuition ceilings at the April 29 meeting, and approve each institution's proposed tuition and mandatory fee rates at the June 20 meeting.

In the pages that follow, staff identifies several key issues that will likely impact the 2014-15 tuition setting process, including continuing erosion of postsecondary education's share of the overall state budget, enacted and proposed reductions in state General Fund appropriations, lack of funding for maintenance and operation (M&O) of new E&G facilities, and anticipated fixed cost increases. Data is provided showing change in tuition and fee sticker prices over time (annual full-time comparison rates) and trends in student financial aid both at postsecondary institutions in Kentucky and at comparable institutions in surrounding states.

Lastly, this agenda item supplies information relevant to the central objectives of the Council's Tuition and Mandatory Fee Policy, including funding adequacy, affordability, access, and efficient use of resources.

## **Key Issues**

### *Declining Share of State Budgets*

In recent decades, a persistent problem for many state systems of American higher education has been a reduction in relative priority given to postsecondary education as a percentage of overall state budgets. The postsecondary education community in Kentucky has not been immune to this trend, with Medicaid and corrections capturing the lion's share of any new state General Fund support since the late 1990s (Kentucky Budget of the Commonwealth).

In the analyses below, the Postsecondary Education budget category includes the Council on Postsecondary Education, state student financial aid, and public postsecondary institution funding components.

- Between fiscal years 1998-99 and 2013-14, Kentucky's total state General Fund budget increased by 58 percent (Attachment 3).
- During that same time period, state appropriations for Medicaid and Criminal Justice increased by 138 percent and 78 percent, respectively. These were the only two major budget categories that received a larger percentage increase in appropriations than the increase in the overall state budget.
- The increase for K-12 Education was 56 percent, slightly below the increase in the total state budget for the period.
- State appropriations for Postsecondary Education increased by 24 percent during this period, less than half the rate of increase in the total state budget, and resulting in a declining postsecondary education budget share.
- If postsecondary education had retained the same share of Kentucky's total General Fund budget in fiscal 2013-14 that it had in 1998-99, it would have received about \$320 million more in state support.

As can be seen in Attachment 4, the high point in terms of postsecondary education's budget share occurred in fiscal 2003-04, when 15.8 percent of state General Fund appropriations was used to fund the aforementioned higher education budget components.

- Despite nominal dollar increases in the overall state budget over the past 15 years, higher education's share of total General Fund appropriations fell from 15.8 percent to 12.0 percent between fiscal years 2003-04 and 2013-14, respectively.

Long-term, sustained state support for education continues to be placed in jeopardy due to unsustainable increases in Medicaid and Corrections, stemming in part from a historically low level of educational attainment in Kentucky.

### *General Fund Reductions*

State support for Kentucky's public postsecondary institutions peaked in 2007-08, when the 2006 General Assembly enacted a budget containing \$1.084 billion in net General Fund appropriations for college and university operating budgets that year (HB 380, 2006-08 Budget of the Commonwealth). Since then, the institutions have sustained six budget cuts in six years, including three mid-year Budget Reduction Orders and three enacted reductions.

- Specifically, between fiscal years 2007-08 and 2013-14, Kentucky's public colleges and universities lost \$168 million, or 15.5 percent, of their combined net General Fund appropriations (Attachment 5).

Looking at these reductions on a nominal dollar basis masks the effects of inflation and enrollment growth on institutional operating budgets during this period.

- After adjusting for inflation, the loss in postsecondary institution net General Fund appropriations is \$284 million or 24 percent (Attachment 6).
- From fall 2007 to fall 2013, the number of full-time equivalent students attending state colleges and universities increased by 12,297 students or 8.5 percent (see the green line in Attachment 6).
- On a per-student basis, Kentucky's public postsecondary system lost \$2,444 per student or 30 percent of its real net General Fund appropriations between fiscal years 2007-08 and 2013-14 (Attachment 7).
- The system would have needed to receive an additional \$386 million in net General Fund support in fiscal 2013-14 in order for it to maintain its fiscal 2007-08 per student funding level (Attachment 7).

In other words, if the State's public postsecondary institutions had received \$1.3 billion in net General Fund support in fiscal 2013-14 instead of the \$916 million appropriated in the enacted budget, the system's per-student funding level would have been \$8,248, the same level of per-student funding it had in fiscal 2007-08.

On January 21, 2014, the Governor introduced his proposed executive budget (HB 235) before the 2014 regular session of the General Assembly. If enacted as proposed, Kentucky's public postsecondary institutions will sustain a 2.5 percent reduction in their net General Fund appropriations in fiscal year 2014-15, representing a seventh cut in as many years since fiscal 2007-08.



According to recent Grapevine data, reported in the Chronicle of Higher Education, total state spending for higher education showed marked improvement between fiscal years 2013 and 2014, increasing by nearly 6 percent (January 20, 2014). Forty states are increasing postsecondary spending in the current fiscal year, signaling what the researchers termed a continuing “slow recovery” of higher education funding. The postsecondary sector in ten states, including Kentucky, received less funding in the current year than it had last year. If the Governor’s budget is enacted as proposed, Kentucky will continue to be at odds with the national trend toward reinvestment in public higher education.

### *Unfunded M&O Expense*

When the General Assembly authorizes and issues bonds for new capital construction projects on Kentucky public postsecondary campuses, there are costs associated with operating and maintaining the new facilities (i.e., M&O costs). These costs stem from activities necessary for a building and its systems and equipment to perform intended functions, and include utilities and energy costs, and salaries and benefits expense for janitorial and maintenance staff.

Prior to fiscal year 2008-09, it was standard practice for the Kentucky legislature to provide General Fund support for the maintenance and operation of previously authorized Education and General facilities expected to come online during a biennium. Over the past five years, however, austere state budget conditions contributed to a suspension of this practice, with KCTCS being the only institution to receive partial M&O funds during the 2008-10 biennium.

- As can be seen in Attachment 8, Council staff projects that annual M&O expense at Kentucky’s public postsecondary institutions increased by \$40.1 million between fiscal years 2008-09 and 2013-14.

The Council requested state support for M&O in 2008-10, 2010-12, and 2012-14. Other than the partial M&O funding received by KCTCS in 2008-10, these requests went unfunded.

In nominal terms, lack of state funding for M&O during this period has been equivalent to a 4.4 percent cut (on a \$916 million net General Fund base). This is because the institutions are required to reallocate resources from other uses (i.e., instruction, research, public service) to open, operate, and maintain the new facilities.

- According to estimates received from campus chief budget officers, system total maintenance and operating costs will increase by \$9.3 million in 2014-15.

### *Fixed Cost Increases*

In January each year, the postsecondary institutions submit fixed cost and tuition and fee revenue estimates to the Council. Fixed cost increase estimates can include increases in institutionally-funded student financial aid, mandated increases in KERS contributions and health insurance premiums, unfunded M&O expenses for new facilities coming online next year, and increases in other costs such as utilities, contractual obligations, and workmen’s and unemployment compensation.

Estimated increases in gross billable tuition and fee revenue are based on assumptions of flat student enrollment and uniform levels of rate increase across all categories of students (i.e., every academic level, residency, and full-time/part-time status). They represent incremental increases in gross tuition and fee revenue generated across a range of possible rate increases (e.g., 1% increase, 2% increase, 3% increase, and so on) implemented during the upcoming academic year.

By comparing fixed cost and tuition revenue estimates, the potential budgetary impact of tuition and fee increases on postsecondary institution operating budgets can be determined.

- As can be seen in Attachment 9, during fiscal 2014-15, institutional financial aid is estimated to increase by \$32.3 million, mandated increases in KERS employer-paid retirement contributions are expected to increase by \$8.4 million, health insurance premiums are expected to grow by \$15.5 million, and unfunded M&O costs for new E&G facilities coming online are expected to increase by \$9.7 million.
- Other fixed costs such as utilities and energy costs, contractual obligations, and workmen's and unemployment insurance costs are projected to grow by \$18.7 million.
- In total, fixed and unavoidable costs for Kentucky's public postsecondary system are expected to increase by \$84.6 million in fiscal 2014-15.

Attachment 10 shows estimated increases in gross tuition and mandatory fee revenue that potentially could be generated at various levels of rate increase by institution and for the postsecondary system.

- For example, a 3 percent tuition and fee increase, assessed uniformly across all postsecondary sectors and all categories of students, would generate a combined increase in gross tuition and fee revenue of about \$44.2 million.

Attachment 11 shows the anticipated impact on institutional operating budgets of a hypothetical 3 percent tuition and fee increase, given expected fixed cost increases in fiscal 2014-15 and operating under the assumption that the 2.5 percent cut proposed in the Governor's budget is enacted.

- The Governor's proposed budget calls for a \$23.1 million reduction in postsecondary institution net General Fund appropriations in fiscal 2014-15.
- When \$84.6 million in expected fixed costs increases is added to \$23.1 million in proposed budget reductions, the institutions are facing a combined \$107.7 million drain on their operating budgets.
- At a hypothetical 3 percent rate increase, the resulting \$44.2 million increase in tuition and fee revenue would cover about 41 percent of the aforementioned \$107.7 million

in combined fixed cost increases and budget reductions, resulting in a net operating deficit of \$63.5 million.

The continuing decline in state support for higher education, lack of funding for M&O, fixed cost increases, and limits on tuition and fee increases has placed pressure on postsecondary institution budgets and required campus leaders to divert resources from other programs or functional areas to cover these necessary expenditures.

### *Financial Aid*

Students who choose to pursue a college education in Kentucky benefit from a number of readily available financial aid opportunities and programs that help defray college going costs, including Pell and other federal grants, state-funded student financial aid provided through the KEES, College Access Program (CAP), and Kentucky Tuition Grant Program (KTG) programs, and institutionally provided scholarships and fellowships. Listed below is financial aid information relevant to the 2014-15 tuition and fee setting process.

### Federal Grants

- The maximum federal Pell-grant award is expected to increase from \$5,645 to \$5,730, or by \$85, between academic years 2013-14 and 2014-15.
- In 2011-12, the average Pell-grant award for students attending a KCTCS institution was \$3,328, down \$227 from the previous year, and the average award for students attending Kentucky public four-year institutions was \$3,900, down \$123 from the previous year (U.S. Department of Education, Distribution of Federal Pell Grant Program Funds by Institution, 2011-12 Award Year).

### State-Funded Aid

After a decade of relatively consistent and considerable nominal dollar growth, enacted appropriations for state-funded student financial aid programs in Kentucky began leveling off in fiscal 2008-09 and have grown very little since.

- Between fiscal years 1998-99 and 2008-09, enacted appropriations for state student aid increased by 19.5 percent per year. Since that time, student aid appropriations have grown by about 1.0 percent per year.
- The maximum state KEES award is expected to be \$2,500 next year and the maximum state CAP award is expected to be \$1,900. For both programs, these are the same maximum awards as provided this year (Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority).
- In 2012-13, the average state KEES award was \$937 for students attending a KCTCS institution and \$1,678 for students attending a Kentucky public, four-year institution (KHEAA Financial Aid Distribution by Institution, 2012-13).

- The average state CAP award was \$1,382 at KCTCS institutions in 2012-13, and \$1,660 at Kentucky public, four-year institutions (KHEAA Financial Aid Distribution by Institution, 2012-13).

Of growing concern among state policymakers is the increase over time in projected unmet need related to Kentucky's need-based aid programs. Every year, there are increasing numbers of potential students who meet the eligibility criteria to receive aid through either the state's CAP or KTG program, but there is insufficient funding to provide awards for all who qualify.

- Between 2009-10 and 2012-13, the annual number of qualified students who applied for state need-based grants, but were denied access due to insufficient program funding, grew from 68,259 to 96,666, respectively (KHEAA projections, February 2014).
- The combined unmet need for the state's CAP and KTG programs has grown from about \$34.3 million in 2005-06 to \$147.1 million in 2012-13 (KHEAA projections, February 2014).

Despite the growth in CAP and KTG program unmet need, Kentucky is still considered a "high-aid" state, defined as states in which state-funded, total undergraduate grant dollars per FTE undergraduate student rank in the upper quintile of 50 U.S. states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico (NASSGAP, 43rd Annual Survey Report, 2011-12).

- As can be seen in Attachment 12, in academic year 2011-12, Kentucky ranked 10<sup>th</sup> highest nationwide in state-funded, total undergraduate grant dollars per FTE student and its per student funding level that year was 153 percent of the U.S. average (NASSGAP, 43rd Annual Survey Report, 2011-12).
- That same year, Kentucky ranked 13<sup>th</sup> highest in state-funded, need-based undergraduate grant dollars per FTE undergraduate student (NASSGAP, 43rd Annual Survey Report, 2011-12).
- The 2011-12 figures represent decreases in rank compared to 2007-08, when Kentucky ranked 5<sup>th</sup> highest in total undergraduate aid per student and 12<sup>th</sup> highest in need-based undergraduate aid per student (NASSGAP, 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Survey Report, 2007-08).

Kentucky's investment in student financial aid programs also compares favorably to student aid spending in surrounding states.

- Attachment 13 shows that, in academic year 2011-12, Kentucky ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> highest among states in its region in total undergraduate grant dollars expended per FTE undergraduate student (NASSGAP, 43rd Annual Survey Report, 2011-12).

- That same year, Kentucky was also 3<sup>rd</sup> highest among neighboring states in both need-based and nonneed-based undergraduate grant spending per FTE student (NASSGAP, 43rd Annual Survey Report, 2011-12).

### Institutional Scholarships

Through earmarking of lottery proceeds, state policymakers have provided relatively large amounts of financial aid to students who attend Kentucky colleges and universities. So much so, that Kentucky ranks in the upper quintile among states nationwide in total undergraduate grant expenditures per undergraduate student, qualifying it as a high-aid state. But perhaps a less well known fact is that the largest source of financial aid for students attending public colleges and universities in Kentucky are the institutions themselves. The public postsecondary institutions provide more grant and scholarship aid to students than do the federal and state governments combined.

- As can be seen in Attachment 14, in fiscal year 2011-12, state and federal financial aid expenditures per student were \$616 and \$1,616, respectively, for a combined total of \$2,232 per student from those sources (IPEDS; Commonfund Institute, HEPI).
- That same year, Kentucky's public postsecondary institutions provided grants and scholarships totaling \$2,346 per student, or 105 percent of the combined state and federal sources (IPEDS; Commonfund Institute, HEPI).

Other than a one-year decline in fiscal 2009-10, institutional aid per student increased seven out of the past eight years. In the most recent year for which data are available, Kentucky's public postsecondary institutions filled a void caused by declining state and federal aid per student.

- Between fiscal years 2003-04 and 2011-12, financial aid expenditures per student at Kentucky colleges and universities increased from \$1,747 to \$2,346 in real terms, or by 34.3 percent (IPEDS; Commonfund Institute, HEPI).
- In fiscal 2011-12, state and federal grants per student decreased by \$190 and \$168, respectively, for a combined total reduction of \$358. That same year, institutional grants and scholarships per student increased by \$357, effectively filling the gap caused by receding government aid.

### **Price Trends and Comparisons**

#### *Kentucky Price Trends*

Following a six-year period of relatively aggressive tuition and fee rate increases during the early- to mid-2000s, average annual growth rates in resident undergraduate tuition and fees at Kentucky's public postsecondary institutions have been reduced by more than half in the six years since academic year 2007-08.

- Attachment 15 shows that, between academic years 2001-02 and 2007-08, the average annual increase in resident undergraduate tuition and fees for students attending a Kentucky public postsecondary institution was 12.4 percent (CPE Comprehensive Database).
- Since that time, increases in resident undergraduate tuition and fees have averaged 5.4 percent per year for the postsecondary system, a reduction of 7.0 percentage points, or 56 percent (CPE Comprehensive Database).
- Over the past six years, resident undergraduate tuition and fees have increased at average annual rates of 3.8 percent at KCTCS institutions, 5.2 percent at the comprehensive universities, and 6.1 percent at the research universities. These figures represent percentage point declines of 11.7 points, 7.7 points, and 4.5 points, respectively, compared to annual growth rates in those same sectors over the previous six-year period (CPE Comprehensive Database).

These data include student endorsed and Council approved Special Use Fees that were implemented in 2011-12 at the University of Louisville, Morehead State University, Northern Kentucky University, and Western Kentucky University, which allowed these institutions to exceed Council rate ceilings.

#### *Regional Price Comparison*

For several years, CPE staff has provided Council members with information comparing list prices of Kentucky public colleges and universities averaged by sector to comparable groups of institutions and sectors in surrounding states.

As can be seen in Attachments 16, 17, and 18, the relative rank of Kentucky's public postsecondary institution tuition and required fees varies by sector compared to similar institutions in a contiguous eight-state region, and those rankings have changed over time.

- In academic year 2012-13, average resident undergraduate tuition and required fees at UK ranked 5<sup>th</sup> highest among flagship institutions in the eight-state region, a rise in rank from 7<sup>th</sup> in 2002-3 (Attachment 16).
- That same year, average resident undergraduate tuition and fees at Kentucky's comprehensive universities ranked 5<sup>th</sup> highest out of eight states in the region, an increase in rank from 7<sup>th</sup> in 2002-3 (Attachment 17).
- Also in 2012-13, average resident tuition and fees at KCTCS ranked highest out of eight states in the region, an increase in rank from 7<sup>th</sup> in 2002-3 (Attachment 18).

Attachments 19, 20, and 21 are maps of Kentucky and the surrounding seven states that contain average tuition and mandatory fees by postsecondary sector for resident and nonresident undergraduate students, and resident and nonresident graduate students. These data show that compared to similar institutions in surrounding states:

- Full-time tuition and fees at the University of Kentucky tended to be near the median for resident undergraduate students, lower for nonresident undergraduate students, near the midpoint for resident graduate students, and lower for nonresident graduate students compared to flagship universities in surrounding states (Attachment 19).
- Average full-time tuition and fees at Kentucky's comprehensive universities tend to be near the midpoint for resident and nonresident undergraduate students, as well as, for resident and nonresident graduate students (Attachment 20).
- Average full-time tuition and fees at KCTCS are higher than surrounding states for resident and nonresident students (Attachment 21).

### **Policy Relevant Information**

For the past several years, CPE staff has produced a series of tables, charts, and figures that provides context for the tuition setting process. This information is typically organized around the five fundamental objectives of the Council's tuition and mandatory fee policy, including funding adequacy, shared benefits and responsibility, affordability and access, attracting and importing talent, and effective use of resources.

#### *Funding Adequacy*

One method of assessing funding adequacy is to track net General Fund appropriations and total public funds revenue over time to determine whether or not the change in funding keeps pace with inflation and enrollment growth for the period.

#### State Support

As described in the Key Tuition Issues section of this agenda item, on an inflation-adjusted basis, state General Fund support for Kentucky's public postsecondary institutions has eroded over the past six years. At the same time, FTE student enrollment at state colleges and universities increased, resulting in budgetary pressures across all institutions and sectors.

- Between fiscal years 2007-08 and 2013-14, inflation-adjusted net General Fund appropriations for Kentucky's public postsecondary institutions decreased from \$1.2 billion to \$916 million, a loss of \$284 million or 24 percent (Attachment 6).
- During this same time period, FTE student enrollment at Kentucky colleges and universities (designated by the green line in Attachment 6) increased by 12,297 students or 8.5 percent.

This combination of decreasing net General Fund appropriations and growing enrollment resulted in a marked reduction in per student state support over the past six years.

- Between fiscal years 2007-08 and 2013-14, Kentucky's public postsecondary system lost \$2,444 per FTE student or 30 percent of its real net General Fund appropriations per student (Attachment 7).
- The system would have needed to receive an additional \$386 million in net General Fund support in fiscal 2013-14 in order for it to maintain its fiscal 2007-08 per-student funding level.

The decrease in state funding per student occurred in all postsecondary sectors and at every institution, although the extent of the decline varies by sector and institution.

- Attachment 22 shows that the steepest dollar and percent declines occurred in the research sector (-\$4,301 per student, or -32%) and in the community and technical college sector (-\$1,772 per student, or -32%) between 2007-08 and 2013-14.
- State support per student in the comprehensive sector decreased by \$1,716 per student, or 26% during this period.

These data show that, over the past six years, state General Fund support at Kentucky's public postsecondary institutions did not keep pace with inflation and enrollment growth. As a result, the institutions relied on increased tuition and fee revenue to partially offset the decline in state funding during this period.

The ability of state colleges and universities to generate a sufficient amount of tuition and fee revenue to fully compensate for the loss in state General Fund has been limited by Council approved tuition and fee ceilings since fiscal 2008-09.

### Total Public Funds

At the system level, revenue from tuition and fee increases since fiscal 2007-08 have not been sufficient to fully fund the gap caused by declining state support on an inflation-adjusted per-student basis.

- In real terms, total public funds per student at Kentucky's public postsecondary institutions fell from \$16,002 in fiscal 2007-08 to \$15,290 in fiscal 2012-13, a loss of \$712 per student or 4.5 percent (Attachment 23).
- Gross tuition and fee revenue increased by \$1,633 per student from 2007-08 to 2012-13, but fell \$712 per student short of filling the gap created by decreased state support.
- The institutions would have needed an additional \$113 million in gross tuition and fee revenue in fiscal 2012-13 to fully fund the gap caused by declining state support and maintain the \$16,002 per-student funding level they had in fiscal 2007-08.



This level of increase in tuition and fee revenue was not feasible due to affordability concerns and the implementation of Council-approved rate ceilings, beginning in 2008-09.

- During this same time period, the number of degrees and other credentials awarded each year by the state's public postsecondary institutions increased by 8,255 awards or 18 percent (Attachment 23).

The change in total public funds per student showed considerable variation by sector and institution during this period.

- As can be seen in Attachment 24, real total public funds per student decreased in the research sector (-\$1,302 per student, or -5.3%) and two-year college sector (-\$1,228 or -13.2%) between fiscal years 2007-08 and 2012-13.
- Meanwhile, the comprehensive university sector registered a 2.5 percent increase in its real per-student funding during this period (\$377 per student), indicating that, as a group, the change in total public funds per student at these institutions kept pace with inflation and enrollment growth.

It is important to keep in mind that these data make no statement about the adequacy of a given institution's or a given sector's funding level in fiscal year 2007-08, but do provide an indication of how institutions and sectors have fared over time in the face of inflation and enrollment growth relative to that baseline.

#### Interstate Funding Comparison

Another way to assess funding adequacy is to compare higher education funding levels for Kentucky institutions or postsecondary sectors to funding levels for similar institutions or sectors in other states. For purposes of the analysis below, CPE staff used data from the Southern Region Education Board (SREB) finance survey.

- These data show that, between fiscal years 2001-02 and 2011-12, total public funds per student at Kentucky's public four-year universities increased by \$1,424 per student, or 9.3 percent, on an inflation-adjusted basis (Attachment 25).
- During fiscal year 2001-02, total public funds per FTE student at Kentucky's public four-year universities (\$15,270) were 110 percent of the SREB average (\$13,960), and ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> highest among 16 SREB states.
- Ten years later, in fiscal 2011-12, total public funds per student at Kentucky's public universities (\$16,694) were 122 percent of the SREB average (\$13,675), and ranked 4<sup>th</sup> highest among 16 SREB states.
- After adjusting for inflation, total public funds per FTE student at Kentucky's public two-year colleges decreased by \$1,461 per student, or 18.6 percent, between fiscal years 2001-02 and 2011-12 (Attachment 26).

- During fiscal year 2001-02, total public funds per FTE student at Kentucky's public two-year institutions (\$7,848) were 102 percent of the SREB average (\$7,668), and ranked 9<sup>th</sup> highest among 16 SREB states.
- In fiscal 2011-12, total public funds per student at KCTCS (\$6,387) were 94 percent of the SREB average (\$6,826), and ranked 12<sup>th</sup> highest among 16 SREB states.

### *Shared Benefits and Responsibility*

The Council's tuition policy espouses the belief that funding postsecondary education should be a shared responsibility of state and federal governments, students and their families, and postsecondary education institutions. A basic rationale for this cost sharing approach is that benefits accrue to both the state and the individual from college attainment.

The state benefits from broad postsecondary attainment in the form of a strong economy and an informed citizenry. College graduates benefit through an elevated quality of life, expanded career opportunities, and increased lifetime earnings.

During the late 1990s, the Commonwealth of Kentucky assumed about two-thirds of college costs through provision of net General Fund appropriations, and students and their families assumed the other third through payment of tuition and fees (Kentucky Budgets of the Commonwealth; CPE Comprehensive Database). Since that time, due largely to declining state support for postsecondary education, Kentucky has increasingly relied on tuition and fee revenue to finance its public colleges and universities.

- As can be seen in Attachment 27, during fiscal 1998-99, the average student share (or gross tuition and fee revenue share) of system total public funds was 33 percent.
- Since that time, the system average student share has increased nearly every year, growing to 50 percent in fiscal 2007-08 and to 62 percent in fiscal 2012-13.
- These trend data show that, over the past 14 years, Kentucky students and their families have shouldered an ever-increasing share of college costs.

Increases in student share occurred in all postsecondary sectors and at every institution during this period, although the extent of student share growth varies by sector and institution.

- In fiscal 2012-13, student share ranged from a low of 50 percent at KSU to a high of 75 percent at NKU. State support for KSU's land grant mission contributes to a lower student share at that institution.
- These data show that the average student share for the comprehensive university sector remained about 8 percentage points higher than the average student share of the research sector and was 13 percentage points higher than the two-year college sector during this period (Attachment 27).

The trend toward a growing student share of college costs does not bode well for Kentucky students and their families, and when the historical trend is projected into the future, it does not appear sustainable as a postsecondary financing approach.

- As illustrated graphically in Attachment 28, if Kentucky continues to follow its recent trend of reducing state General Fund support and partially replacing those reductions with tuition and fee revenue, the student share of college costs for the postsecondary system could reach 66 percent by 2015 and 75 percent by 2020.

Clearly, the trend that has emerged over the past 14 years is that students and their families are shouldering an ever-increasing share of college costs. Without significant increases in state General Fund support and state student financial aid to buffer price increases, combined with continuing use of aggressive cost containment strategies, the current trend is not sustainable as a model to fund achievement of HB 1 reform goals.

### *Affordability*

Students rarely pay the full price of postsecondary institution tuition and fees. Financial aid from federal, state, and institutional sources reduces the cost of college attendance for most students. For this reason, a frequently used metric for assessing affordability is average net price. CPE staff uses a variation of the net price metric that compares need- and merit-based grants from all sources to the cost of tuition, fees, and books by income quartile for each of the postsecondary sectors to determine unmet direct costs.

### Unmet Direct Costs

For several years, CPE staff has provided Council members with data on unmet direct costs for the public research universities, comprehensive institutions, and KCTCS. These data have generally shown that Kentucky's colleges and universities remain accessible for most full-time, resident undergraduate aid recipients, particularly those in the lowest income categories, despite moderate increases in tuition and fee sticker prices over the past several years, due in large part to the availability of student financial aid.

- As can be seen in Attachments 29, 30, and 31, during academic year 2011-12, need- and merit-based grants and scholarships from all sources covered the full cost of tuition, fees, and books for all full-time, resident undergraduate students in the lowest income quartile, and many resident undergraduate students in the second income quartile, across all postsecondary sectors.
- Compared to last year, unmet direct costs went up at Kentucky's public four-year institutions for most income levels and student types. This occurred despite an increase in federal Pell grant award recipients and a growing number of FAFSA filers at these institutions.

- In three out of four income quartiles, unmet direct costs for traditional students went down at KCTCS institutions between academic years 2010-11 and 2011-12. These data show that KCTCS institutions are by far Kentucky's lowest-cost postsecondary providers despite larger aid amounts at the four-year universities.
- Among adult students, unmet direct costs at KCTCS institutions went up for every income quartile in 2011-12.
- Overall, these graphs show that students in the highest income categories received substantial support through the KEES program and institutional aid in 2011-12.

The conclusion that can be drawn from these data is that Kentucky's public colleges and universities remain accessible for most full-time, resident undergraduate students, particularly those in the lowest income categories, despite moderate increases in tuition and fee sticker prices over the past few years, due in large part to the availability of student financial aid.

If net price increases over time, it can be a sign that college is becoming less affordable for students and their families, particularly if the growth in net price exceeds growth in median family income. For this reason, the increase in unmet direct costs at Kentucky's public four-year institutions and among adult students attending KCTCS institutions is a trend worth noting.

### Out-of-Pocket Costs

In addition to examining unmet direct costs, another way of assessing affordability is to monitor changes over time in average out-of-pocket costs that students pay. Out-of-pocket costs are calculated by subtracting all forms of financial aid from a college's sticker price. In the paragraphs below, CPE staff used the Delta Cost Project's net student revenue metric, or tuition revenue coming directly from students (not including Pell, federal, state, local, or institutional grants and scholarships), per FTE student to estimate average out-of-pocket costs for the postsecondary system and by sector.

- As can be seen in Attachment 32, in 2011-12, system total financial aid from all sources was \$4,579 per student and covered about 54 percent of \$8,425 in gross billable tuition and fee revenue per student.
- The difference between system total gross tuition and fee revenue per student and aggregate grant aid per student is used as a proxy for average out-of-pocket costs, which have increased for the system from \$2,675 in fiscal 2003-04 to \$3,846 in 2011-12, or by 43.8 percent.

The size of average out-of-pocket costs and rates of change in those costs over time differ across institutions and postsecondary sectors.

- As would be expected, students attending research sector institutions face the highest out-of-pocket costs, registering \$8,304 in 2011-12, and student costs in that sector

have also experienced relatively rapid growth over time, increasing by 78 percent in real terms since 2003-04 (Attachment 33).

- Out-of-pocket costs for students attending a comprehensive university are closer to system average costs, but have increased at about the same pace as student costs in the research sector, growing from \$2,702 in 2003-04 to \$4,994 in 2011-12, or by 85 percent.
- Students attending a KCTCS institution pay the lowest out-of-pocket costs of the three sectors due to lower sticker prices charged in that sector, as well as, proportionately higher amounts of financial aid received by two-year college students. In 2003-04, the average out-of-pocket cost for KCTCS students was \$386 (Attachment 33).
- Eight years later, in 2011-12, per student grant aid at KCTCS exceeded gross tuition and fee revenue per student, resulting in a negative average out-of-pocket cost that year (-\$296).

### Student Debt

Another indicator of college affordability is average student loan debt. If unmet need increases over time, some students and families may chose to increase reliance on student loans to help pay their increasing share of college costs.

A respected source of information about student loan debt is The Project on Student Debt annual report. Based on their most recent report, Kentucky is considered a low-debt state among 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia (*Student Debt and the Class of 2012*, December 2013).

- As can be seen in Attachment 34, over the past eight years, average student loan debt incurred by Kentucky's graduating seniors increased from \$14,250 for the class of 2004 to \$22,384 for the class of 2012, a 57.1 percent increase (The Project on Student Debt).
- During that same time period, Kentucky rose in state rankings from 44<sup>th</sup> to 41<sup>st</sup> in average student loan debt for the graduating classes of 2004 and 2012, respectively (in the Project on Student Debt report, a rank of 1<sup>st</sup> indicates the state with the highest average student loan debt).

Kentucky is classified as a "Low-Debt State", defined by the Project on Student Debt as ranking in the bottom quintile in average student loan debt among the 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

- Attachment 35 shows that Kentucky's average student loan debt for the graduating class of 2012 ranked 41<sup>st</sup> among 50 states and the District of Columbia, and was 85.5 percent of the median state's average loan debt (The Project on Student Debt).

Despite increases in average student loan debt in recent years, Kentucky's graduating seniors continue to have lower average debt loads than postsecondary graduates in most states.

- Nationally, 71 percent of college seniors who graduated in 2012 had student loan debt, with an average of \$29,400 per borrower. Meanwhile, the unemployment rate for young college graduates in 2013 remained high at 8.8 percent.

Loan default rates among Kentucky graduates are above the national average.

- In 2011, Kentucky's student loan default rate was 12.9 percent, which ranked 4<sup>th</sup> highest in the nation that year. The U.S. average student loan default rate was 10 percent in 2010.

### *Student Access*

Attachment 36 shows the change in fall semester, undergraduate and graduate student headcount enrollment at Kentucky public postsecondary institutions over the past seven years.

### Undergraduate/Graduate Enrollment

After growing at a strong pace since fall 2006, undergraduate fall enrollment at Kentucky public colleges and universities has decreased for the last two years. The majority of this decrease occurred at KCTCS. Graduate student enrollment also declined the last two years.

- Between fall semesters 2006 and 2013, undergraduate student enrollment at Kentucky's public postsecondary institutions increased by 7.9 percent, but in fall 2013, undergraduate enrollment decreased 1.9 percent (Attachment 36).
- During that same period, graduate student enrollment increased by 28 students or 0.1 percent. However, in fall 2013, graduate enrollment also decreased 2.9 percent.

Rates of growth in undergraduate and graduate enrollment have varied among institutions and sectors.

- Although fall 2013 did show KCTCS's second straight enrollment decrease (-4.7%) since fall 2008, the two-year sector's enrollment is still 6.8 percent higher than it was in fall 2006. The large increases immediately following the recession in 2008, and the decreases in fall 2012 and 2013 during a recovering economy, illustrate how KCTCS's enrollment levels are strongly influenced by economic conditions (Attachment 36).
- Undergraduate enrollment in the comprehensive sector decreased 0.2 percent in fall 2013, and is almost 9 percent higher than 2006. The research sector saw undergraduate enrollment increase 2.4 percent in fall 2013, to a level that is 9.3 percent higher than 2006 (Attachment 36).

- Graduate enrollment at the comprehensive universities decreased in fall 2013 by 4 percent, although graduate enrollment is up 5.1 percent since 2006. At the research universities, graduate enrollment decreased 1.9 percent in fall 2013, and is now 3.7 percent lower than the fall 2006 levels (Attachment 36).

### *Effective Use of Resources*

As discussed in the Funding Adequacy section of this agenda item, Kentucky's public colleges and universities have experienced a steady erosion of inflation-adjusted state General Fund support over the past 6 years. While this loss was partially offset by increased tuition and fee revenue, the net effect of declining state support and growing enrollment has been a \$712 decrease in real total public funds revenue per student between fiscal years 2007-08 and 2012-13.

The postsecondary institutions have effectively implemented a variety of cost savings and efficiency strategies in recent years to help minimize the impact of budget reductions, unfunded M&O expenses, and yearly fixed costs increases on educational quality and postsecondary reform goals. Despite diminished budgetary resources, Kentucky's public postsecondary system increased the number of degrees and credentials it produced during this period.

- As can be seen in Attachment 23, Kentucky's public postsecondary system produced 8,255 more degrees and other credentials in academic year 2012-13, than it did in 2007-08, an 18 percent increase, despite a \$712 reduction in real, total public funds per student during this period.
- This graph also illustrates the change over time in higher education funding sources from a nearly 50 percent student, 50 percent state share for financing college costs, to a model that requires students and their families to pay an increasing share of college costs, reaching 62 percent in fiscal 2012-13.

Staff preparation by Bill Payne, Scott Boelscher, and Shaun McKiernan

## **Council on Postsecondary Education Tuition & Mandatory Fee Policy**

The Council on Postsecondary Education is vested with authority under KRS 164.020 to determine tuition at public postsecondary education institutions in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Kentucky's goals of increasing educational attainment, promoting research, assuring academic quality, and engaging in regional stewardship must be balanced in the context of current needs, effective use of resources, and economic conditions. For the purposes of this policy, mandatory fees are included in the definition of tuition. During periods of relative austerity, the proper alignment of the state's limited financial resources requires increased attention to the goals of the *Kentucky Postsecondary Education Improvement Act of 1997* (HB 1) and the Strategic Agenda for Kentucky Postsecondary and Adult Education.

### **Fundamental Objectives**

- Funding Adequacy

HB 1 states that Kentucky shall have a seamless, integrated system of postsecondary education, strategically planned and adequately funded to enhance economic development and quality of life. In discharging its responsibility to determine tuition, the Council, in collaboration with the institutions, seeks to balance the affordability of postsecondary education for Kentucky's citizens with the institutional funding necessary to accomplish the goals of HB 1 and the Strategic Agenda.

- Shared Benefits and Responsibility

Postsecondary education attainment benefits the public at large in the form of a strong economy and an informed citizenry, and it benefits individuals through elevated quality of life, broadened career opportunities, and increased lifetime earnings. The Council and the institutions believe that funding postsecondary education is a shared responsibility of the state and federal government, students and families, and postsecondary education institutions.

- Affordability and Access

Since broad educational attainment is essential to a vibrant state economy and to intellectual, cultural, and political vitality, the Commonwealth of Kentucky seeks to ensure that postsecondary education is broadly accessible to its citizens. The Council and the institutions are committed to ensuring that college is affordable and accessible to all academically qualified Kentuckians with particular emphasis on adult learners, part-time students, minority students, and students from low and moderate income backgrounds. The Council believes that no citizen of the Commonwealth who has the drive and ability to succeed should be denied access to postsecondary education in Kentucky because of inability to pay. Access should be provided through a reasonable combination of savings, family contributions, work, and financial aid, including grants and loans.



In developing a tuition and mandatory fees recommendation, the Council and the institutions shall work collaboratively and pay careful attention to balancing the cost of attendance, including tuition and mandatory fees, room and board, books, and other direct and indirect costs, with students' ability to pay by taking into account (1) students' family and individual income; (2) federal, state, and institutional scholarships and grants; (3) students' and parents' reliance on loans; (4) access to all postsecondary education alternatives; and (5) the need to enroll and graduate more students.

- Attracting and Importing Talent to Kentucky

It is unlikely that Kentucky can reach its 2020 postsecondary education attainment goals by focusing on Kentucky residents alone. Tuition reciprocity agreements, which provide low-cost access to out-of-state institutions for Kentucky students that live near the borders of other states, also serve to attract students from surrounding states to Kentucky's colleges and universities. In fact, according to the Council's 2007 Brain Gain report, four out of every ten (37 percent) out-of-state graduates were still in Kentucky five years after receiving their degrees.

The Council and the institutions are committed to making Kentucky's institutions financially attractive to nonresident students while recognizing that nonresident, undergraduate students should pay a significantly larger proportion of the full cost of their education. Any proposed policy on nonresident tuition and mandatory fees should also be evaluated based on its potential impact on attracting and retaining students which directly enhance diversity and Kentucky's ability to compete in a global economy.

- Effective Use of Resources

Kentucky's postsecondary education system is committed to using the financial resources invested in it as effectively and productively as possible to advance the goals of HB 1 and the Strategic Agenda, including undergraduate and graduate education, engagement and outreach, research, and economic development initiatives. The colleges and universities seek to ensure that every dollar available to them is invested in areas that maximize results and outcomes most beneficial to the Commonwealth and its regions. The Council's performance metrics shall be used to monitor both statewide and institutional performance toward HB 1 and Strategic Agenda goals.

The institutions also recognize their responsibility to demonstrate that they are good stewards of limited public resources by providing annual reports to their governing boards and the Council on their efforts to contain costs, improve efficiencies and productivity, and reallocate existing resources to high priority activities.

## Special Use Fees Exception Policy

During the 2010-11 tuition setting process, campus officials requested that the Council consider excluding student endorsed fees from its mandatory fee definition, thus omitting consideration of such fees when assessing institutional compliance with Council approved tuition and fee rate ceilings. Based on feedback received from institutional Chief Budget Officers (CBOs) at their December 2010 meeting, it was determined that there was general interest in treating student endorsed fees differently from other mandatory fees.

In January and February 2011, Council staff collaborated with institutional presidents, CBOs, and their staffs in developing the following Special Use Fees Exception Policy:

- To the extent that students attending a Kentucky public college or university have deliberated, voted on, and requested that their institution's governing board implement a special use fee for the purposes of constructing and operating and maintaining a new facility, or renovating an existing facility, that supports student activities and services;
- And recognizing that absent any exemption, such student endorsed fees, when implemented in the same year that the Council adopts tuition and fee rate ceilings, would reduce the amount of additional unrestricted tuition and fee revenue available for the institution to support its E&G operation;
- The Council may elect to award an exemption to its tuition and fee rate ceiling equivalent to all or a portion of the percentage increase resulting from imposition of the student endorsed fee, provided said fee meets certain eligibility requirements.

### Definitions

A student endorsed fee is a mandatory flat-rate fee that has been broadly discussed, voted on, and requested by students and adopted by an institution's governing board, the revenue from which may be used to pay debt service and operations and maintenance expenses on new facilities, or capital renewal and replacement costs on existing facilities and equipment, that support student activities and services, such as student unions, fitness centers, recreation complexes, health clinics, and/or tutoring centers.

Maintenance and Operations (M&O) expenses are costs incurred for the administration, supervision, operation, maintenance, preservation, and protection of a facility. Examples of M&O expenses include janitorial services, utilities, care of grounds, security, environmental safety, routine repair, maintenance, replacement of furniture and equipment, and property and facility planning and management.

## Eligibility Criteria

A student endorsed fee will continue to be a mandatory fee within the context of the Council's current mandatory fee definition and may qualify for an exemption from Council approved tuition and fee rate ceilings. Campus officials and students requesting an exemption under this policy must be able to demonstrate that:

- All enrolled students have been afforded ample opportunity to be informed, voice their opinions, and participate in the decision to endorse a proposed fee. Specifically, it must be shown that fee details have been widely disseminated, broadly discussed, voted on while school is in session, and requested by students.
- For purposes of this policy, voted on means attaining:
  - a. A simple majority vote via campus wide referendum, with a minimum of one-quarter of currently enrolled students casting ballots;
  - b. A three-quarters vote of elected student government representatives; or
  - c. A simple majority vote via campus wide referendum, conducted in conjunction and coinciding with the general election of a student government president or student representative to a campus board of regents or board of trustees.
- The proposed fee and intended exemption request have been presented to, and adopted by, the requesting institution's governing board. It is anticipated that elected student government representatives will actively participate in board presentations.
- Revenue from such fees will be used to pay debt service and M&O expenses on new facilities, or capital renewal and replacement costs on existing facilities and equipment, which support student activities and services, such as student unions, fitness centers, recreation complexes, health clinics, and/or tutoring centers. The Council expects these uses to be fully explained to students prior to any votes endorsing a fee.
- In any given year, the impact of a student endorsed fee on the overall increase in tuition and mandatory fees for students and their families will be reasonable. It may be appropriate to phase in the exemption over multiple years to maintain affordability and access.
- Requests for student endorsed exemptions are infrequent events. The Council does not expect requests for exemptions under this policy to occur with undue frequency from any single institution and reserves the right to deny requests that by their sheer number are deemed excessive.
- A plan is in place for the eventual reduction or elimination of the fee upon debt retirement, and details of that plan have been shared with students. The Council does not expect a fee which qualifies for an exemption under this policy to be assessed at full rate in perpetuity. Such fees should either terminate upon completion of the debt or, in the case of new facilities, may continue at a reduced rate to defray ongoing M&O costs. In either case, to qualify for an exemption, students should be fully aware of the extent of their obligation prior to any votes endorsing a fee.

## Exemption Process

Requests for an exemption under this policy will be evaluated on a case by case basis. To initiate the process:

- The requesting institution will notify Council staff of any pending discussions, open forums, referendums, or student government actions pertaining to a proposed special use fee and discuss fee details with Council staff as needed.
- After a fee has been endorsed by student referendum or through student government action and approved by the institution's governing board, campus officials and students will submit a written exemption request to the Council for its consideration.
- Council staff will review the request, assess whether or not the proposed fee qualifies for an exemption, and make a recommendation to the Council.

To facilitate the exemption request process, requesting institutions and students are required to provide the Council with the following information:

- Documents certifying that the specific project and proposed fee details have been widely disseminated, broadly discussed, voted on, and requested by students, as well as adopted by the institution's governing board.
- Documents specifying the fee amount, revenue estimates, uses of revenue, impact on tuition and fees during the year imposed (i.e., percentage points above the ceiling), and number of years the fee will be in place.
- Documents identifying the project's scope, time frame for completion, debt payment schedule, and plan for the eventual reduction or elimination of the fee upon debt retirement.

## **Council on Postsecondary Education 2014-15 Tuition Setting Timeline**

- Nov 7, 2013 CPE Meeting – The staff provides Council members an update regarding the 2014-15 tuition setting process. Staff will share the existing Tuition and Mandatory Fee Policy and a preliminary Tuition Setting Timeline with Council members.
- Nov-Dec 2013 Initiate discussions with institutions and generate draft tuition policy and tuition setting timeline documents.
- Council staff collects data and generates information related to funding adequacy, affordability, access, financial aid, and productivity.
- Institutional staffs collect data and generate information related to fixed cost increases, potential impacts of tuition increases, anticipated uses of additional tuition revenue, financial aid, and student debt.
- Jan 2014 Council and institutional staffs exchange information from respective data collection efforts and work together to finalize for distribution to Council members.
- Feb 5, 2014 Joint Presidents'/CCBO Meeting – Council staff presents proposed policy, timeline, and 2-year tuition cycle recommendations and initiates preliminary discussion regarding tuition and mandatory fee ceilings.
- Feb 14, 2014 Joint Council/Presidents' Meeting – Council members, CPE staff, and presidents finalize tuition policy, timeline, and 2-year tuition cycle recommendation, and discuss preliminary thoughts about tuition ceilings.
- Feb 14, 2014 CPE Meeting – The Council takes action on final Tuition and Mandatory Fee Policy and Tuition Setting Timeline documents.
- In addition, staff provides Council members with policy-relevant information related to funding adequacy, affordability, access, financial aid, and productivity. Institutions share information regarding potential impacts of tuition increases and anticipated uses of additional tuition revenue.
- Feb-Apr 2014 Council and institutional staffs continue discussions of policy relevant information and preliminary tuition parameters. The Council president updates Council members regarding these discussions.

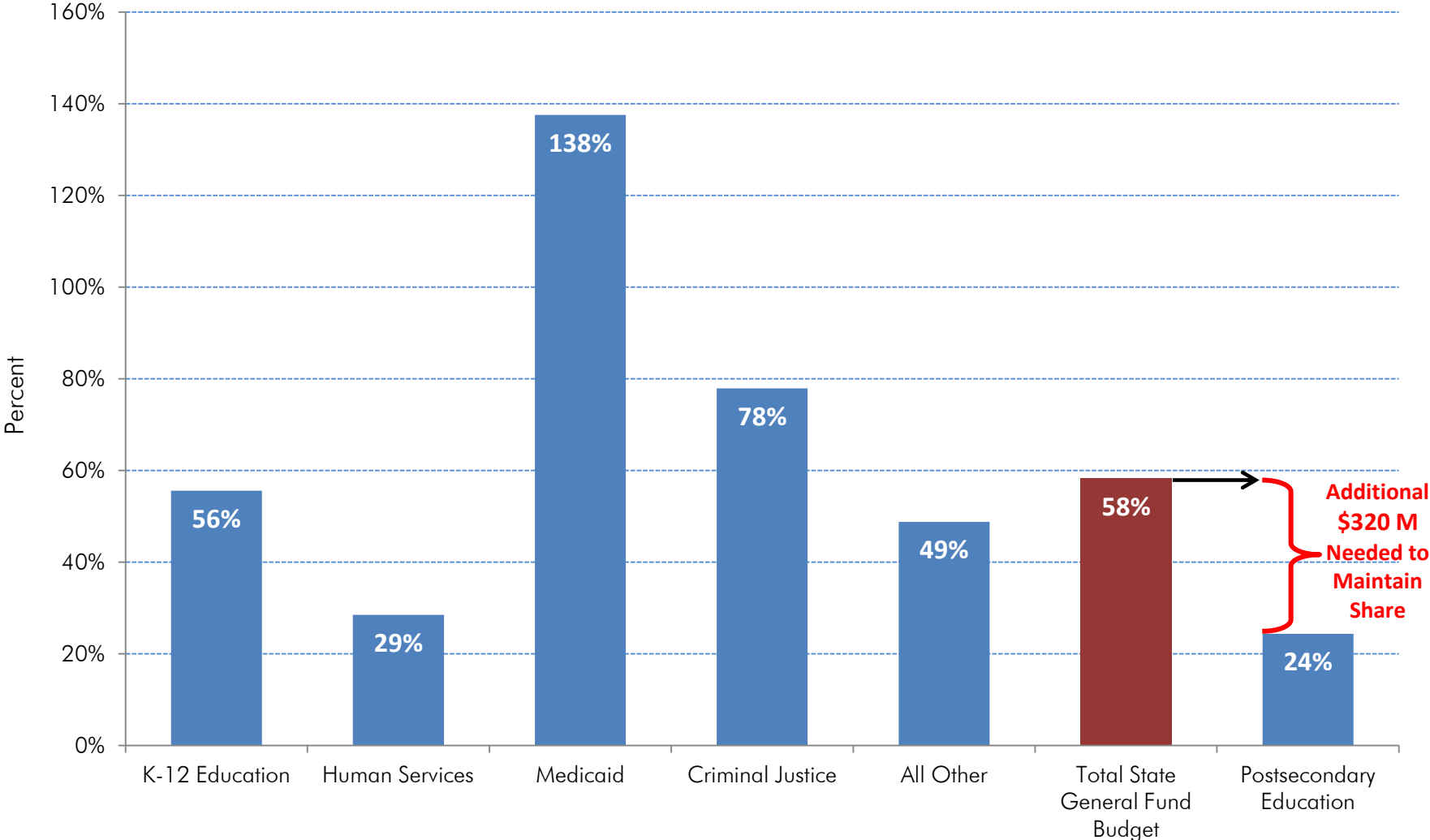
- Apr 2, 2014      Presidents' Meeting – Council staff presents proposed tuition and fee ceiling, sector differentiation, and nonresident rate floor recommendations, and obtains feedback from presidents regarding these proposals.
- Apr 22, 2014    Joint Tuition Work Group/Presidents' Meeting – Council members, CPE staff, and presidents finalize tuition and fee ceiling, sector differentiation, and nonresident rate floor recommendations.
- Apr 29, 2014    CPE Meeting – The Council takes action on recommended tuition and fee ceilings, sector differentiation, and nonresident rate floor and exceptions.
- May 2014        Institutional staffs share proposed tuition and mandatory fee rates with the Council president. The Council president updates Council members regarding the proposed rates.
- Jun 20, 2014    CPE Meeting – The Council takes action on each institution's proposed tuition and mandatory fee rates.

# Kentucky Budget of the Commonwealth

## Change in General Fund Appropriations by Budget Category

### Fiscal Years 1999 - 2014

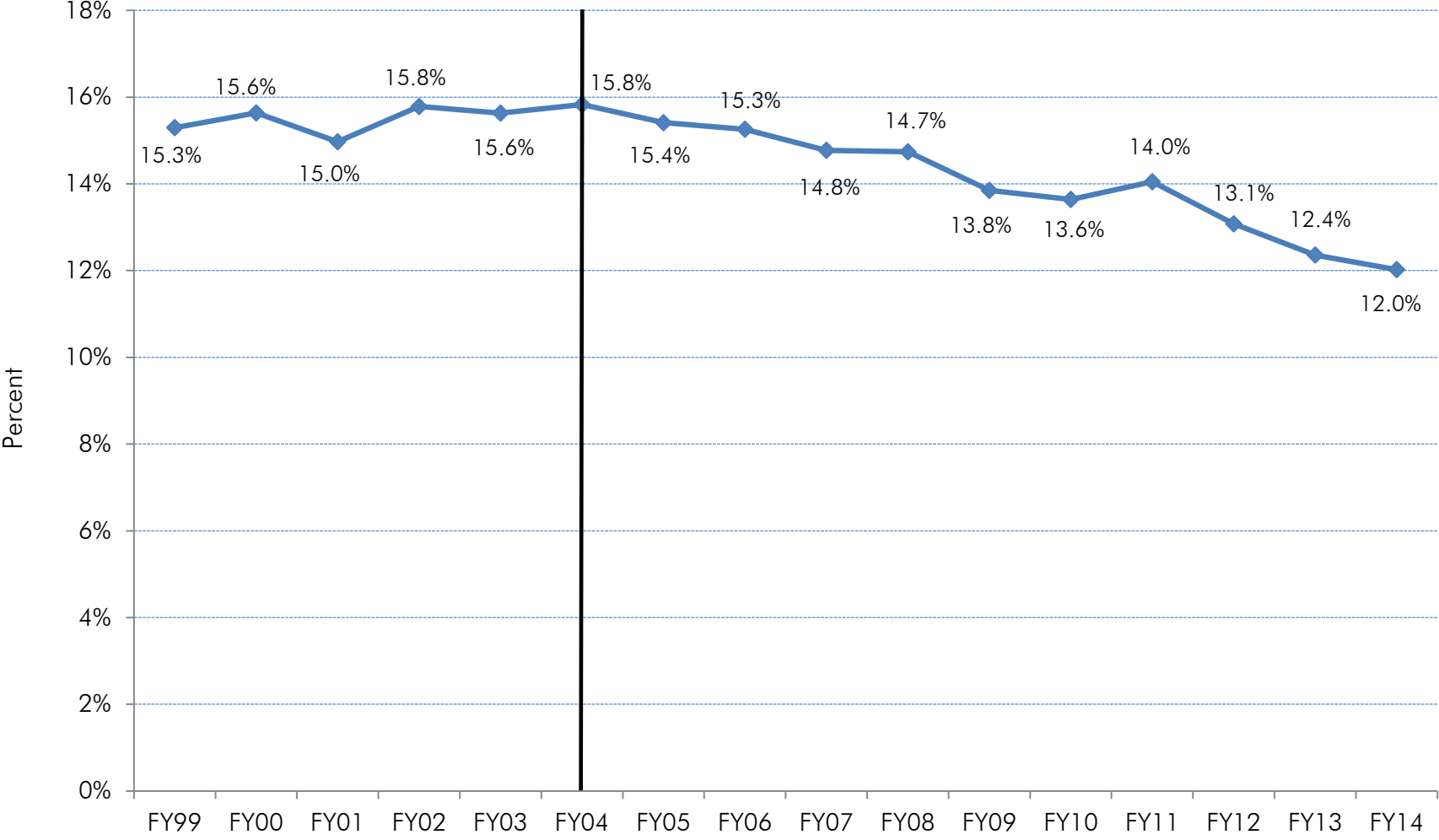
47



Source: Kentucky Enacted Budgets of the Commonwealth.

Note: Postsecondary education includes appropriations for the public colleges & universities, state-funded student aid, & CPE.

### Kentucky Budget of the Commonwealth Postsecondary Education's Share of Total State General Fund Budget Fiscal Years 1999 - 2014



48

Source: Kentucky Enacted Budgets of the Commonwealth.



Kentucky Public Postsecondary Institution  
 Enacted Net General Fund Appropriations (Nominal Dollars)  
 Fiscal Years 2008 and 2014

Institution	2007-08 <sup>(a)</sup> Enacted Net General Fund	2013-14 <sup>(d)</sup> Enacted Net General Fund	Dollar Change	Percent Change	AAGR
University of Kentucky	\$335,071,000 <sup>(b)</sup>	\$283,869,300	(\$51,201,700)	-15.3%	-3.3%
University of Louisville	168,572,300	141,194,800	(27,377,500)	-16.2%	-3.5%
Eastern Kentucky University	79,761,400	67,673,700	(12,087,700)	-15.2%	-3.2%
Kentucky State University	27,441,700	23,537,400	(3,904,300)	-14.2%	-3.0%
Morehead State University	48,202,100	41,016,400	(7,185,700)	-14.9%	-3.2%
Murray State University	56,068,700	48,005,800	(8,062,900)	-14.4%	-3.1%
Northern Kentucky University	55,099,500	46,835,100	(8,264,400)	-15.0%	-3.2%
Western Kentucky University	85,115,600	72,425,200	(12,690,400)	-14.9%	-3.2%
KCTCS	228,704,900 <sup>(c)</sup>	191,455,700	(37,249,200)	-16.3%	-3.5%
System Totals	<u>\$1,084,037,200</u>	<u>\$916,013,400</u>	<u>(\$168,023,800)</u>	-15.5%	-3.3%

<sup>(a)</sup> Total General Fund appropriations, net of debt service and UofL hospital contract, as enacted in HB 380, the 2006-08 Budget of the Commonwealth.

<sup>(b)</sup> Includes \$2,000,000 special session appropriation for UK's Center for Applied Energy Research.

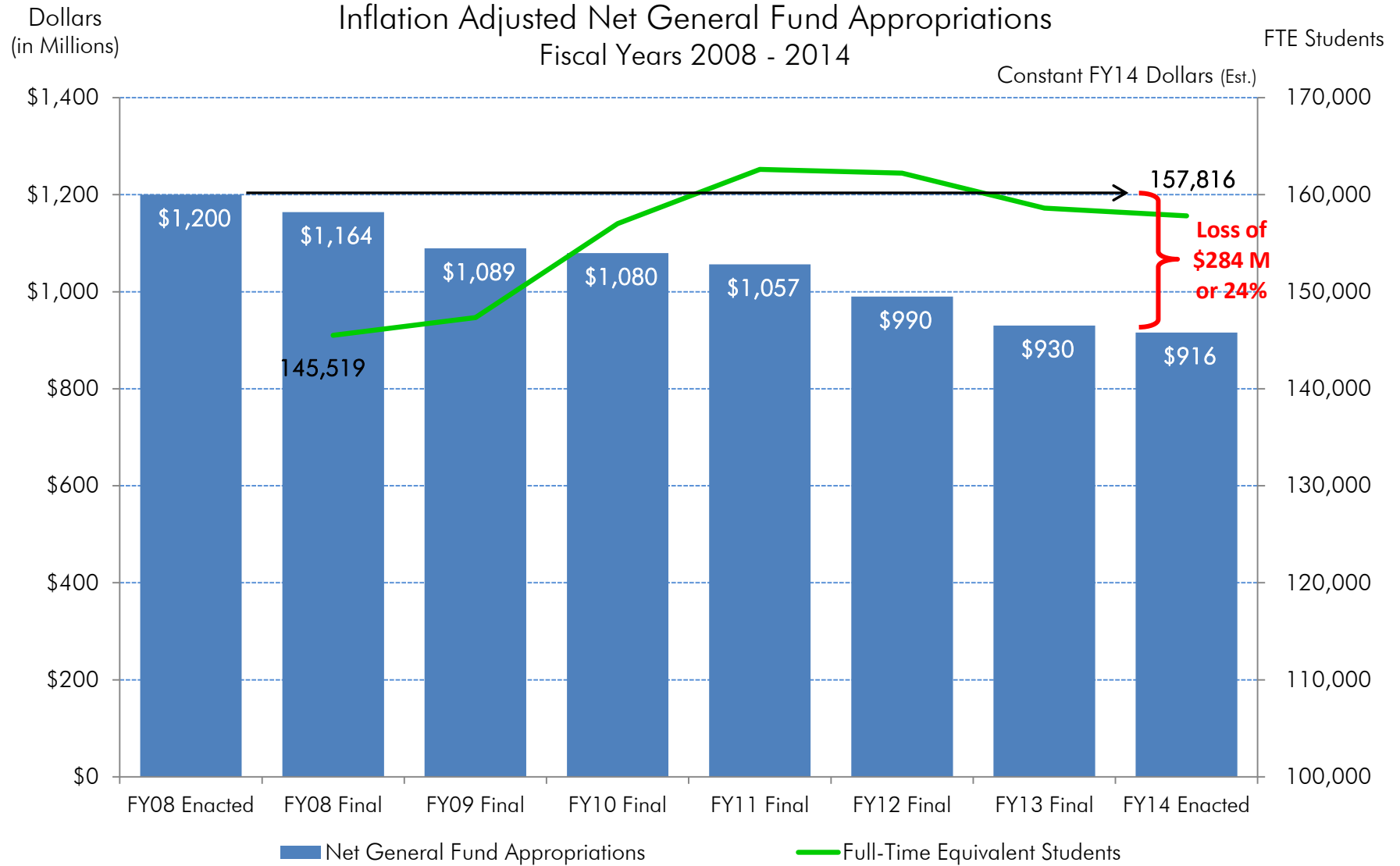
<sup>(c)</sup> Includes \$2,373,800 reorganization transfer to KCTCS for Kentucky Board of Emergency Medical Services.

<sup>(d)</sup> Total General Fund appropriations, net of debt service and UofL hospital contract, as enacted in HB 265, the 2012-14 Budget of the Commonwealth.

AAGR - Average Annual Growth Rate.

Source: Kentucky Budget of the Commonwealth.

### Kentucky Public Postsecondary System Inflation Adjusted Net General Fund Appropriations Fiscal Years 2008 - 2014



50

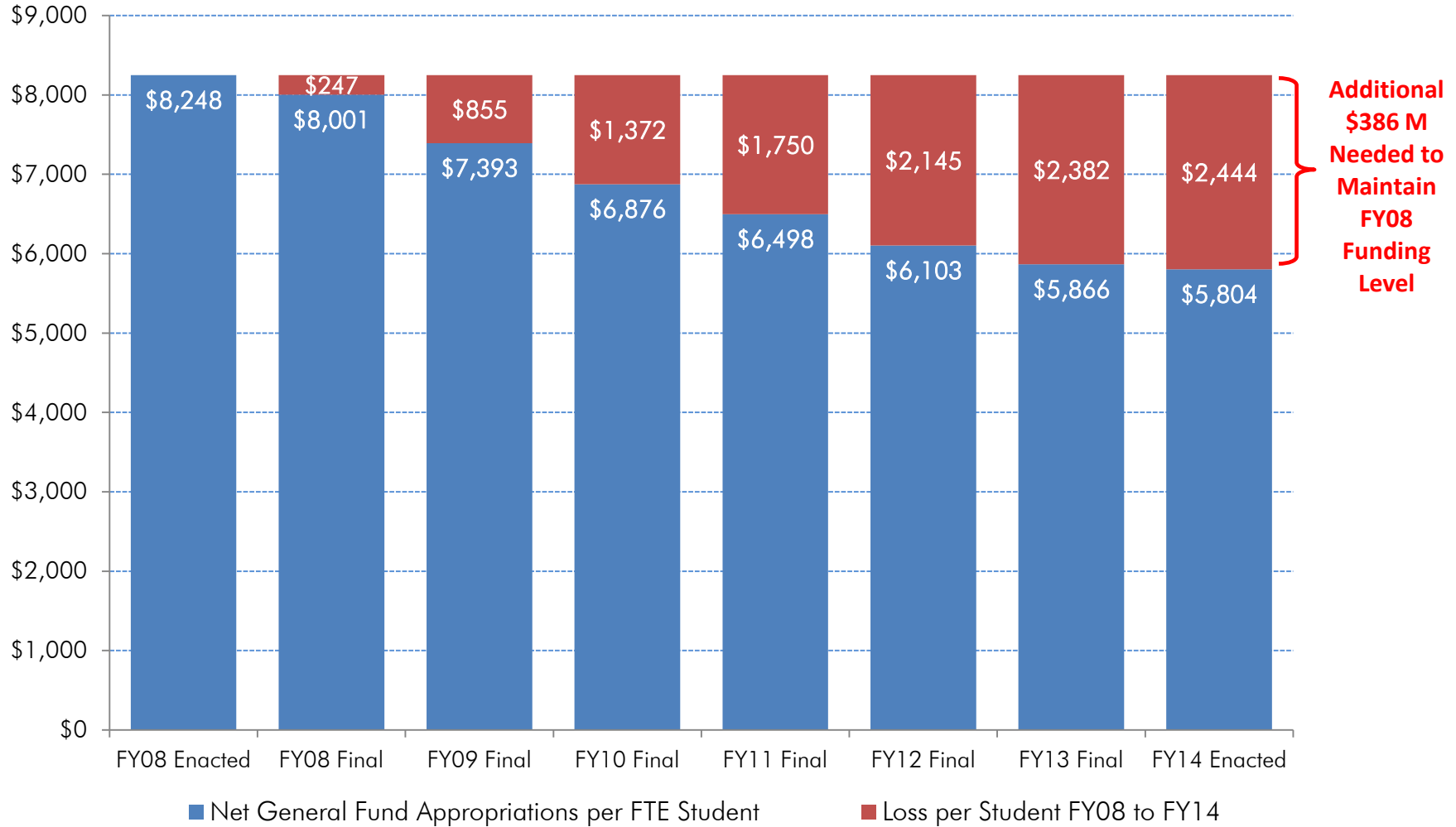
Sources: Kentucky Budget of the Commonwealth; CPE Comprehensive Database; Commonfund Institute, Higher Education Price Index (HEPI).

Assumes 1.6% increase in inflation in FY14.

### Kentucky Public Postsecondary System Inflation Adjusted Net General Fund Appropriations per FTE Student Fiscal Years 2008 - 2014

Dollars  
(per Student)

Constant FY14 Dollars est



51

Sources: Kentucky Budget of the Commonwealth; CPE Comprehensive Database; Commonfund Institute, Higher Education Price Index (HEPI).

Assumes 1.6% increase in inflation in FY14.

Kentucky Public Postsecondary Institution  
 Projected Increases in Facilities Maintenance and Operations Expense  
 Fiscal Years 2009 - 2014

Institution	Historical M&O 2008-12 <sup>(a)</sup>	New M&O 2012-13	New M&O 2013-14	Total Unfunded M&O
University of Kentucky	\$6,459,400	\$261,900	\$66,900	\$6,788,200
University of Louisville	6,504,600	471,600	125,900	\$7,102,100
Eastern Kentucky University	3,898,000	0	0	\$3,898,000
Kentucky State University	521,000	249,300	229,700	\$1,000,000
Morehead State University	2,924,300	0	0	\$2,924,300
Murray State University	762,600	0	0	\$762,600
Northern Kentucky University	4,393,900	0	0	\$4,393,900
Western Kentucky University	3,299,400	0	0	\$3,299,400
KCTCS	8,273,300	264,800	1,409,500	\$9,947,600
Total	\$37,036,500	\$1,247,600	\$1,832,000	\$40,116,100

<sup>(a)</sup> Includes M&O for facilities that came online between 2008-09 and 2011-12, which was requested in the Council's 2010-12 budget recommendation, but not funded.

Source: Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education, 2010-12 Biennial Budget Recommendation.

Council on Postsecondary Education  
 2012-14 Biennial Budget Recommendation  
 Requested Appropriations for Facilities Maintenance and Operations

Institution	2012-13 <sup>(b)</sup> M&O Request	2013-14 M&O Request	Biennial Total
University of Kentucky	\$6,721,300	\$66,900	\$6,788,200
University of Louisville	6,976,200	125,900	7,102,100
Eastern Kentucky University	3,898,000	0	3,898,000
Kentucky State University	770,300	229,700	1,000,000
Morehead State University	2,924,300	0	2,924,300
Murray State University	762,600	0	762,600
Northern Kentucky University	4,393,900	0	4,393,900
Western Kentucky University	3,299,400	0	3,299,400
KCTCS	8,538,100	1,409,500	9,947,600
Total	\$38,284,100	\$1,832,000	\$40,116,100

<sup>(b)</sup> Includes M&O for facilities that came online between 2008-09 and 2011-12, which was requested in the Council's 2010-12 budget recommendation, as well as M&O for 2012-13.

Source: Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education, 2012-14 Biennial Budget Recommendation.

Kentucky Public Postsecondary Institution  
 Estimated Fixed Cost Increases  
 Fiscal Year 2014-15

Attachment 9

Fixed Cost Increase Components

Institution	Institutional <sup>(a)</sup> Financial Aid	KERS Employer <sup>(b)(c)</sup> Contributions	Health <sup>(c)</sup> Insurance	Maintenance <sup>(d)</sup> & Operations	Other Fixed Costs	Total Cost Increases
University of Kentucky	\$12,957,400	\$0	\$4,178,500	\$3,288,600	\$10,666,300	\$31,090,800
University of Louisville	1,075,100	0	4,516,900	3,014,000	1,684,700	10,290,700
Eastern Kentucky University	441,300	1,396,100	1,254,300	638,400	1,085,100	4,815,200
Kentucky State University	143,700	249,000	193,700	394,900	120,300	1,101,600
Morehead State University	1,078,500	648,100	419,800	(110,200)	822,300	2,858,500
Murray State University	1,000,000	750,600	552,000	567,900	721,000	3,591,500
Northern Kentucky University	1,928,600	2,441,600	1,172,000	50,500	578,600	6,171,300
Western Kentucky University	775,000	1,330,500	1,004,000	162,000	2,437,000	5,708,500
KCTCS	12,891,400	1,602,500	2,249,900	1,647,200	552,000	18,943,000
System Totals	\$32,291,000	\$8,418,400	\$15,541,100	\$9,653,300	\$18,667,300	\$84,571,100

<sup>(a)</sup> Estimated increase in institutionally-funded student financial aid, assuming a 3 percent increase in tuition and fees.

<sup>(b)</sup> Increase in employer paid retirement contributions associated with state mandated KERS rate increase. UK and UofL do not have any participating KERS employees.

<sup>(c)</sup> Does not include costs associated with anticipated employee salary increases.

<sup>(d)</sup> Does not include personnel related maintenance and operations expenses.

Kentucky Public Postsecondary Institution  
 Estimated Increases in Gross Tuition and Fee Revenue at Various Levels of Rate Increase  
 Fiscal Year 2014-15

Attachment 10

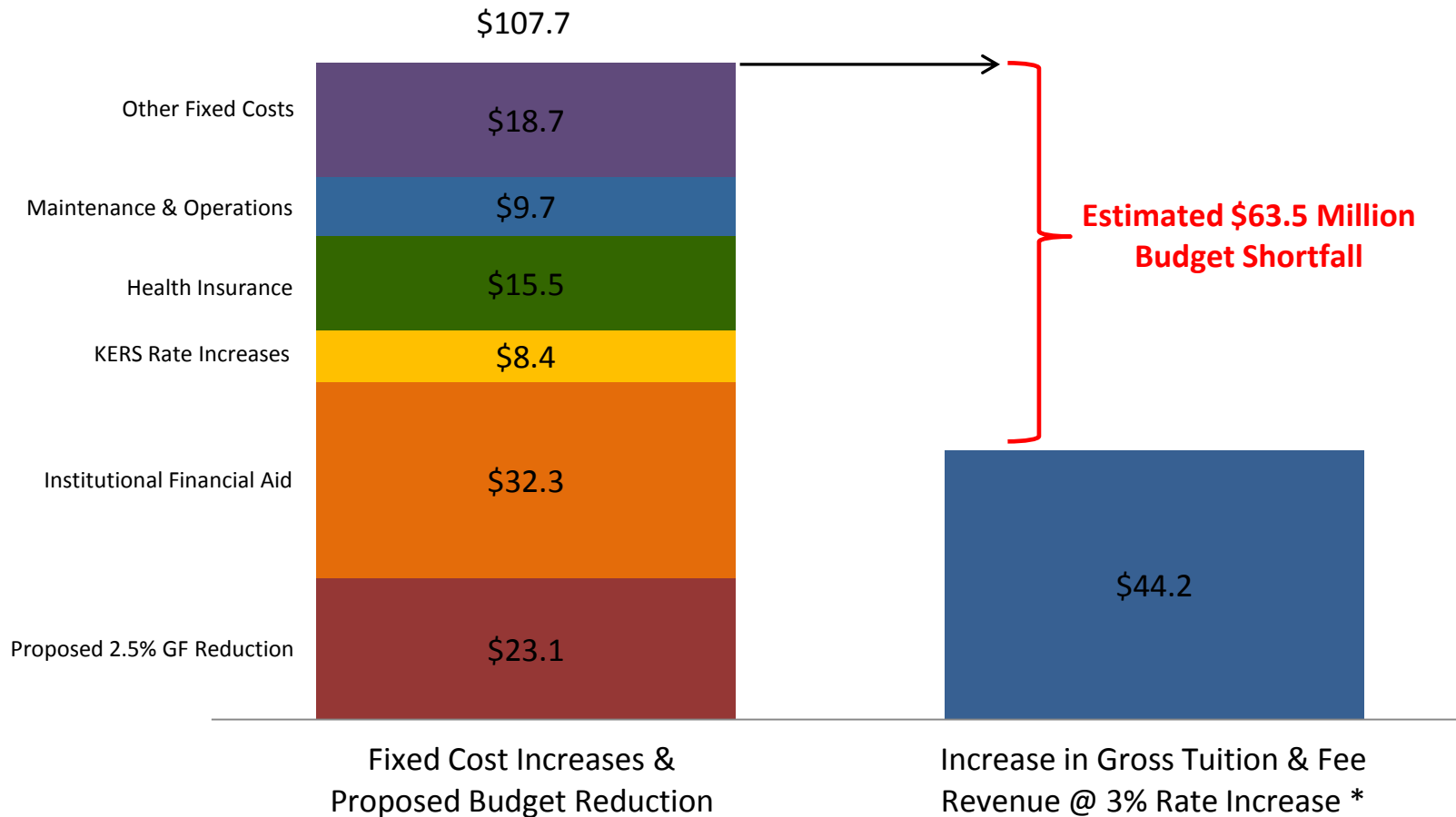
Institution	Est. 2013-14 Gross Tuition & Fee Revenue	Incremental Increases in Gross Tuition and Fee Revenue <sup>(a)(b)</sup>				
		Additional Tuition Revenue @ 1% Increase	Additional Tuition Revenue @ 2% Increase	Additional Tuition Revenue @ 3% Increase	Additional Tuition Revenue @ 4% Increase	Additional Tuition Revenue @ 5% Increase
University of Kentucky	\$380,000,000	\$3,650,000	\$7,300,000	\$10,950,000	\$14,600,000	\$18,250,000
University of Louisville	271,025,200	2,710,300	5,420,600	8,130,900	10,841,200	13,551,500
Eastern Kentucky University	133,289,000	1,332,900	2,665,800	3,998,700	5,331,600	6,664,500
Kentucky State University	21,700,000	217,000	434,000	651,000	868,000	1,085,000
Morehead State University	70,460,100	704,500	1,409,000	2,113,500	2,818,000	3,522,500
Murray State University	105,699,800	1,057,000	2,114,000	3,171,000	4,228,000	5,285,000
Northern Kentucky University	123,500,900	1,235,000	2,470,000	3,705,000	4,940,000	6,175,000
Western Kentucky University	142,000,000	1,420,000	2,840,000	4,260,000	5,680,000	7,100,000
KCTCS	239,615,900	2,396,200	4,792,400	7,188,600	9,584,800	11,981,000
System Totals	\$1,487,290,900	\$14,722,900	\$29,445,800	\$44,168,700	\$58,891,600	\$73,614,500

<sup>(a)</sup> Assumes flat student enrollment and uniform levels of rate increase across all categories of students (i.e. every academic level, residency, and full/part-time status) under each rate level scenario.

<sup>(b)</sup> At most institutions, a portion of tuition and mandatory fee revenue is designated as restricted funds and cannot be used to cover fixed cost increases.

### Kentucky Public Postsecondary Institution Potential Budgetary Impact of Proposed General Fund Reduction and Fixed Cost Increases Fiscal Year 2014-15

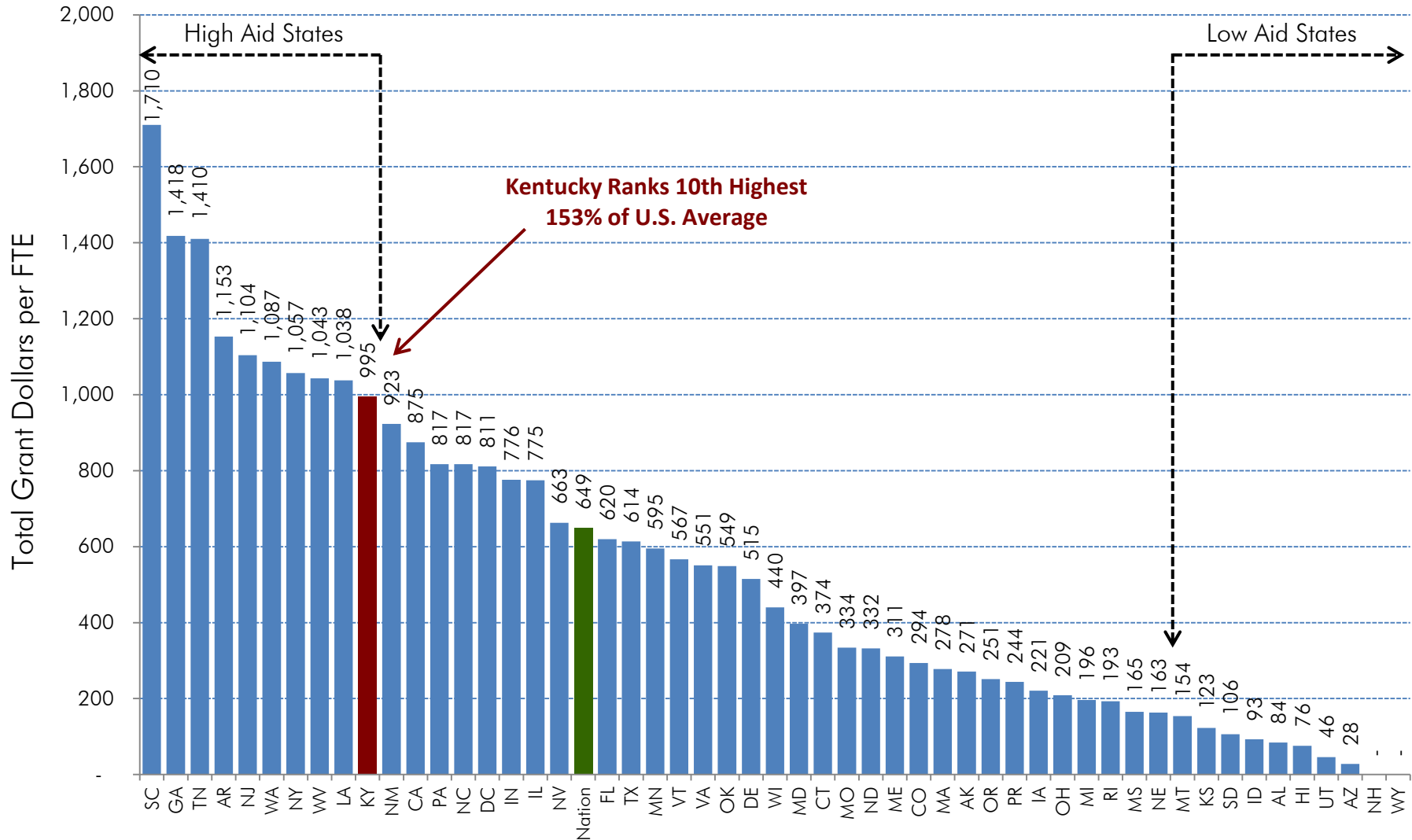
55



\* Estimated increase in gross billable tuition and fee revenue at an assumed 3 percent rate increase across all categories of students (i.e., every academic level, residency, and full-time/part-time status).

Source: Public postsecondary institution, chief budget officer estimates.

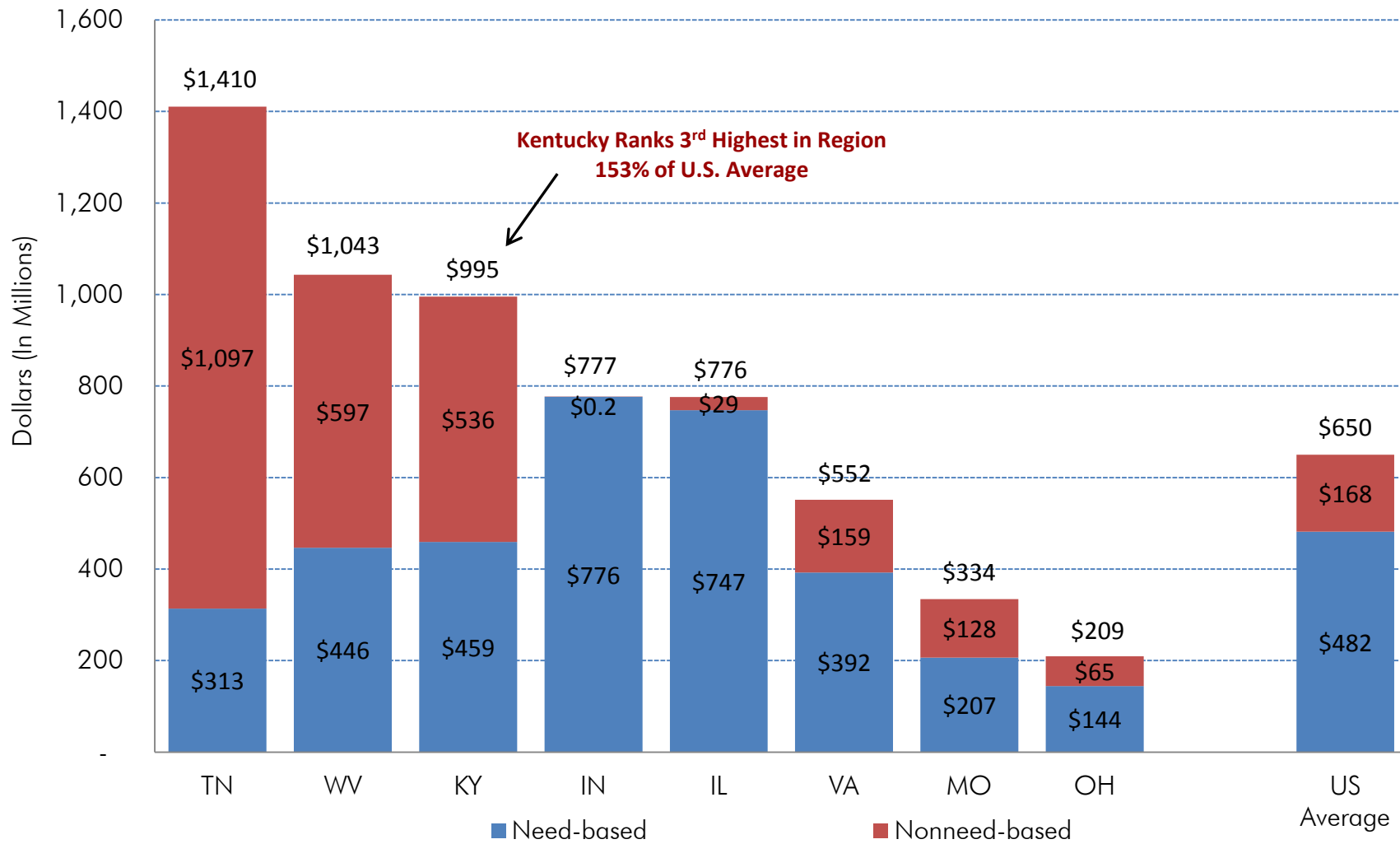
United States, District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico  
 Estimated Total Undergraduate Grant Dollars per Undergraduate Student Enrollment  
 Academic Year 2011-12



Source: National Association of State Student Grant and Aid Programs (NASSGAP), 43rd Annual Survey Report on State-Sponsored Student Financial Aid.



### Kentucky and Surrounding State Need-Based & Nonneed-Based Undergraduate Grant Dollars per Undergraduate Student Academic Year 2011-12

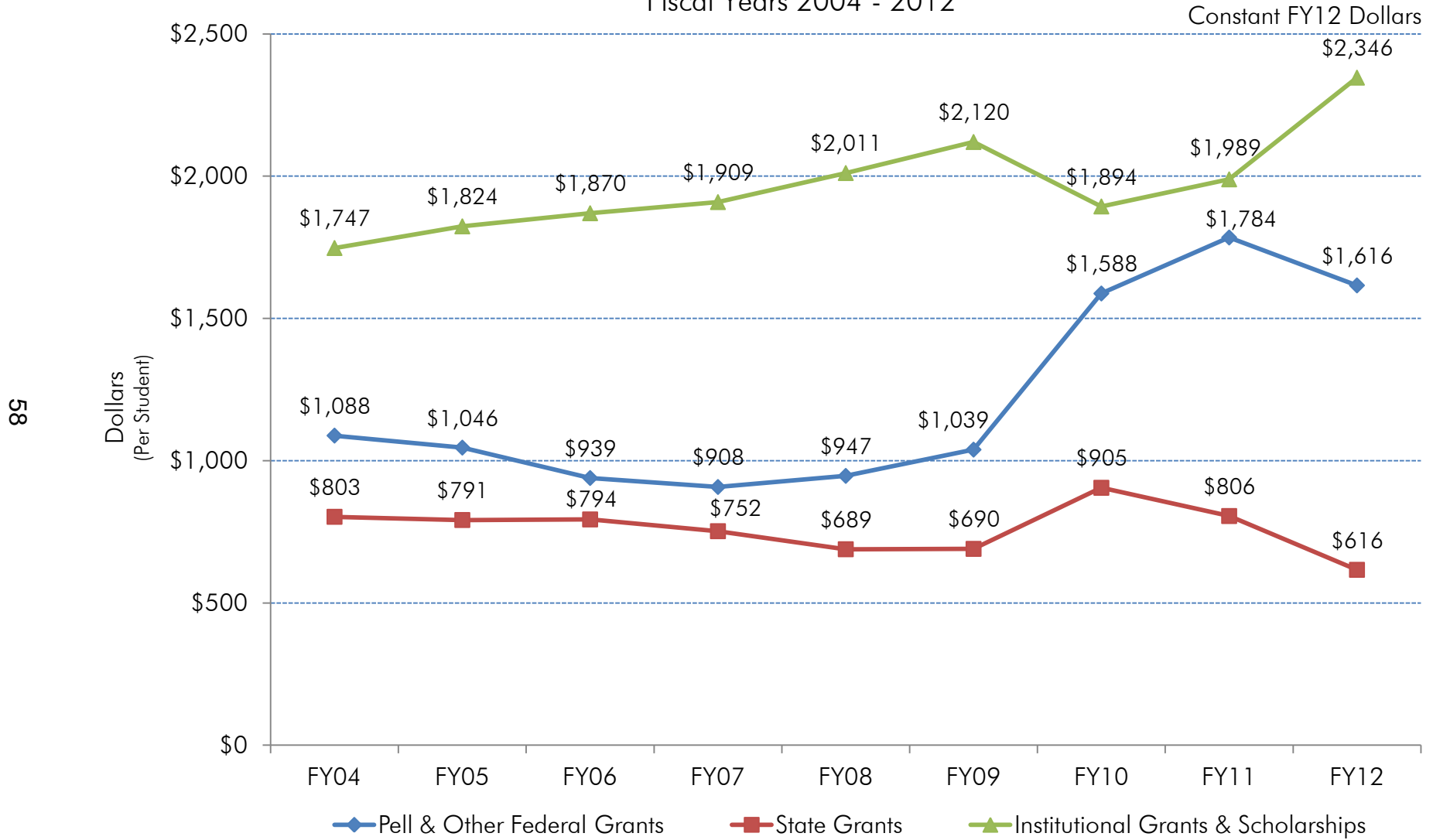


57

Source: National Association of State Student Grant Aid Programs (NASSGAP).

# Kentucky Public Postsecondary System Inflation-Adjusted Student Financial Aid per FTE Student Fiscal Years 2004 - 2012


Attachment 14



Source: Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS); Commonfund Institute, Higher Education Price Index (HEPI).

Kentucky Public Postsecondary Sectors and System  
Average Yearly Increases in Resident Undergraduate Tuition and Fees  
Academic Years 2002 - 2008 and 2008 - 2014

	<u>6-Year AAGR 2002 - 2008</u>	<u>6-Year AAGR 2008 - 2014</u>
Research Sector	10.6%	6.1%
Comprehensive Sector	12.9%	5.2%
Two-Year College Sector	15.5%	3.8%
Postsecondary System	12.4%	5.4%

  
**56% Decrease in Average  
Yearly Increases FY08 - FY14**

AAGR - Average Annual Growth Rate.

Source: Council on Postsecondary Education, Comprehensive Database.

Flagship Universities in Kentucky and Surrounding States  
Average Resident Undergraduate Tuition and Required Fees  
Academic Years 2003 and 2013

State	2002-03 Resident UG Tuition & Fees	2012-13 Resident UG Tuition & Fees	Dollar Change	Percent Change	AAGR	2002-03 Rank	2012-13 Rank
Illinois	6,704	\$ 14,960	\$ 8,256	123.2%	8.4%	1	1
Virginia	4,595	\$ 12,006	7,411	161.3%	10.1%	5	2
Indiana	5,315	\$ 10,087	4,772	89.8%	6.6%	4	3
Ohio	5,454	\$ 10,037	4,583	84.0%	6.3%	3	4
Kentucky	3,974	\$ 9,816	5,842	147.0%	9.5%	7	5
Missouri	5,552	\$ 9,257	3,705	66.7%	5.2%	2	6
Tennessee	4,056	\$ 9,092	5,036	124.2%	8.4%	6	7
West Virginia	3,240	\$ 6,090	2,850	88.0%	6.5%	8	8

AAGR - Average Annual Growth Rate.

Source: Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC).

Comprehensive Universities in Kentucky and Surrounding States  
 Average Resident Undergraduate Tuition and Required Fees  
 Academic Years 2003 and 2013

State	2002-03 Resident UG Tuition & Fees	2012-13 Resident UG Tuition & Fees	Dollar Change	Percent Change	AAGR	2002-03 Rank	2012-13 Rank
Illinois	4,606	\$ 11,762	7,156	155.4%	9.8%	2	1
Ohio	5,920	\$ 9,452	3,532	59.7%	4.8%	1	2
Virginia	4,195	\$ 9,272	5,077	121.0%	8.3%	4	3
Indiana	4,468	\$ 8,541	4,073	91.2%	6.7%	3	4
Kentucky	3,205	\$ 7,786	4,581	142.9%	9.3%	7	5
Tennessee	3,491	\$ 7,322	3,831	109.7%	7.7%	6	6
Missouri	4,127	\$ 6,630	2,503	60.6%	4.9%	5	7
West Virginia	2,856	\$ 5,639	2,783	97.4%	7.0%	8	8

AAGR - Average Annual Growth Rate.

Source: Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC).

Community Colleges in Kentucky and Surrounding States  
Average Resident Tuition and Required Fees  
Academic Years 2003 and 2013

<u>State</u>	<u>2002-03 Resident Tuition &amp; Fees</u>	<u>2012-13 Resident Tuition &amp; Fees</u>	<u>Dollar Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>	<u>AAGR</u>	<u>2002-03 Rank</u>	<u>2012-13 Rank</u>
Kentucky	1,536	\$ 4,200	2,664	173.4%	10.6%	7	1
Missouri	2,437	\$ 3,967	1,530	62.8%	5.0%	2	2
Virginia	1,304	\$ 3,735	2,431	186.4%	11.1%	8	3
Tennessee	1,740	\$ 3,686	1,946	111.8%	7.8%	4	4
Ohio	2,300	\$ 3,682	1,382	60.1%	4.8%	3	5
Indiana	2,957	\$ 3,455	498	16.8%	1.6%	1	6
Illinois	1,684	\$ 3,237	1,553	92.2%	6.8%	6	7
West Virginia	1,708	\$ 2,997	1,289	75.5%	5.8%	5	8

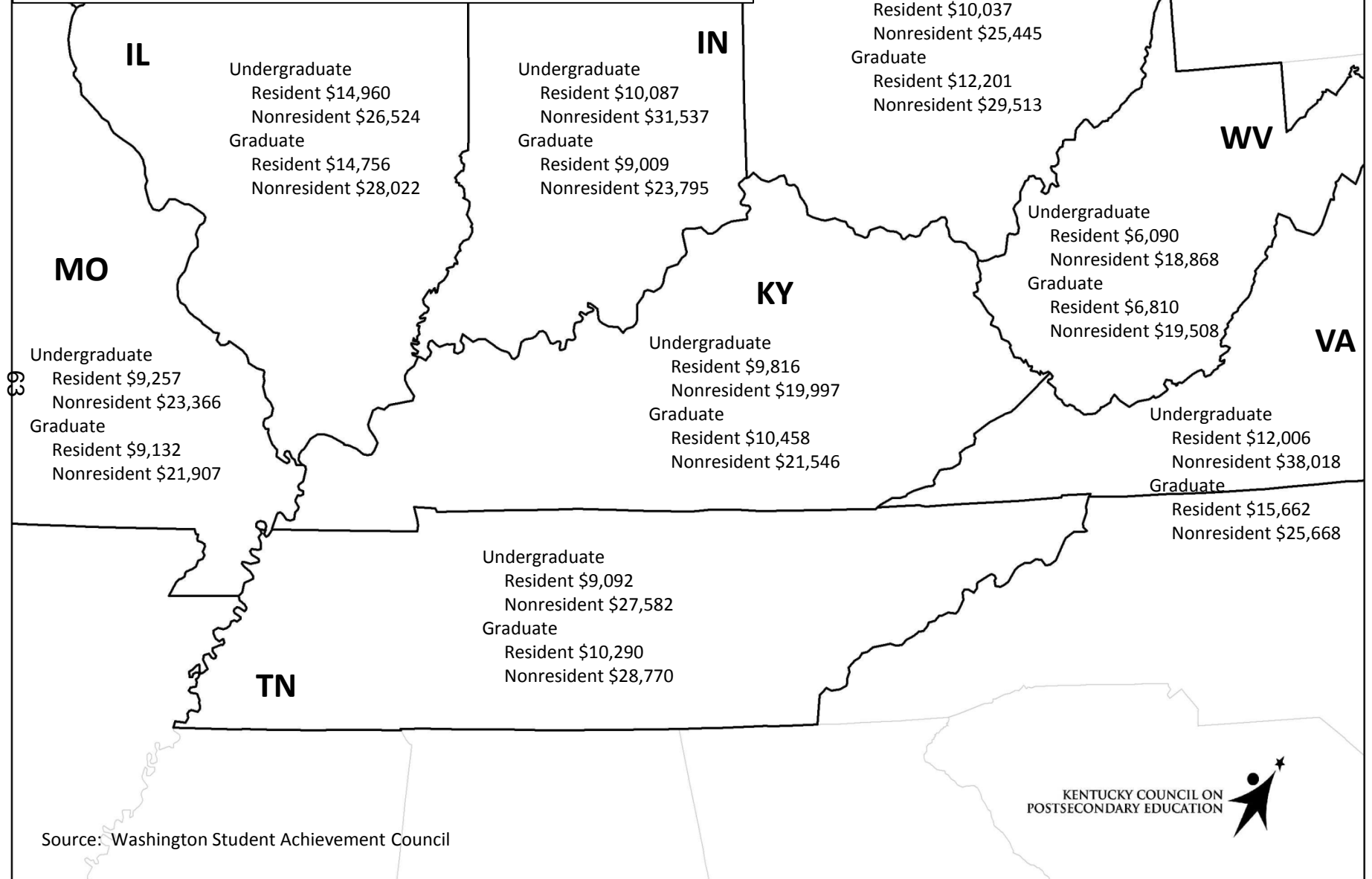
AAGR - Average Annual Growth Rate.

Source: Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC).

# Flagship Universities

## Average 2012-13 Tuition and Required Fees

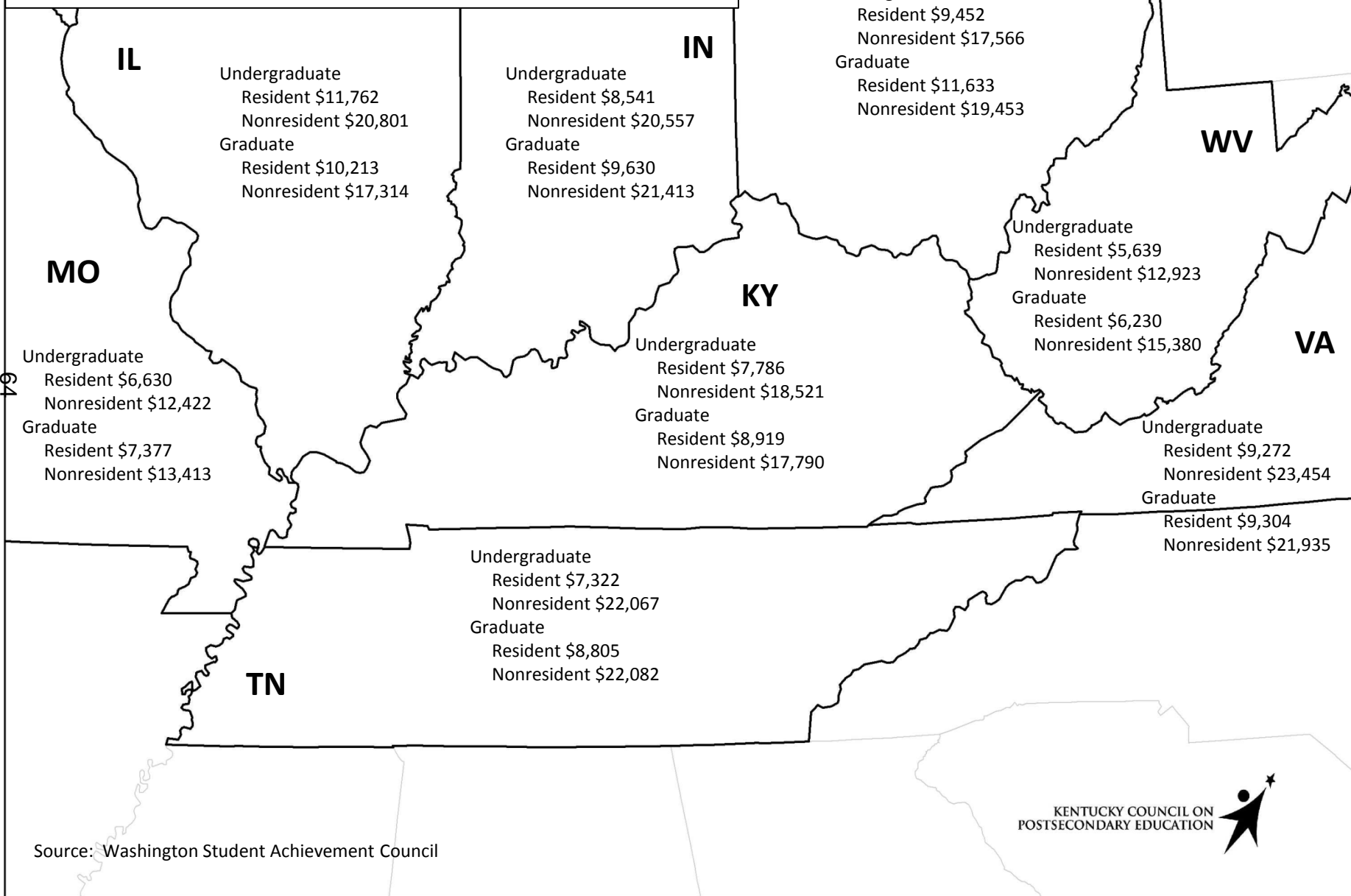
### By State, Level, and Residency



Source: Washington Student Achievement Council



# Comprehensive Universities Average 2012-13 Tuition and Required Fees By State, Level, and Residency

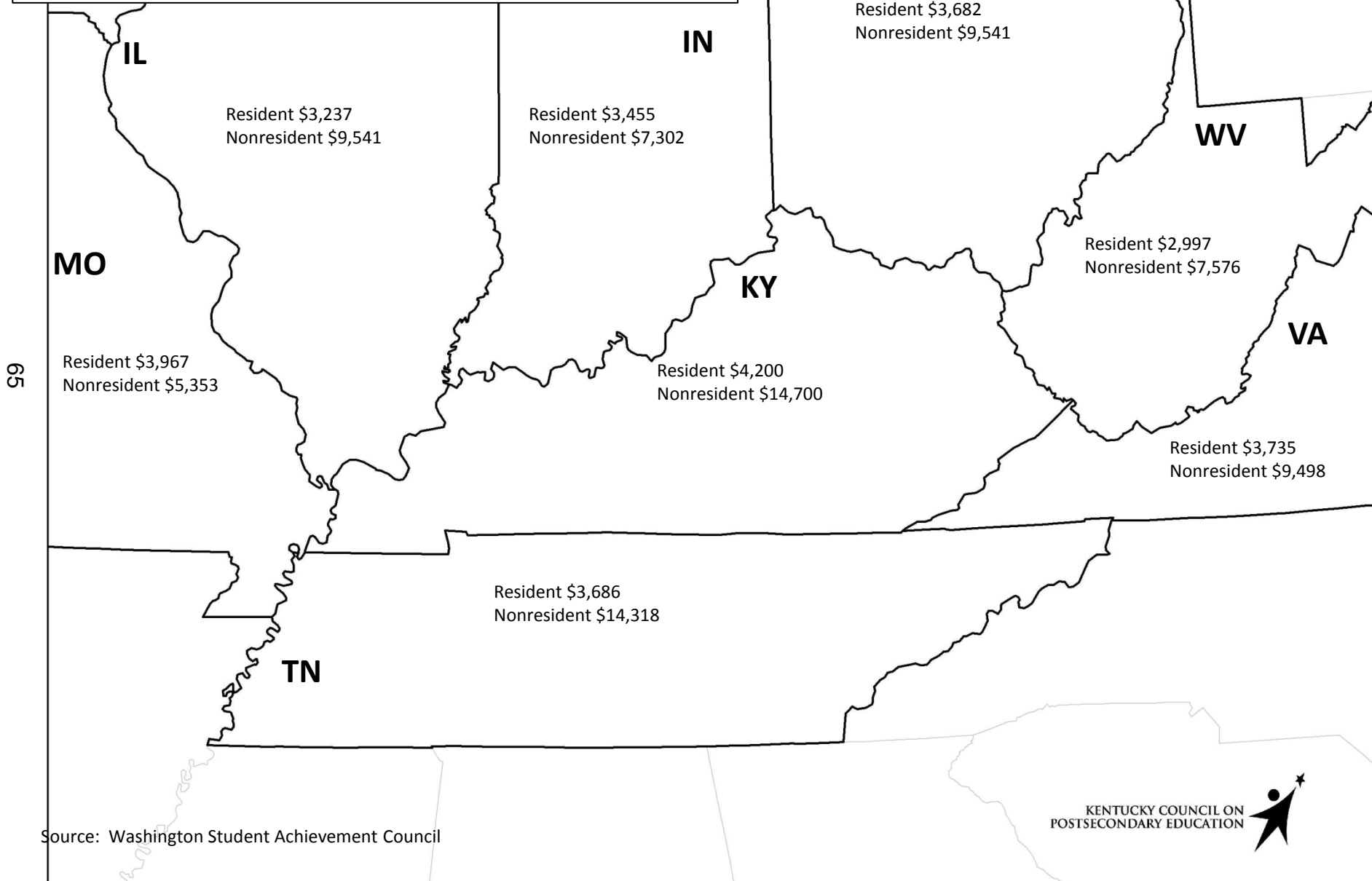


Source: Washington Student Achievement Council





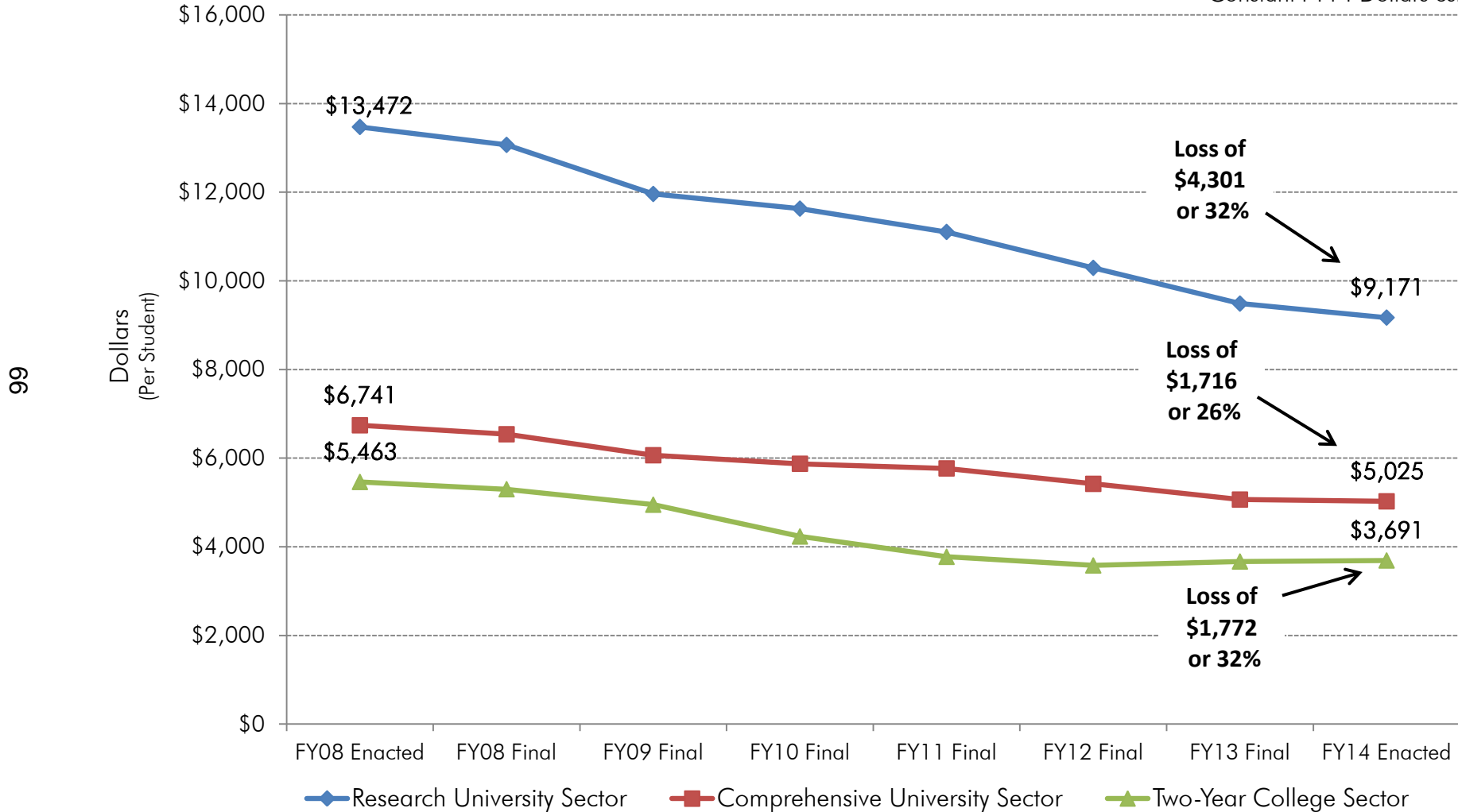
# Community Colleges Average 2012-13 Tuition and Required Fees By State, Level, and Residency



65

### Kentucky Public Postsecondary Sector Inflation Adjusted Net General Fund Appropriations per FTE Student Fiscal Years 2008 - 2014

Constant FY14 Dollars est



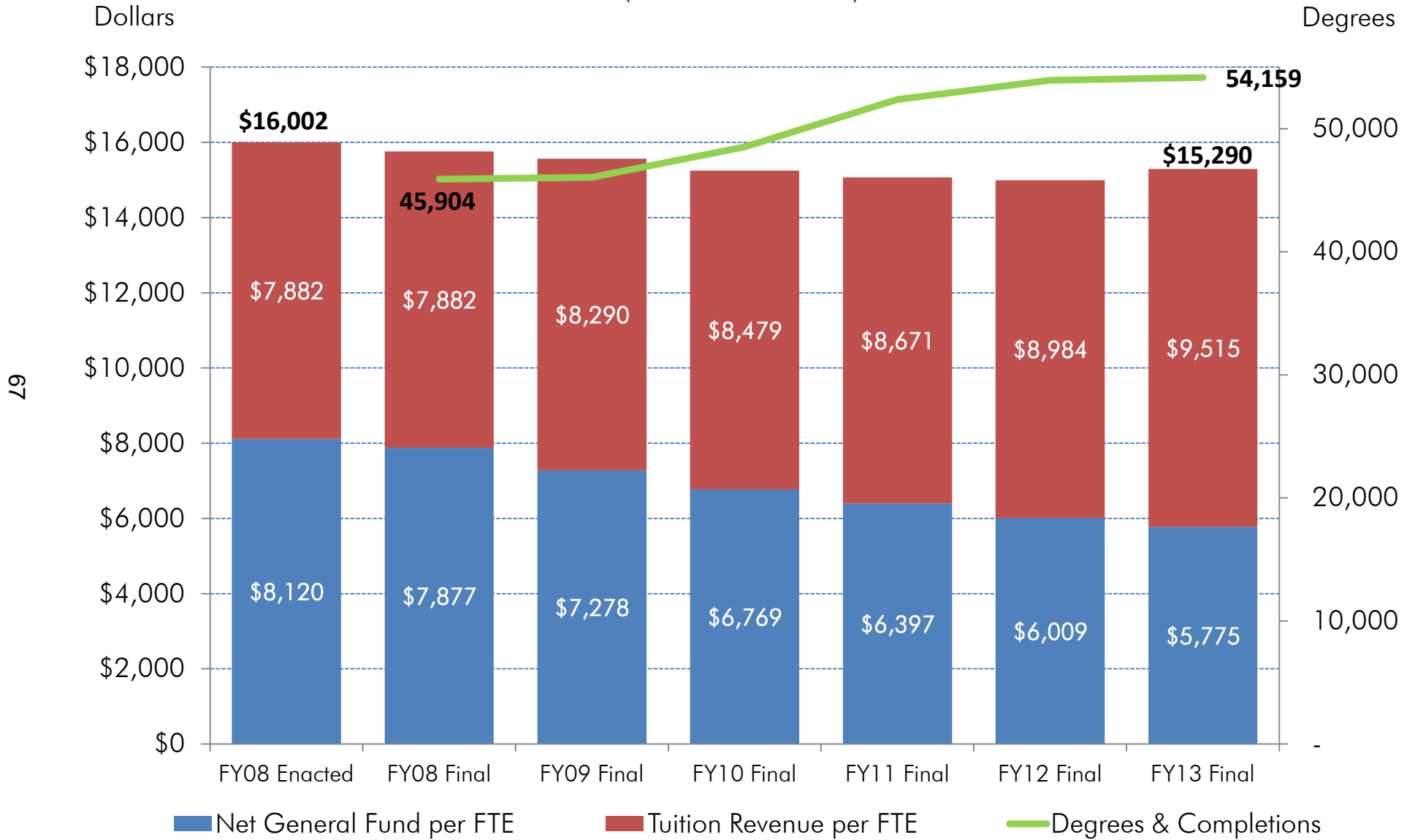
Sources: Kentucky Budget of the Commonwealth; CPE Comprehensive Database; Commonfund Institute, Higher Education Price Index (HEPI).

Assumes 1.6% increase in inflation in FY14.

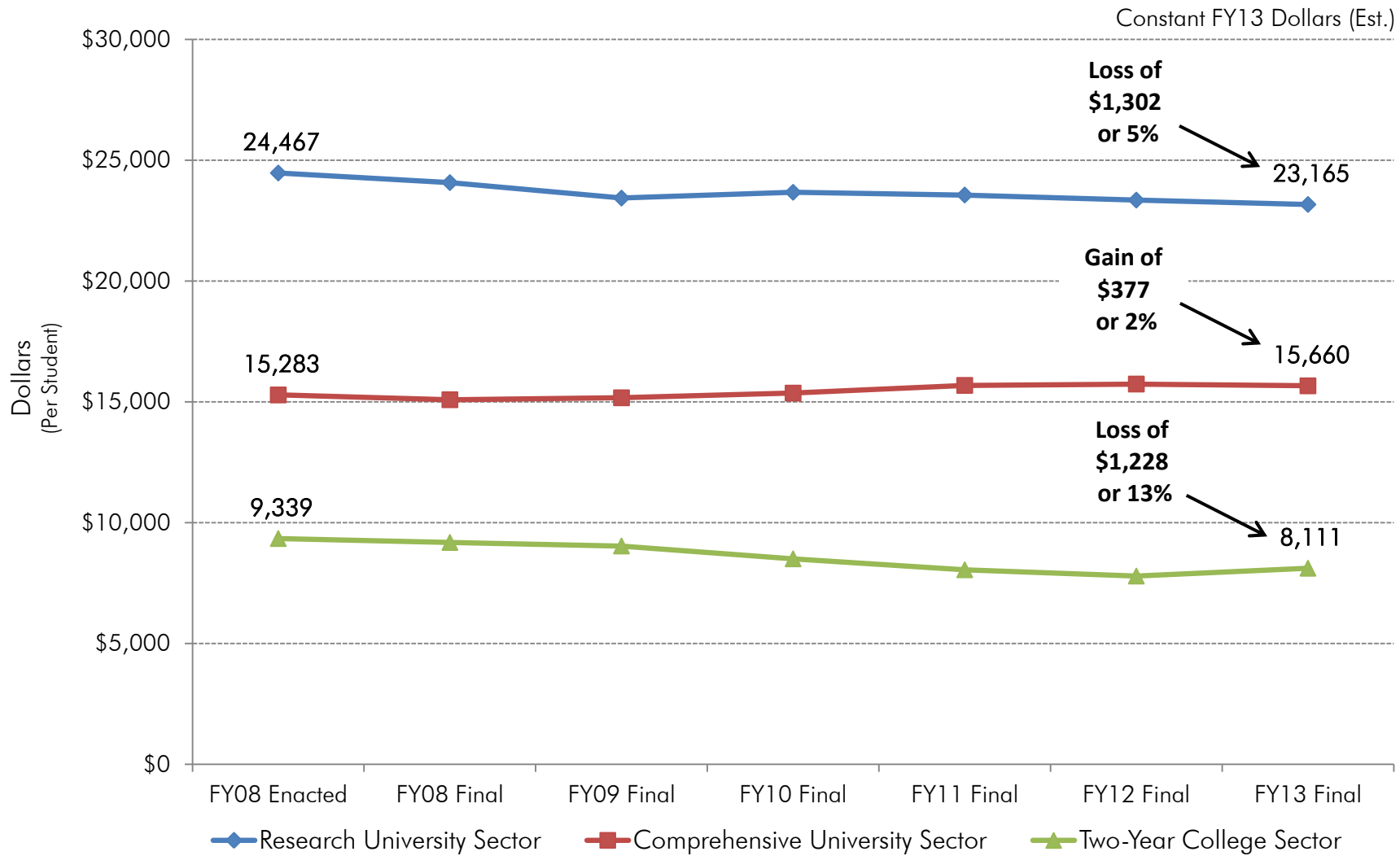
# Net General Fund & Gross Tuition Revenue per FTE Kentucky Public Postsecondary System

(Constant 2013 Dollars)

Attachment 23



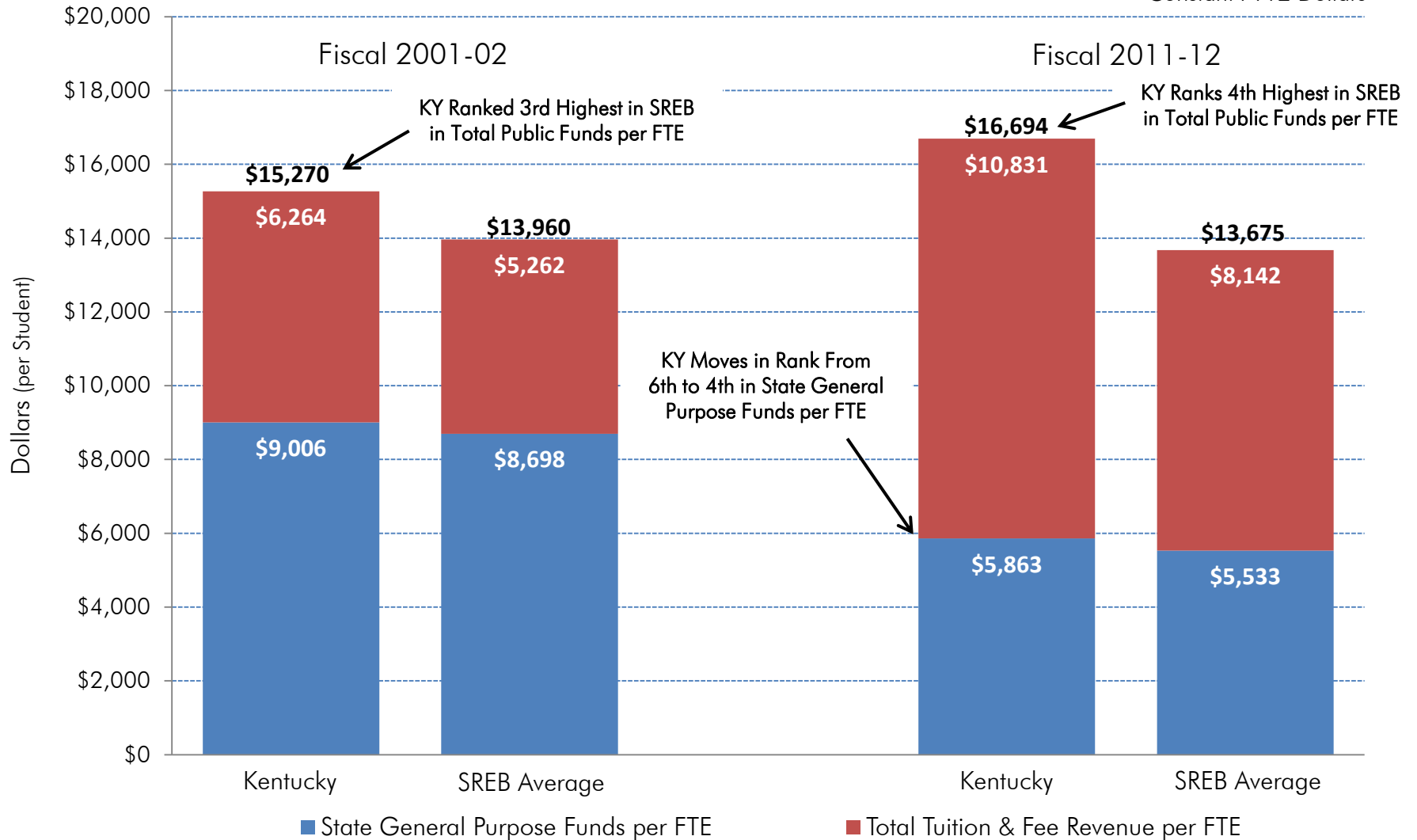
### Kentucky Public Postsecondary Sector Inflation Adjusted Total Public Funds per FTE Student Fiscal Years 2008 - 2013



Sources: Kentucky Budget of the Commonwealth; CPE Comprehensive Database; Commonfund Institute, Higher Education Price Index (HEPI).

# Kentucky Public Four-Year University & SREB Average Inflation Adjusted Total Public Funds Per FTE Student Fiscal Years 2001-02 and 2011-12

Constant FY12 Dollars



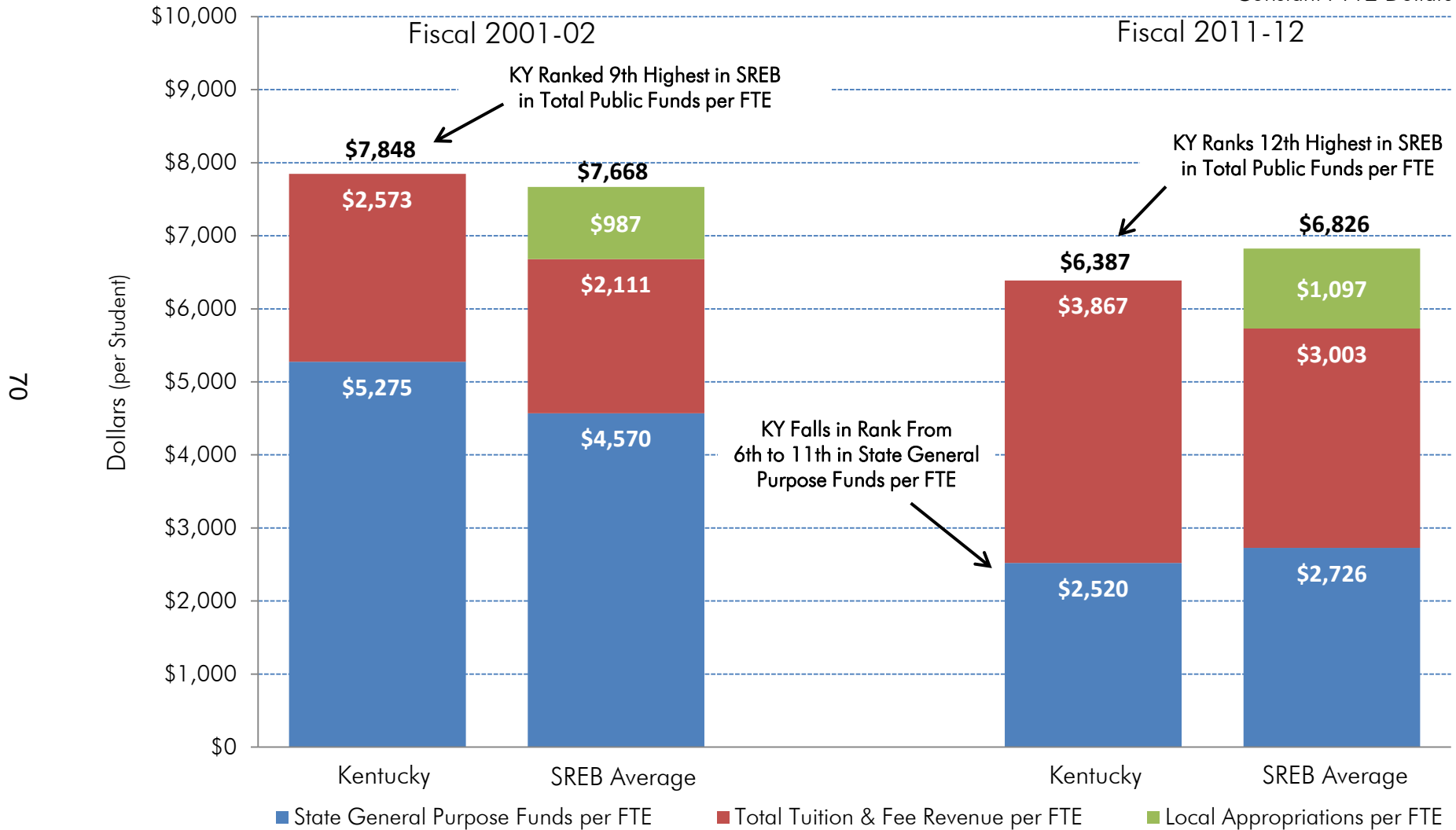
69

Source: SREB, State Data Exchange.

Tuition & fee revenue includes revenue designated for debt service

# Kentucky Public Two-Year College & SREB Average Inflation Adjusted Total Public Funds Per FTE Student Fiscal Years 2001-02 and 2011-12

Constant FY12 Dollars



Source: SREB, State Data Exchange.

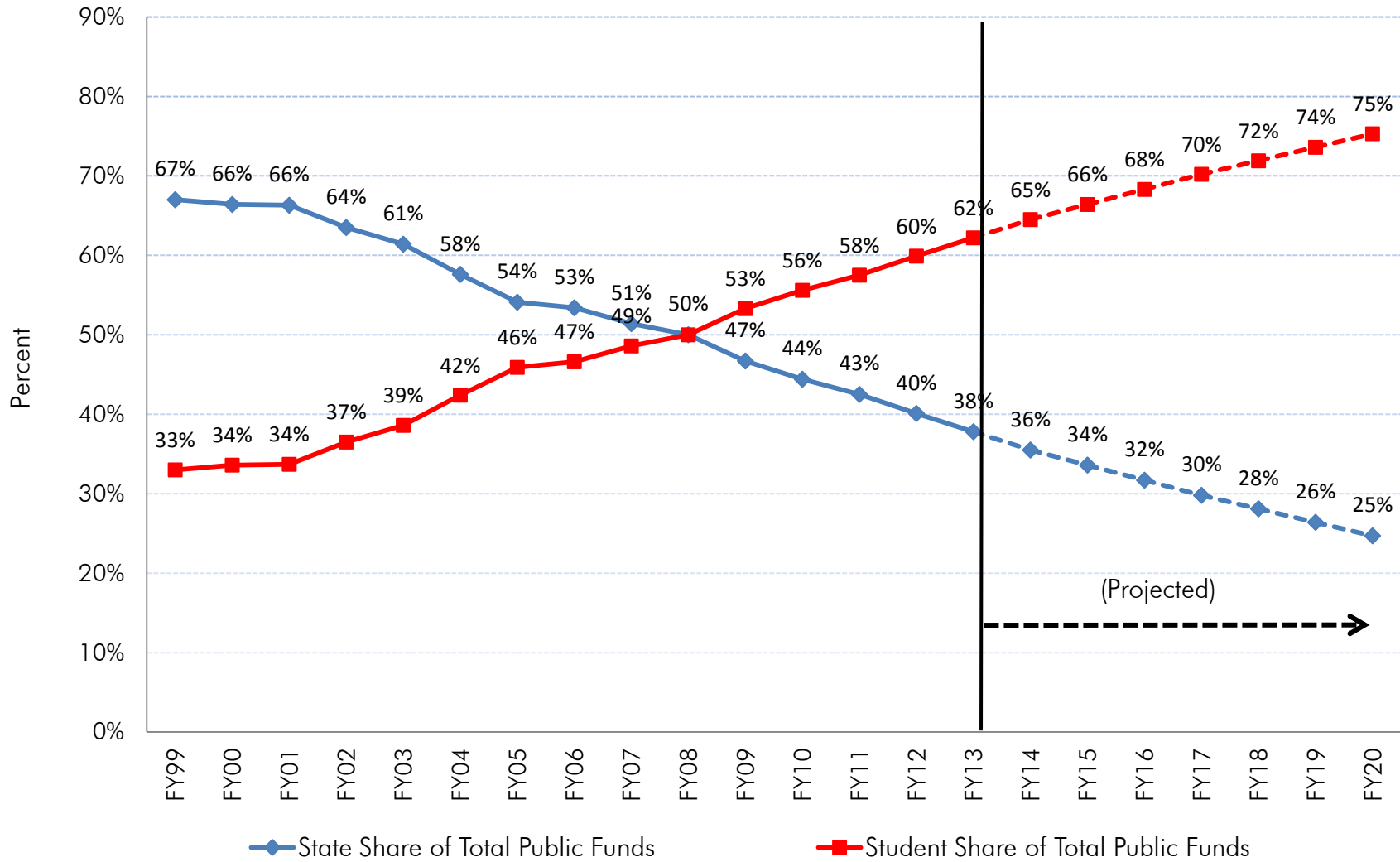
Tuition & fee revenue includes revenue designated for debt service

Kentucky Public Postsecondary Institution  
Tuition Revenue Share of Total Public Funds  
Fiscal Years 1999 - 2013

Institution	FY99	FY00	FY01	FY02	FY03	FY04	FY05	FY06	FY07	FY08	FY09	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13
University of Kentucky	27%	28%	28%	30%	31%	35%	39%	40%	42%	42%	46%	48%	49%	53%	56%
University of Louisville	34%	35%	35%	39%	41%	44%	47%	48%	51%	53%	56%	58%	60%	63%	65%
Eastern Kentucky University	38%	38%	37%	40%	41%	45%	49%	52%	54%	56%	59%	61%	63%	65%	66%
Kentucky State University	26%	30%	28%	31%	35%	36%	33%	35%	37%	38%	41%	45%	47%	49%	50%
Morehead State University	38%	38%	38%	41%	43%	46%	48%	48%	50%	50%	55%	56%	58%	60%	63%
Murray State University	37%	39%	39%	42%	44%	47%	51%	53%	56%	58%	60%	61%	62%	65%	68%
Northern Kentucky University	55%	56%	55%	55%	58%	61%	64%	63%	63%	64%	68%	69%	71%	73%	75%
Western Kentucky University	40%	41%	40%	43%	46%	52%	56%	57%	60%	60%	64%	66%	67%	69%	71%
KCTCS	28%	27%	28%	32%	35%	39%	42%	41%	42%	43%	46%	51%	54%	55%	55%
Research Sector	29%	31%	31%	33%	35%	38%	42%	43%	45%	47%	50%	52%	54%	57%	60%
Comprehensive Sector	40%	41%	41%	43%	46%	50%	53%	54%	56%	57%	61%	62%	64%	66%	68%
Two-Year College Sector	28%	27%	28%	32%	35%	39%	42%	41%	42%	43%	46%	51%	54%	55%	55%
Postsecondary System	33%	34%	34%	37%	39%	42%	46%	47%	49%	50%	53%	56%	58%	60%	62%

### Kentucky Public Postsecondary System Change in State & Student Shares of Total Public Funds Fiscal Years 1999 - 2020

72



Sources: Kentucky Budget of the Commonwealth; CPE Comprehensive Database.

State Share = Net General Fund Appropriations ÷ Total Public Funds  
Student Share = Gross Tuition & Fee Revenue ÷ Total Public Funds

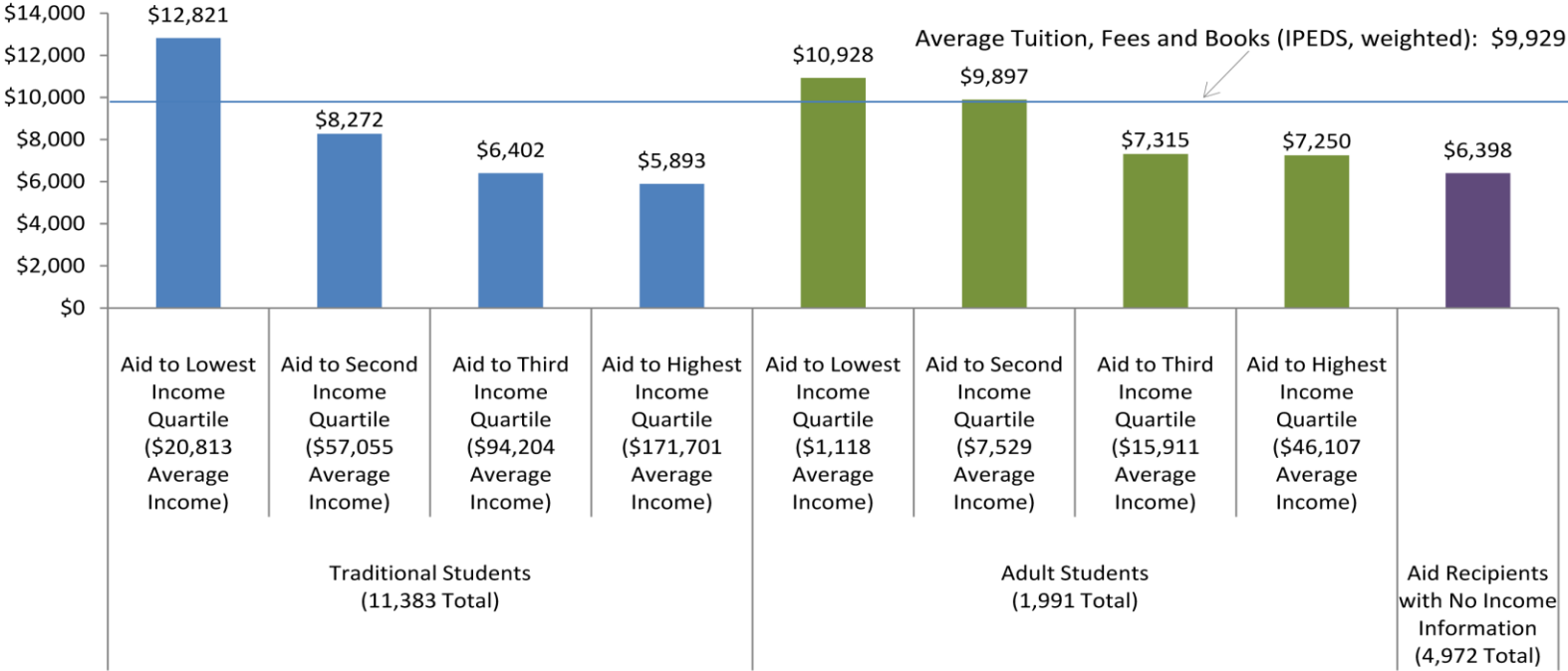


# UK and UofL: Need and Merit-Based Aid by Student Type and Family Income

Full-Time, In-State, Undergraduates at Kentucky's Public Research Universities who Received Grants or Scholarships in 2011-12

**Highlights**

- \* Grants and scholarships covered the full cost of tuition, fees and books for most students in the lowest income categories.
- \* Even students in the highest income categories received significant support through KEES and institutional aid.
- \* Seventy-four percent of full-time, in-state undergraduate students at research universities received grants in 2011-12 (fall 2011 enrollment).
- \* Grants in excess of tuition were used to pay for room and board, which averaged an additional \$8,973 (IPEDS, weighted).



Unmet Tuition, Fee and Book Costs									
-	\$2,892	\$1,657	\$3,527	\$4,036	-\$999	-\$32	\$2,614	\$2,679	\$3,531

Notes: Aid includes all need and merit-based grants and scholarships from federal, state, institutional and other sources. Income quartiles rank all students in the sector within their dependency category by family income, and divide them into four equal-sized groups based on their income rank. Traditional students were under 25 years old and were claimed as dependents on their parents' taxes, while adult students filed taxes independently. Students without income information did not file the federal financial aid application, but are still eligible for KEES, institutional, and other grants.

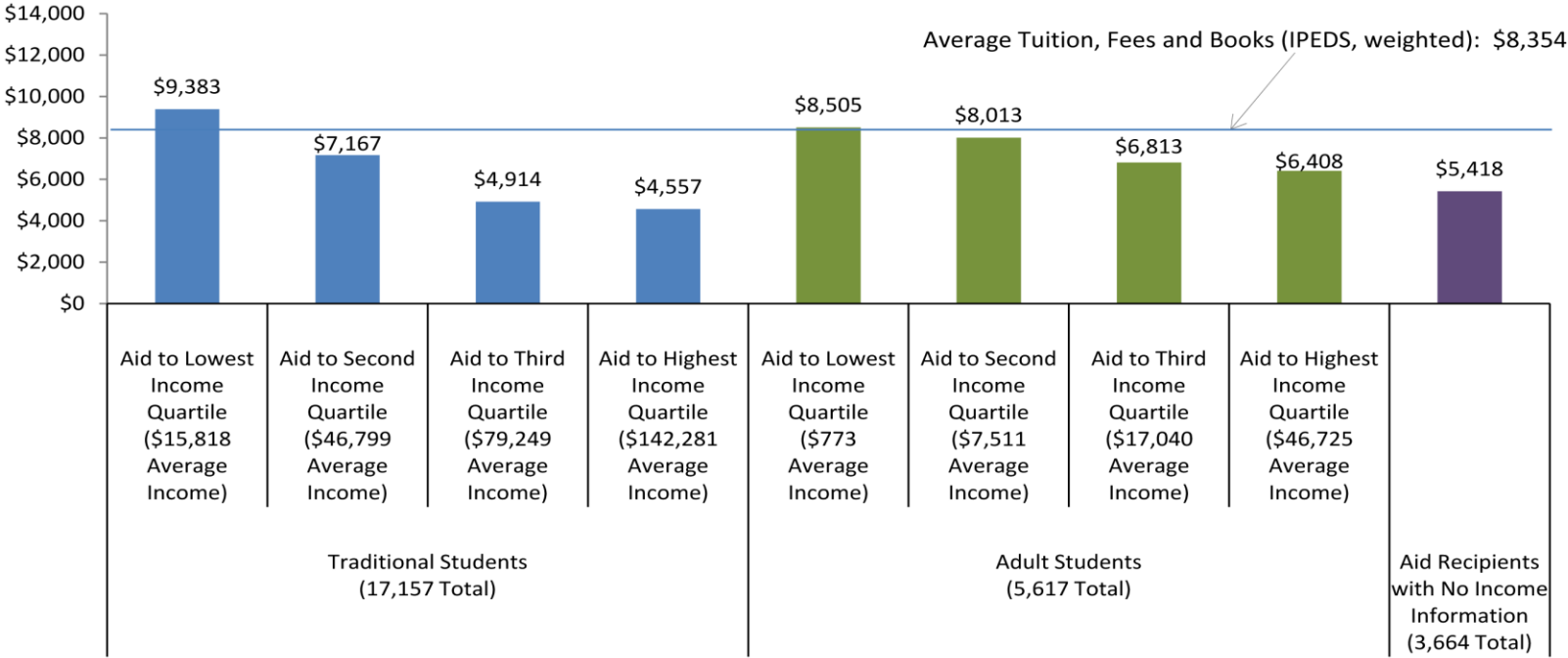
73

# Comprehensive Universities: Need and Merit-Based Aid by Student Type and Family Income

Full-Time, In-State, Undergraduates at Kentucky's Public Comprehensive Universities who Received Grants or Scholarships in 2011-12

**Highlights**

- \* Grants and scholarships covered the full cost of tuition, fees and books for most students in the lowest income categories.
- \* Even students in the high .
- \* Seventy percent of full-time, in-state undergraduate students at comprehensive universities received grants in 2011-12 (fall 2011 enrollment).
- \* Grants in excess of tuition were used to pay for room and board, which averaged an additional \$7,188 (IPEDS, weighted).



74

Unmet Tuition, Fee and Book Costs									
	-\$1,029	\$1,187	\$3,440	\$3,797	-\$151	\$341	\$1,541	\$1,946	\$2,936

Notes: Aid includes all need and merit-based grants and scholarships from federal, state, institutional and other sources. Income quartiles rank all students in the sector within their dependency category by family income, and divides them into four equal-sized groups based on their income rank. Traditional students were under 25 years old and were claimed as dependents on their parents' taxes, while adult students filed taxes independently. Students without income information did not file the federal financial aid application, but are still eligible for KEES, institutional, and other grants.

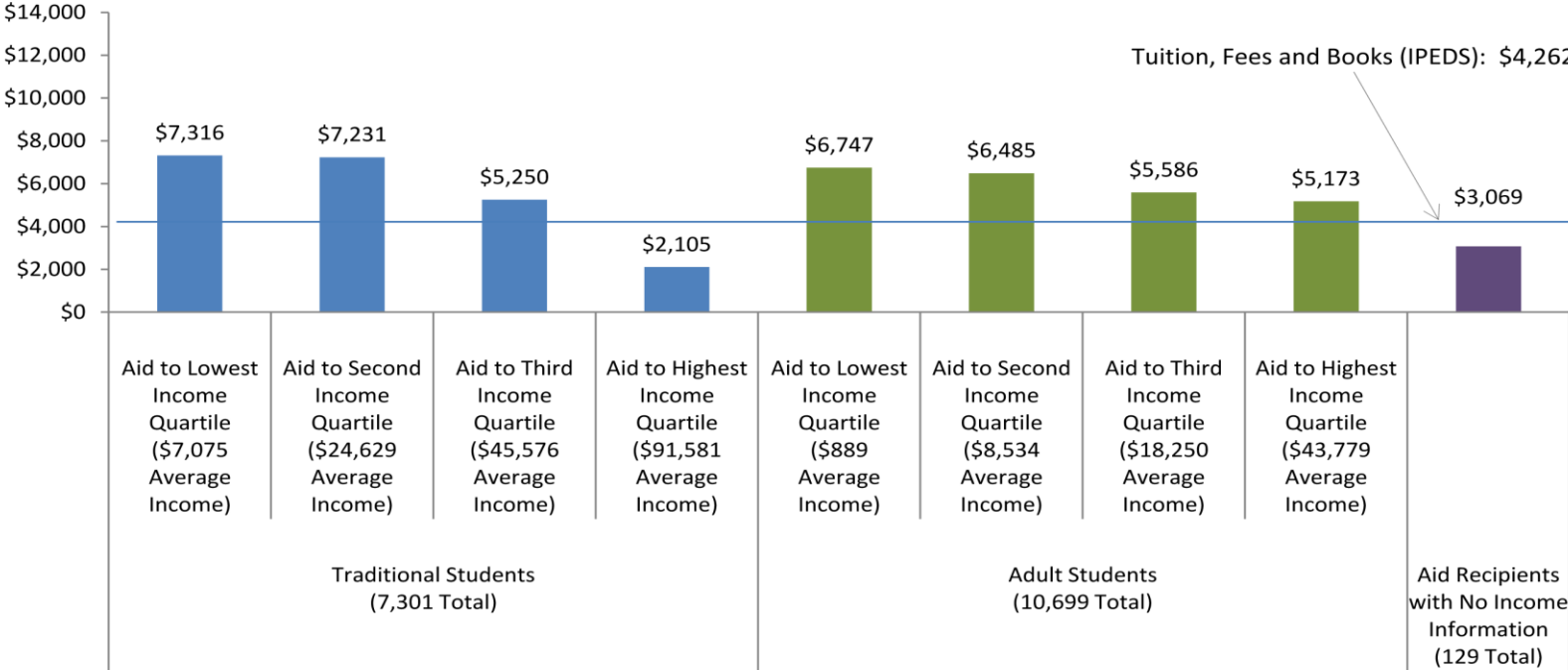
# KCTCS: Need and Merit-Based Aid by Student Type and Family Income

Full-Time, In-State, Students in the Kentucky Community and Technical College System who Received Grants or Scholarships in 2011-12

### Highlights

- \* Grants and scholarships covered the full cost of tuition, fees and books for most students in the lowest income categories.
- \* Even students in the highest income categories received significant support through KEES and institutional aid.
- \* Forty-five percent of full-time undergraduate students at KCTCS received grants in 2011-12 (fall 2011 enrollment).
- \* Grants in excess of tuition were used to pay for off-campus rent, utilities and food, which KCTCS estimated at an additional \$6,975 (IPEDS).

75



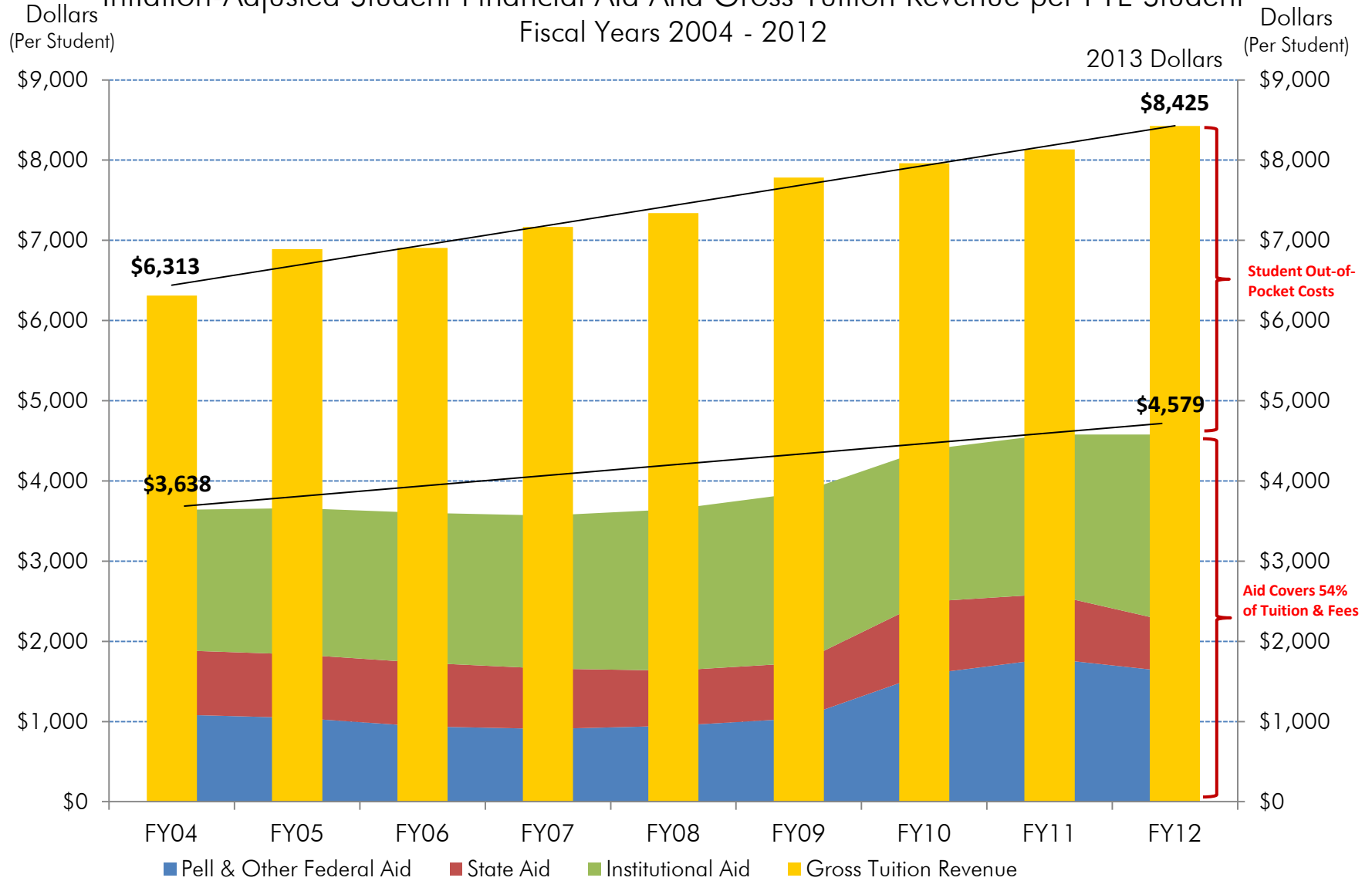
Unmet Tuition, Fee and Book Costs
-\$3,054
-\$2,969
-\$988
\$2,157
-\$2,485
-\$2,223
-\$1,324
-\$911
\$1,193

Notes: Aid includes all need and merit-based grants and scholarships from federal, state, institutional and other sources. Income quartiles rank all students in the sector within their dependency category by family income, and divides them into four equal-sized groups based on their income rank. Traditional students were under 25 years old and were claimed as dependents on their parents' taxes, while adult students filed taxes independently. Students without income information did not file the federal financial aid application, but are still eligible for KEES, institutional, and other grants.

# Kentucky Public Postsecondary System

Attachment 32

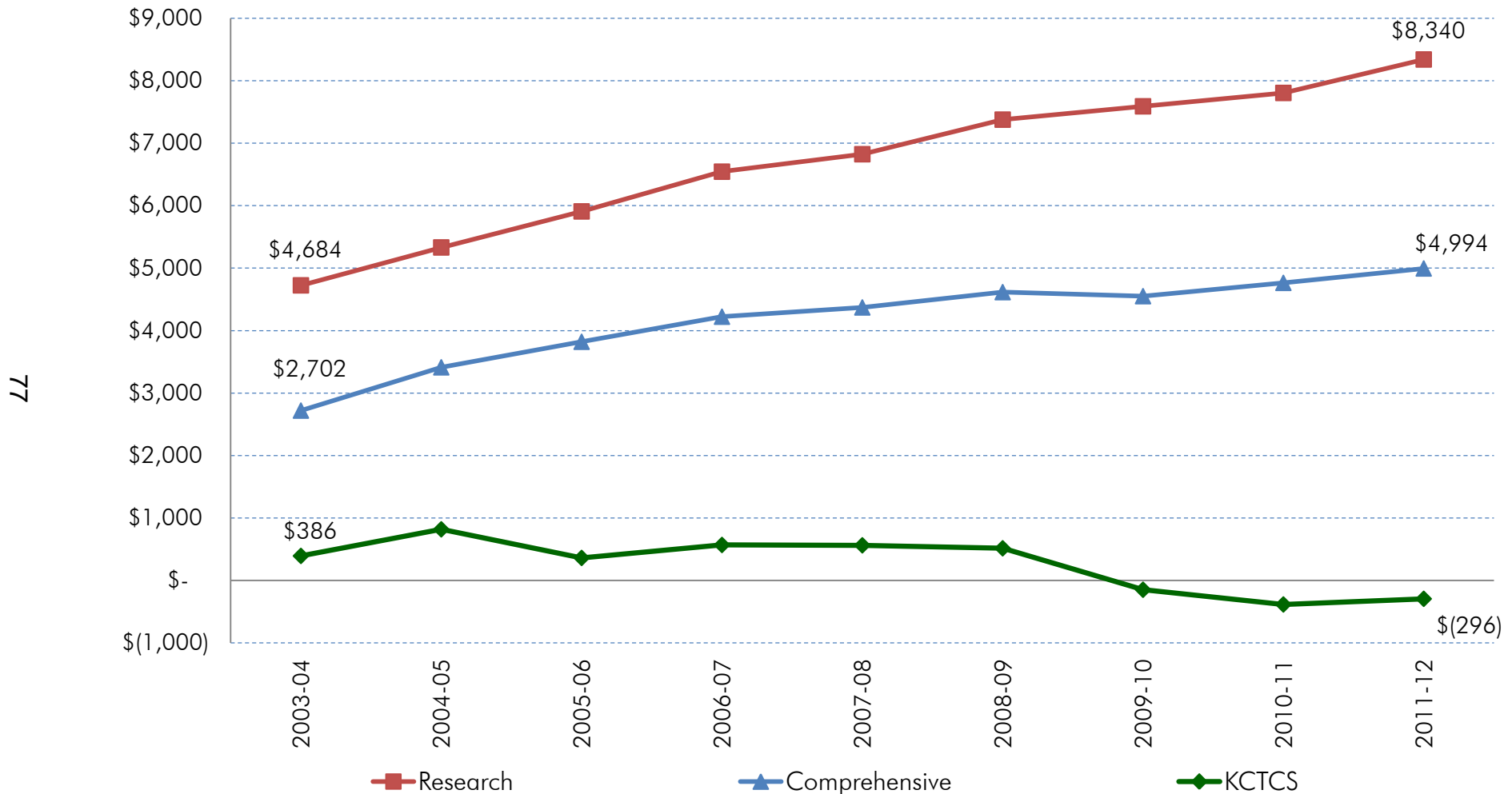
## Inflation-Adjusted Student Financial Aid And Gross Tuition Revenue per FTE Student Fiscal Years 2004 - 2012



76

Source: Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS).

### Kentucky Public Postsecondary Sectors Inflation-Adjusted Average Out-of-Pocket Costs per Full-Time Equivalent Student Fiscal Years 2004 - 2012



Source: Integrated Postsecondary Data System (IPEDS).

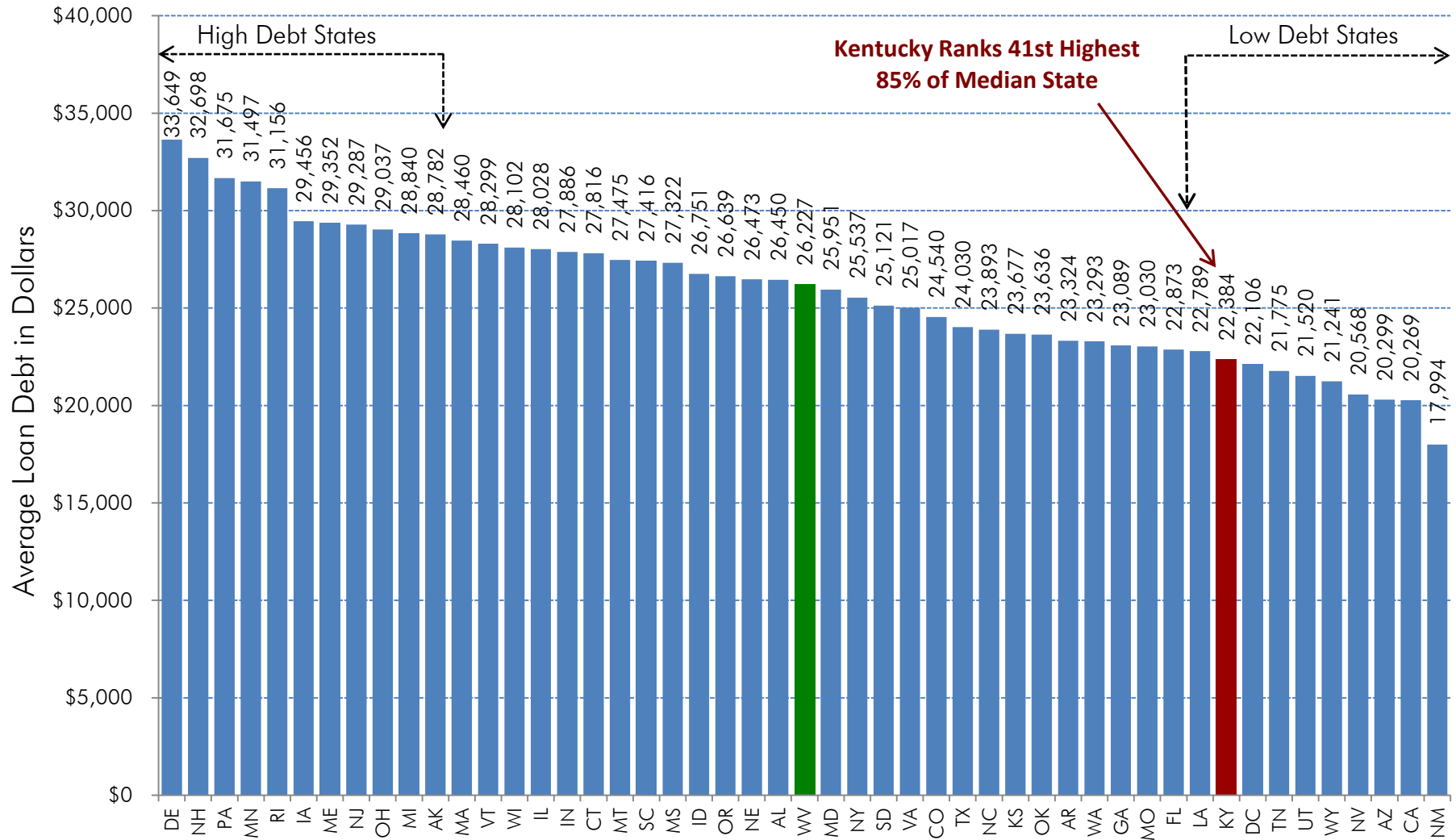
Note: Average out-of-pocket cost is defined as gross billable tuition and fee revenue per FTE student minus all forms of grant aid per FTE student.

# Kentucky Public and Private Postsecondary Institution Four-Year University Average Student Loan Debt Graduating Classes of 2004 - 2012



Source: The Project on Student Debt, Student Debt and the Class of 2012, December 2013.

## United States and District of Columbia Public and Private 4-Year Institution Average Student Loan Debt Graduating Class of 2012



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Source: The Project on Student Debt, Student Debt and the Class of 2012, December 2013.

Kentucky Public Postsecondary Institution  
Student Headcount Enrollment  
Fall Semesters 2006 - 2013

Undergraduate									1-Year	1-Year	7-Year	7-Year
Institution	Fall 2006	Fall 2007	Fall 2008	Fall 2009	Fall 2010	Fall 2011	Fall 2012	Fall 2013	Number Change	Percent Change	Number Change	Percent Change
University of Kentucky	19,328	18,830	18,988	19,217	19,988	20,152	20,878	21,495	617	3.0%	2,167	11.2%
University of Louisville	15,103	15,125	15,495	15,619	15,818	15,772	15,893	16,151	258	1.6%	1,048	6.9%
<b>Sector Total</b>	<b>34,431</b>	<b>33,955</b>	<b>34,483</b>	<b>34,836</b>	<b>35,806</b>	<b>35,924</b>	<b>36,771</b>	<b>37,646</b>	<b>875</b>	<b>2.4%</b>	<b>3,215</b>	<b>9.3%</b>
Eastern Kentucky University	13,623	13,659	13,839	13,991	14,396	13,902	13,883	13,851	(32)	-0.2%	228	1.7%
Kentucky State University	2,341	2,510	2,497	2,638	2,606	2,490	2,296	2,370	74	3.2%	29	1.2%
Morehead State University	7,515	7,625	7,487	7,550	7,399	9,420	9,725	10,076	351	3.6%	2,561	34.1%
Murray State University	8,607	8,361	8,179	8,249	8,429	8,664	8,891	9,172	281	3.2%	565	6.6%
Northern Kentucky University	12,668	12,725	13,030	13,206	13,517	13,322	13,344	13,116	(228)	-1.7%	448	3.5%
Western Kentucky University	16,067	16,508	16,966	17,645	17,827	17,975	18,115	17,517	(598)	-3.3%	1,450	9.0%
<b>Sector Total</b>	<b>60,821</b>	<b>61,388</b>	<b>61,998</b>	<b>63,279</b>	<b>64,174</b>	<b>65,773</b>	<b>66,254</b>	<b>66,102</b>	<b>(152)</b>	<b>-0.2%</b>	<b>5,281</b>	<b>8.7%</b>
KCTCS	86,475	92,828	89,942	100,348	106,664	108,302	96,914	92,365	(4,549)	-4.7%	5,890	6.8%
<b>System Total</b>	<b>181,727</b>	<b>188,171</b>	<b>186,423</b>	<b>198,463</b>	<b>206,644</b>	<b>209,999</b>	<b>199,939</b>	<b>196,113</b>	<b>(3,826)</b>	<b>-1.9%</b>	<b>14,386</b>	<b>7.9%</b>
Change from Prior Year	-	3.5%	-0.9%	6.5%	4.1%	1.6%	-4.8%	-1.9%				

Graduate									1-Year	1-Year	7-Year	7-Year
Institution	Fall 2006	Fall 2007	Fall 2008	Fall 2009	Fall 2010	Fall 2011	Fall 2012	Fall 2013	Number Change	Percent Change	Number Change	Percent Change
University of Kentucky	7,090	7,086	7,112	7,112	7,181	7,127	7,207	6,994	(213)	-3.0%	(96)	-1.4%
University of Louisville	6,005	5,841	5,557	5,704	5,757	5,714	5,653	5,620	(33)	-0.6%	(385)	-6.4%
<b>Sector Total</b>	<b>13,095</b>	<b>12,927</b>	<b>12,669</b>	<b>12,816</b>	<b>12,938</b>	<b>12,841</b>	<b>12,860</b>	<b>12,614</b>	<b>(246)</b>	<b>-1.9%</b>	<b>(481)</b>	<b>-3.7%</b>
Eastern Kentucky University	2,140	2,180	2,192	2,277	2,171	2,160	2,085	2,260	175	8.4%	120	5.6%
Kentucky State University	159	186	162	196	245	256	228	163	(65)	-28.5%	4	2.5%
Morehead State University	1,510	1,441	1,494	1,496	1,443	1,551	1,447	1,282	(165)	-11.4%	(228)	-15.1%
Murray State University	1,697	1,795	1,843	1,829	1,987	1,959	1,941	1,771	(170)	-8.8%	74	4.4%
Northern Kentucky University	1,970	2,082	2,079	2,199	2,231	2,416	2,316	2,167	(149)	-6.4%	197	10.0%
Western Kentucky University	2,597	2,757	2,795	3,067	3,076	3,073	3,009	2,939	(70)	-2.3%	342	13.2%
<b>Sector Total</b>	<b>10,073</b>	<b>10,441</b>	<b>10,565</b>	<b>11,064</b>	<b>11,153</b>	<b>11,415</b>	<b>11,026</b>	<b>10,582</b>	<b>(444)</b>	<b>-4.0%</b>	<b>509</b>	<b>5.1%</b>
<b>System Total</b>	<b>23,168</b>	<b>23,368</b>	<b>23,234</b>	<b>23,880</b>	<b>24,091</b>	<b>24,256</b>	<b>23,886</b>	<b>23,196</b>	<b>(690)</b>	<b>-2.9%</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>0.1%</b>
Change from Prior Year	-	0.9%	-0.6%	2.8%	0.9%	0.7%	-1.5%	-2.9%				

Source: CPE Comprehensive Database.

Note: Data does not include house staff and post-doctoral students at UK and UofL.



## University of Kentucky Construct Football Training Facilities and Practice Fields

**ACTION:** The staff recommends the Council approve the request by the University of Kentucky to construct Football Training Facilities and Practice Fields on the main campus with a total project scope of \$45,000,000, all of which will be funded with private funds.

The University of Kentucky proposes a project that will construct Football Training Facilities and Practice Fields for the University of Kentucky Department of Intercollegiate Athletics football program using \$45,000,000 of private funds. The project total scope is \$45,000,000. Private funds to implement the project are available. The University of Kentucky Department of Intercollegiate Athletics will fund the annual maintenance and operating costs associated with the project. The University of Kentucky Board of Trustees approved the project January 31, 2014.

This project will construct football training and practice facilities to include a new two-story structure and two practice fields with an adjoining drill area. The new facilities will be located at the east end of the existing Nutter Field House. The two-story structure for the football program will house administrative offices, locker spaces, team meeting areas, high performance and weight room spaces, equipment rooms, a hydrotherapy room, player locker rooms, lounge facilities, an academic lounge/study area, and an entrance lobby with enhanced visitor amenities. The project provides a comprehensive complex to support the entire football operation including Commonwealth Stadium and the Nutter Field House. Space in the Nutter training center that is currently used for the football program will then be available to serve the university student athletes participating in other sports.

The Council has the statutory responsibility to review and approve postsecondary education capital projects costing \$600,000 or more, and equipment items costing \$200,000 or more, regardless of fund source, that have been approved by an institution's governing board. During the interim, capital projects are evaluated under KRS 45.760 (5), (7) and KRS 45.763. The UK project meets the requirement of KRS 45.760 (5), (7) that the source of funds be at least 50 percent federal or private.

The process for a project that exceeds the thresholds:

- The project must be approved by the institution board of trustees or regents.

- The project is submitted to the Council on Postsecondary Education for review and action.
- For EKU, KCTCS, KSU, and MoSU, if action by CPE is affirmative, the project is submitted to the Secretary of the Finance and Administration Cabinet for review and action and subsequently submitted by the Secretary to the Capital Projects and Bond Oversight Committee for review.
- For MuSU, NKU, UK, UofL, and WKU, if action by CPE is affirmative, the project is submitted by the institution to the Capital Projects and Bond Oversight Committee for review and a copy provided to the Finance and Administration Cabinet as information.
- Following review and action by the appropriate agencies, the project may be initiated by the requesting institution.

The project requires interim action because the need for the new construction and funds to complete the project has come forward after the 2012-14 biennial budget was enacted. Authorization is needed to allow the university to properly design the project, complete the project bid process, award a contract, and complete the work. The university confirms that private funds are available for project implementation. The project will be implemented under the prevailing wage law.

The project meets the requirement of KRS 45.760(7) that the source of funds be at least 50 percent federal or private. The university does not anticipate debt financing any portion of this project, thus, the provisions of KRS 45.763 do not apply. The University of Kentucky Office of the Vice President for Facilities Management will implement the project.

Following Council action, staff will forward the Council's recommendation to the president of the University of Kentucky, the secretary of the Finance and Administration Cabinet, and the Capital Projects and Bond Oversight Committee.

Staff preparation by Shaun P. McKiernan and Sherron Jackson

## University of Louisville Renovate Delia Baxter Building (HSC)

**ACTION:** The staff recommends that the Council approve the request by the University of Louisville to renovate research space and create a clean room for cardiac research activities in the Delia Baxter Building at the Health Sciences Campus with a total project scope of \$2,500,000, all of which will be funded with private funds.

The University of Louisville proposes a project that will renovate existing research space and create a Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) certified clean room facility to support cardiac research activities using \$2,500,000 of private funds. The project total scope is \$2,500,000. The project cost estimate was determined by a consultant. There is no impact on the operating budget. The private funds required to implement the project are available. The University of Louisville Board of Trustees approved the project December 20, 2013.

This project will renovate approximately 2,000 square feet of existing research space in the Delia Baxter Building at the Health Science Campus to create a GMP certified clean room facility to support cardiac research activities. The renovation will include the creation of an FDA certified clean room facility and associated support areas for tissue processing.

The Council has the statutory responsibility to review and approve postsecondary education capital projects costing \$600,000 or more, and equipment items costing \$200,000 or more, regardless of fund source, that have been approved by an institution's governing board. During the interim, capital projects are evaluated under KRS 45.760 (5), (7) and KRS 45.763. The UofL project meets the requirement of KRS 45.760 (5), (7) that the source of funds be at least 50 percent federal or private.

The process for a project that exceeds the thresholds:

- The project must be approved by the institution board of trustees or regents.
- The project is submitted to the Council on Postsecondary Education for review and action.
- For EKU, KCTCS, KSU, and MoSU, if action by CPE is affirmative, the project is submitted to the Secretary of the Finance and Administration Cabinet for review and action and subsequently submitted by the Secretary to the Capital Projects and Bond Oversight Committee for review.

- For MuSU, NKU, UK, UofL, and WKU, if action by CPE is affirmative, the project is submitted by the institution to the Capital Projects and Bond Oversight Committee for review and a copy provided to the Finance and Administration Cabinet as information.
- Following review and action by the appropriate agencies, the project may be initiated by the requesting institution.

The project requires interim action because the need for the renovation and funds to complete the project has come forward after the 2012-14 biennial budget was enacted. Authorization is needed to allow the university to properly design the project, complete the project bid process, award a contract, and complete the work by fall 2014. The university confirms that the private funds are available for project implementation. The project will be implemented under the prevailing wage law.

The project meets the requirement of KRS 45.760(7) that the source of funds be at least 50 percent federal or private. The university does not anticipate debt financing any portion of this project, thus, the provisions of KRS 45.763 do not apply. The University of Louisville Office of the Vice President for Business Affairs will implement the project.

Following Council action, staff will forward the Council's recommendation to the president of the University of Louisville, the secretary of the Finance and Administration Cabinet, and the Capital Projects and Bond Oversight Committee.

Staff preparation by Shaun P. McKiernan and Sherron Jackson

## Committee on Equal Opportunities Report

The Committee on Equal Opportunities met Tuesday, January 28, 2014, in Frankfort, Kentucky. Following is the status of initiatives, recurring activities, and discussions related to the Committee on Equal Opportunities.

**2014 Diversity Plan Assessment Reports:** The Kentucky Public Postsecondary Education Diversity Policy and Framework for Institution Diversity Plan Development requires that all public institutions submit an annual assessment report that highlights the progress of their campus-based diversity plans. The second assessments were presented to the Council's Committee on Equal Opportunities at the January CEO meeting. The reports assessed advances made, as well as areas that require attention, using 2011 data in comparison to 2012. The diversity plan assessment reports addressed four areas:

- Student body diversity
- Student success/Achievement gaps
- Workforce diversity
- Campus climate

Reports were submitted by each of the public universities. The assessment report for the Kentucky Community and Technical College System had not been reviewed and finalized by KCTCS administrators at the time of the CEO agenda book development and will be presented at the March CEO meeting. The results of the assessments follow:

**Undergraduate Enrollment:** Increases in undergraduate enrollment were noted for two groups: African Americans and Hispanics. Five universities saw an increase in African American enrollment, while seven universities saw an increase in Hispanic enrollment.

**Graduate Enrollment:** Graduate enrollment data indicated that six universities reported an increase in Hispanic graduate enrollment, while two universities saw an increase in African American, American Indian, and Native Hawaiian graduate enrollment. Additional attention is needed to increase enrollment in the three racial groups.

**Retention:** The statewide diversity policy requires institutions to report on student success and closing the achievement gap by presenting retention, graduation rates, degrees and credentials awarded, and transfer data. Four institutions reported an increase in first to second year retention for African Americans, and two institutions reported an increase for Hispanics.

Four universities reported an increase in the second to third year retention of Hispanics, and three universities reported an increase in the second to third year retention of African American students.

**Degrees/Credentials Awarded:** At the associate degree level, no university highlighted the total number of associate degrees awarded. Two universities noted an increase in bachelor's degrees awarded to African Americans and Hispanics. KSU reported an overall increase in degrees/credentials awarded between 2011 and 2012.

**STEM-H:** Mixed results were noted for STEM-H diverse enrollment and degrees awarded. Six universities noted an increase in degrees awarded or an increase in enrollment for Hispanic students, while three universities reported increases for African Americans. This is one of several areas that require additional attention.

**Transfer:** Several institutions reported an increase in student transfers from KCTCS to the four-year institutions. Five institutions reported increases for African American and Hispanic transfers. Overall, the universities are making steady progress in this area. KCTCS administrators continue to partner with four-year institutions to transition students to their campuses. For example, MARCH TRANSFER MADNESS will take place in the next few weeks. CPE, in partnership with KCTCS, launched the inaugural online college fair in March 2013.

**Workforce Diversity: Executive, Administrative, and Managerial:** The executive, administrative, and managerial category consists of positions where policy decisions that impact students of diverse backgrounds are made. Four universities noted increases in African American representation. Two universities reported no change for Hispanic representation.

**Faculty:** A diverse faculty benefits majority as well as minority students by serving as role models and mentors for all students. The assessment reports were mixed in this category. Overall, the universities reported a decrease in diversity among faculty members. An increase was noted in African American representation at three universities, while Hispanic representation increased at four.

**Tenured Faculty:** The number of tenured African American faculty at Kentucky's postsecondary institutions ranged from seven to forty-four, while tenured Hispanic faculty ranged from two to twenty-one. KSU noted that forty-seven white faculty members and twenty African American faculty members earned tenure while forty-nine faculty are on tenure track, according to their report.

**Professional Staff:** The category of professional staff showed an increase for two ethnic groups: African Americans and Hispanics. The original category of professional staff was divided into multiple categories as a result of the IPEDS reclassification.

**Diverse representation on the Boards:** There are seven African American board members at KSU, two at UofL, and one each at the remaining universities. One American Indian/Alaskan Native serves on the KSU board.

**Conclusion of Diversity Plan Assessment:** Overall, Kentucky's public postsecondary education system has made steady progress in the area of student, faculty, staff and board diversity. Several institutions continue to be challenged in the areas of student success, specifically in the areas of retention, degrees/credentials awarded, and graduation rates for underrepresented minority students. Several universities also are challenged in area of workforce diversity, particularly in areas of leadership. The Kentucky higher education system can become a leader in diversity and inclusion at the national level through collaboration, sharing best practices, and promoting campus diversity across the Commonwealth.

**Governor's Minority Student College Preparation Program:** The annual GMSCPP Statewide Conference will be hosted by Eastern Kentucky University June 25-26, 2014. Murray State University will host the 27<sup>TH</sup> Annual Academically Proficient High School Junior and Senior Diversity Conference June 13-14, 2014. Both conferences are expected to attract a diverse group of students from across the Commonwealth.

**SREB Doctoral Scholars Program:** A total of 18 SREB Doctoral Scholars, graduates, and faculty attended the January 28 CEO meeting. Representative Derrick Graham, chair of the Education Committee, also attended the meeting. The scholars made introductions in addition to briefly discussing their area of research, the impact of the program on majority students, and the benefits of participating in the program.

Planning for the fall 2014 Teaching and Mentoring Institute took place during a meeting of the state Doctoral Scholars Regional Advisory Committee, January 31 - February 1, 2014. The 2014 Teaching and Mentoring Institute will be held October 30 - November 2, 2014, in Atlanta, Georgia.

The institute is designed for scholars currently supported by the Kentucky Doctoral Scholars Program. The Kentucky program is implemented collaboratively by the Council, the University of Kentucky, and the University of Louisville, to help students complete the doctorate more quickly and to encourage them to go into the professoriate. As of January 2014, 28 students are currently matriculating at Kentucky institutions, 32 percent of these students are in the STEM areas, and there are 74 graduates.

**CEO Meeting Dates:** The CEO meeting dates for 2014 are March 24, May 19, and October 20.

Staff preparation by Rana Johnson

# INSTITUTIONAL DIVERSITY PLAN ASSESSMENT UPDATE



**Presentation to the Council on Postsecondary Education**

**Rana Johnson, PhD**

**Chief Diversity Officer**

**February 14, 2014**





# STUDENT BODY DIVERSITY

## Increases in Undergraduate & Graduate Student Enrollment

- Between 2011 and 2012, six of eight universities noted an increase in diverse undergraduate student enrollment.
- Results were consistent with figures reported between 2010 and 2011 for the same institutions.
- Four of the eight universities reported an increase in diverse graduate student enrollment between 2011 and 2012; two declined from the previous year.
- Six of the eight universities noted increases between 2010 and 2011.

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# STUDENT SUCCESS: Closing the Achievement Gap

## Transfers from KCTCS to 4-Year Universities

- Five of eight universities reported increases in diverse student transfers from 2011 to 2012.
- A total of five universities noted increases for both African American and Hispanic/Latino.



# **WORKFORCE DIVERSITY**

## **Executive/Administrative/Managerial**

- Four of eight universities reported an increase in this category for both 2011-12 and 2012-13.
- African American representation remained the same, while Hispanic representation declined.

## **Faculty**

- Overall, the number of diverse faculty members at Kentucky's public universities declined at five of eight universities from 2011 to 2012.
- The number of Hispanic/Latino faculty increased between 2011 and 2012, while the number of African American faculty members declined.
- A decrease in diverse tenured faculty was reported from 2011 to 2012.

## **Professional Staff**

- The overall representation of diverse professional staff declined between 2011 and 2012.
- Increases were reported for both African American and Hispanic/Latino from 2011 to 2012, at three universities.



# Conclusion

## INSTITUTIONAL DIVERSITY PLAN ASSESSMENTS

- Overall, Kentucky's public universities have made considerable progress addressing student enrollment.
- Universities must focus greater attention on diverse student retention and graduation initiatives.
- Workforce diversity must receive greater attention at all levels, particularly the Executive, Administrative, and Managerial levels, as well as Faculty.
- Universities must collaborate and share best practices in areas where they have noted continued progress.
- Overall, Kentucky's public universities have made steady progress in the area of diversity, but still have work to do.

# INSTITUTIONAL DIVERSITY PLAN ASSESSMENT UPDATE



**Presentation to the Council on Postsecondary Education**

**Rana Johnson, PhD**

**Chief Diversity Officer**

**February 14, 2014**

Council on Postsecondary Education  
February 14, 2014

## **Committee Appointments**

The chair will appoint the members of the Council's Executive Committee. This committee consists of the chair, vice chair, and three other members who serve one-year terms.

Staff preparation by Heather Bingham



## News from the Association of Independent Kentucky Colleges & Universities February 2014

### 5 private colleges award nearly 1,500 degrees at mid-year commencements

Congratulations to our newest alumni! Five AIKCU members—**Bellarmino University, Berea College, Campbellsville University, Lindsey Wilson College, and Mid-Continent University**—held commencement ceremonies in December. Together, they awarded nearly 1,500 degrees. More: <http://www.aikcu.org/2014/01/27/aikcu-members-award-nearly-1500-degrees-during-winter-commencements/>



*Photo courtesy of Lindsey Wilson College.*

### AIKCU distributes \$48,000 in UPS Scholarships

AIKCU recently distributed \$48,000 in ‘UPS Scholarships’ to help students fulfill their educational goals at Kentucky private colleges. One student at each of AIKCU’s 20 member institutions received a \$2,400 UPS Scholarship thanks to a grant from the UPS Foundation administered by the Council of Independent Colleges in Washington, DC. To qualify, recipients had to be full-time undergraduates and either first-generation, low-income, minority, or new American students. More at <http://www.aikcu.org/2014/01/14/aikcu-distributes-48000-in-ups-scholarships-3/>

### Centre College English professor Mark Lucas named 2013 Kentucky Professor of the Year

Dr. Mark Lucas, an English professor in his 33<sup>rd</sup> year of teaching at **Centre College** and a Centre alumnus, was named the 2013 Kentucky Professor of the Year by the Council for the Advancement of and Support of Education (CASE) and the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. Read more at <http://www.centre.edu/centres-mark-lucas-named-case-kentucky-professor-of-the-year/>.



For the latest AIKCU news, visit <http://aikcu.org/newsroom>



## News from the Association of Independent Kentucky Colleges & Universities February 2014

### **AIKCU joins statewide '15 to Finish' campaign to promote timely graduation**

AIKCU has joined with Kentucky's public institutions and the Council on Postsecondary Education to spread the message that taking at least 15 hours per semester is one of the keys to timely graduation. **Lindsey Wilson College** senior Emily Ramage (pictured) was one of two college seniors who spoke at the launch of Kentucky's '15 to Finish' campaign at the Capitol on January 8.



More: <http://www.aikcu.org/2014/01/10/aikcu-joins-statewide-15-to-finish-campaign-to-promote-timely-graduation/>

### **Alice Lloyd College partners to create Entrepreneur Academy for young professionals in East Kentucky**

Alice Lloyd College's Entrepreneurial Development Program is teaming up with Young Professionals of East Kentucky (YPEK) and the Kentucky Innovation Network office at Morehead State University to launch an Entrepreneur Academy designed to help young professionals in East Kentucky. More: <http://www.alc.edu/2014/01/alice-lloyd-college-partners-to-create-entrepreneur-academy-for-young-professionals/>

### **Asbury University announces new School of Business**

Asbury University has announced that it will launch a new school of business, providing a home within Asbury's liberal arts curriculum for business majors, minors and a new online MBA program. Asbury will officially celebrate the opening of the new school with an event on March 28. Learn more: <http://www.asbury.edu/academics/departments/business-econ/news/2014/01/16/21082>

For the latest AIKCU news, visit <http://aikcu.org/newsroom>

# EKU Report

Eastern Kentucky University News for the Council on Postsecondary Education

February 2014



## Plans Underway for New Education Complex

It was established more than a century ago to prepare teachers for Kentucky's schools.

Now, early in its second century of service, EKU is ready to take another bold step officials believe will result in a state-of-the-art teacher preparation program as well as develop 21st century skills in students attending Model Laboratory School.

EKU President Michael Benson, speaking recently to a group of approximately 150 faculty members, parents and community members at Model, unveiled architect's renderings for an \$83 million complex that would physically integrate the College of Education and the P-12 laboratory school.

"Our teacher education program has been at the heart of this university for over 100 years," Benson said. "This new complex will allow us to prepare the next generation for the rapid changes in the field of education."

Fittingly, the 279,000-square-foot complex would be constructed at the corner of the Eastern By-Pass and Lancaster Avenue and be one of the first facilities drivers see as they approach the campus from the west.

"This new facility for our Model Laboratory School is of vital importance for several reasons," Benson said. "First, our roots as an institution are in teacher education. Second, Model Lab is the last of its kind in the state and one of the few remaining in the country and continues to be an example of what can be accomplished. Third, the corner of Lancaster and the By-Pass is the grand entrance to campus and this is our chance to make a very significant – and impactful – statement with this new facility. Lastly, Model has meant so much to many in our community and we need to construct a new facility that will last for the next 50 years."

## Doctoral Program in Nursing Practice Accredited

The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program at EKU has earned full national accreditation.

The program was granted a full, five-year accreditation as a new program by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). Accreditation by the CCNE, an autonomous accrediting agency of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) and officially recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and the Kentucky Board of Nursing indicates that Eastern's DNP program "meets high standards of quality and integrity" in doctoral nursing education, according to Dr. Mary DeLetter, program coordinator.

"This accreditation is seen by students, graduates and employers as a mark of quality," DeLetter continued, "indicating ... rigorous standards in the development, implementation and evaluation of the curriculum and student outcomes, based on the AACN's Essentials of Doctoral Education for Advanced Nursing Practice."

## EKU Earns National Honor for Practices in Student Learning Outcomes

EKU is among only three institutions nationally to receive the 2014 Award for Outstanding Institutional Practice in Student Learning Outcomes, awarded by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).

The 2014 CHEA Award recognizes EKU's student learning outcomes activities, including measurement and communication, as evidenced by an annual Assurance of Learning Day, where faculty share information and ideas about program strengths and weaknesses, learning outcomes and changes that might enhance learning.

"These institutions and programs exemplify the efforts being undertaken by colleges and universities nationwide to develop and implement effective approaches to the use of student learning outcomes," said CHEA President Judith Eaton.

## Online Education Program Ranks Among Best in U.S.

EKU is ranked among the best in the U.S. News & World Report's recently announced 2014 Best Online Education Program Rankings. EKU is the highest-ranking Kentucky school among Best Online Bachelor's Degree Programs and one of only two Kentucky schools to rank in the top 100 for Online Graduate Education Programs and Online Graduate Nursing Programs.

"Since our first online course was offered in 2006, we have aimed for excellence in online education," said Dr. Janna Vice, provost. "We are extremely proud of our faculty, staff and students for achieving these honors."

Nationally, EKU ranked 77th among Best Online Bachelor's Degree Programs, 79th among Online Graduate Nursing Programs and 93rd among Online Graduate Education Programs.



## Water Tanks Will Proclaim Town-Gown Pride

Four water tanks scattered across the ECU campus and the City of Richmond will soon promote the University and proclaim town-gown pride.

Eastern and the City have partnered to have the tanks repainted as part of an overall branding effort promoting Richmond as the proud home of ECU. The University will cover the cost of applying the logos to the tanks, which are owned and managed by the City.

ECU President Michael Benson said “one of the first things I noticed” upon arriving in Richmond from Southern Utah University was the water towers. “Given the water tables out west, we never had towers in our southern Utah community. They certainly have utility and perform an incredibly valuable function, but they should also be a point of pride while providing a unique chance to promote a name and a brand.

“The painting on our water towers needs to be updated,” he continued, “and also needs to show the inextricable tie to our community and to the City of Richmond. I think folks will like the designs and will appreciate the chance to underscore the connection between the University and our greater community.”

Richmond Mayor Jim Barnes said the partnership “allows the public to see us working together and having the true connection between the city and University. It’s the beginning of an exciting future for Eastern and a City of Richmond that continues to progress in growth.”



Richmond Mayor Jim Barnes (L) and President Benson

## Energy Savings Project Pays Big Dividends

Despite the addition of the New Science Building and the Center for the Performing Arts and the inevitable rate increases, overall utility costs have changed little at ECU over the last two years.

Credit the University’s Energy Savings Performance Contract (ESPC) with Siemens Building Technologies.

Five years ago, Eastern contracted with Siemens for an extensive \$27 million ESPC, the largest such contract in state history at the time, to promote long-term sustainability, reduce the University’s impact on the environment, and dramatically reduce utility costs. The contract allowed the University to address widespread deferred maintenance issues in campus facilities while leaving capital budgets intact. Facilities upgrades included energy-efficient lighting, water-conserving technologies, and HVAC retrofits and efficiency improvements, including greater building automation.

The ESPC was funded without additional taxpayer dollars, as costs associated with the improvements were financed over 12 years using the contractually guaranteed energy savings, based on current utility consumption projections. (If the expected cost reductions are not met, Siemens agreed to reimburse the University for any shortfall.)

This past fiscal year alone (July 2012-June 2013), ECU realized approximately \$3.2 million in utility cost and operational savings at baseline rates (the rates at the time the contract was signed). That figure jumps to \$4.2 million at current rates. In either case, the University is running “ahead of the curve” relative to the guaranteed savings, according to Barry Poynter, vice president for finance and administration.

“This was a great way to do all these improvements in short order and see they would be paid for in 12 years,” Poynter said. “Partnering with Siemens allowed us to expedite the work and not have to dedicate our own manpower, which would have taken longer for us to begin realizing savings.”

ECU’s annual utility bill runs approximately \$8 million, up just 4 percent from 2008-09 expenditures. In addition to the arts center and New Science Building, which came on line in 2011 and 2012, respectively, the University this year opened another large residence hall.

The largest chunk of the \$4.2 million in savings based on current utility rates came, not surprisingly, from electricity (approximately \$1.7 million). Approximate savings from other utility categories this past fiscal year were: natural gas, \$710,000; coal, \$430,000; water, \$220,000; and sewer, \$900,000. Operational savings totaled \$237,250.

## Graduation, Freshman Retention Rates Up

By a number of key measures, things are looking up at ECU.

Graduation rates? Up.

Freshman retention rate? Up.

Diversity among the student body? Up.

Average high school GPA and ACT scores for first-time freshmen? Up.

Little wonder the same can be said for excitement and enthusiasm on the Richmond campus, even at a time when overall enrollment is holding steady.

“We’re not yet where we want to be with graduation and retention rates, but we’re trending in the right direction,” said Dr. Elizabeth Wachtel, interim Vice President for Student Success. “It’s encouraging that all our hard work university-wide is starting to pay off, and it’s going to take continued diligence and hard work to continue to get positive results.”

One of the more dramatic jumps at ECU is in the four-year graduation rate, which is up from 19.7 percent a year ago to 23.5 percent this year, according to preliminary figures. For comparison, the four-year graduation rate for freshmen beginning in Fall 2000 was 9.4 percent. The rise in the four-year rate is especially significant, Wachtel said, because it shows students are graduating more quickly, thereby accumulating less debt.

The University’s five-year graduation rate is now 36.2 percent, up from 32.9 percent a year ago, and its six-year graduation rate is 39.1 percent, up from 37.5 percent a year ago.

Meanwhile, the freshman retention rate (measuring first-time freshmen continuing to their second fall term) stands at 69.6 percent, up from 64.1 percent just a year ago.

The improvements stem from a “very intentional” approach to identify critical markers of success early in a student’s academic progress, Wachtel said. For example, this fall Academic Advising and the Registrar’s Office are working with faculty and Academic Readiness and Testing staff to conduct the first 4th Week Progress Report for students. The report, which replaces the former Early Alert system, notifies students in the fourth week of a term of satisfactory or unsatisfactory progress, attendance issues, or need for tutoring.

# KCTCS GOOD NEWS REPORT

HIGHER EDUCATION BEGINS HERE

FEBRUARY 2014



## ASPEN INSTITUTE NAMES FOUR KCTCS COLLEGES IN TOP 150 COLLEGES ELIGIBLE FOR 2015 ASPEN PRIZE

The Aspen Institute College Excellence Program has selected four Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS) colleges as among the nation's 150 best community colleges. The colleges include: Hazard Community and Technical College (HCTC), Madisonville Community College (MCC), Southeast Kentucky Community and Technical College (SKCTC) and West Kentucky Community and Technical College (WKCTC).

The KCTCS colleges were chosen from nearly 1,000 community colleges nationwide based on performance and improvement in the following areas: graduation rates, degrees awarded, student retention rates and equity in student outcomes. The colleges will now compete for the prestigious \$1 million Aspen Prize by demonstrating high standards for learning, college completion without delay, and proving to be excellent training grounds for jobs that pay competitive wages, following a year-long research process.

"This is an incredible honor for our four colleges and our System," said KCTCS President Michael B. McCall. "This recognition further qualifies the vital work KCTCS colleges are doing to prepare our students for the high demand occupations of the 21st century."

"Community colleges have tremendous power to change lives, and their success will increasingly define our nation's economic strength and the potential for social mobility for every American," said Josh Wyner, Executive Director of the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program. "This competition is designed to spotlight the excellent work being done in the most effective community colleges, those that best help students obtain meaningful, high-quality education and training for competitive-wage jobs after college. We hope it will raise the bar and provide a roadmap for community colleges nationwide."

KCTCS selected colleges are now eligible to submit applications containing detailed data on degree/certificate completion (including progress and transfer rates), labor market outcomes (employment and earnings), and student learning outcomes. They must demonstrate that they deliver exceptional student results for all students – including those who come from racial minority and/or low-income backgrounds – and also use data to inform decisions and continually improve over time.

Ten finalists will be named in fall 2014. The Aspen Institute will then conduct site visits to each of the finalists and collect additional quantitative data, including employment and earnings data from states and transfer data from the National Student Clearinghouse. A distinguished prize jury will select a grand prize winner and a few finalists with distinction in early 2015.

The 2013 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence was awarded to co-winners Santa Barbara City College (California) and Walla Walla Community College (Washington). Valencia College (Florida) was the inaugural Aspen Prize winner in 2011.

For a complete list of the 150 eligible community colleges for 2015 Aspen Prize, visit [AspenInstitute.org](http://AspenInstitute.org).



Top: The Machine Tool Technology program at SKCTC was developed from employer input - employers who know the demand for fabricators of machined parts, specialized tooling molds, dies, and prototypes.

Bottom: WKCTC is committed to facilitating the growth of students through extracurricular activities. The college features a planned program of cultural, recreational, organized interest and individual student activities.



Top: HCTC students are learning how to be Computer Aided Drafters - technical specialists with broad-based skills for architectural, civil, mechanical, and manufacturing fields.

Bottom: Students at MCC prepare to assume the role of a graduate practical nurse.



# GOV. BESHEAR LAUNCHES INITIATIVE TO TRANSFORM STATE'S WORKFORCE DELIVERY SYSTEM

A highly-skilled workforce is the engine that drives Kentucky's economy. To ensure the strength of the Commonwealth's current and future workforce, Gov. Steve Beshear announced the creation of WorkSmart Kentucky, an initiative to provide employers efficient, quality, and seamless workforce services and resources all in one place.

Through a team of business service specialists, WorkSmart Kentucky partners with new and existing companies to match employer needs with available workforce resources. Qualifying companies within the Commonwealth will be eligible for recruitment and job screening services at no cost.

In addition, flexible grant funding will be available to offset the costs of customized and in-house training needs, to establish apprenticeship programs, and to provide free safety and OSHA training.

The initiative is a partnership of workforce professionals from the state's Cabinet for Economic Development, Education and Workforce Development Cabinet, Labor Cabinet, and the Kentucky Community and Technical College System.

"What we've found is that companies don't care about program or agency names; they just want results," said Gov. Beshear. "By strategically aligning our state workforce resources, we're now able to provide a comprehensive, solutions-based approach to our workforce delivery system. This will not only allow us to better meet the needs of our existing employers but will also create a distinct advantage for the state's business recruitment efforts."

WorkSmart Kentucky is committed to delivering quality workforce services that are both flexible and efficient. Regardless of the company size or location in Kentucky, the newly-created statewide network of WorkSmart teams will provide solutions-based resources that match the needs of Kentucky's business clients. WorkSmart professionals are tasked with identifying the specific workforce needs of each company, customizing flexible recruitment and training solutions, and implementing quality services in a timely fashion.

In 2013 the state, in conjunction with its workforce partners, provided training for nearly 85,000 Kentuckians from a variety of industry sectors, including manufacturing, health care, information technology, energy, distribution, and research and development. In addition, pre-employment services were provided to more than 95,000 individuals and 2,650 companies in the Commonwealth.

"While other states might receive more recognition for their workforce programs, the numbers show Kentucky is already leading the charge in employee recruitment and development," said Cabinet for Economic Development Secretary Larry Hayes. "WorkSmart Kentucky will allow the Commonwealth to further build on that success by aligning our resources. This initiative will take our hiring and training capabilities to the next level."

"This is all about the people of Kentucky. Skilled and talented workers are what companies need; and businesses will come here and stay here if they have easy access to an educated, skilled, and talented workforce," said Kentucky Labor Cabinet Secretary Larry Roberts. "WorkSmart Kentucky provides a chance for business, industry, and government to work together to assure Kentucky's workforce possesses the skills required to meet the needs of employers."

"Our mission is to provide Kentuckians with the education and training they need to succeed in today's evolving economy," said KCTCS President Michael B. McCall. "WorkSmart Kentucky builds on our existing programs and partnerships, positioning the Commonwealth to become recognized as a national leader in creating innovative approaches to meet the needs of both our citizens and business and industry."

For more information on WorkSmart Kentucky, visit [www.WorkSmartKentucky.com](http://www.WorkSmartKentucky.com).





## KENTUCKY STATE UNIVERSITY

### KSU Moves To A Level 5 Degree-Granting Institution

Kentucky State University has been approved by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to move from a Level III to Level V degree-granting institution.

Level V institutions can offer one to three doctoral degrees as their highest degrees, while Level III institutions offer the master's degree as their highest degree. SACS is the regional

body for the accreditation of degree-granting higher education institutions in the Southern states.

“We are excited about the possibility of offering doctoral programs at KSU,” said Dr. Joel Thierstein, provost and vice president for academic affairs. “For us who have been associated with the campus for a long time, this is a great source of pride.”

### College of Agriculture, Food Science and Sustainable Systems Celebrates Recent Accomplishments



Dr. Marion Simon and Louie Rivers Jr. (middle) of Kentucky State University's College of Agriculture, Food Science and Sustainable Systems, along with several others on the Third Thursday Thing team, accepted the 2013 United States Secretary of Agriculture's Honor Award on Dec. 11 in Washington D.C. The team received the award for developing and sustaining an educational program that empowers farmers and positively impacts the quality of life and economic vitality of rural communities.

The College of Agriculture, Food Science and Sustainable Systems established Eddy Covariance instrumentation at KSU's Research and Demonstration Farm on Dec. 4, 2013. The instrumentation will benefit the state by providing open-access, uniformed, real-time microclimate data for environmental and weather monitoring and for long-term climate studies and other ecosystems research in central Kentucky.



The College of Agriculture, Food Science and Sustainable Systems recently launched the Thorobred Nutrition Kitchen in Jefferson County. It is a 24-foot commercial kitchen created with the goal of providing education on nutrition and healthy cooking to communities and families. The kitchen is intended to make healthy foods more accessible, especially in urban neighborhoods.



# KSU Graduates Receive Advice From State Representative

Graduates received their degrees from their various disciplines during Kentucky State University's third fall commencement on Dec. 14.

The graduates, their families and friends, and KSU faculty, staff and administrators filled Bradford Hall's Carl H. Smith Auditorium as Rep. Derrick Graham shared both encouragement and advice from his years as a teacher and state legislator.

"Each of you has had the extraordinary experience of college life," Graham said. "Each of your stories is unique."



*State Rep. Derrick Graham*





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## Dr. Mayim Bialik makes “Big Bang” at MSU



A crowd of nearly 2,500 attended Dr. Mayim Bialik’s lecture Thursday, Jan. 30, as part of the President’s Performing Arts and Speakers Program.

She currently plays Amy Farrah Fowler on ‘The Big Bang Theory.’

Dr. Bialik received her B.S. degree in Neuroscience and Hebrew and Jewish Studies from UCLA in 2000 and earned a

Ph.D. degree in Neuroscience in 2007 from UCLA, specializing in Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder in adolescents with Prader-Willi syndrome.

The President’s Performing Arts and Speakers Program (PASP) was created to enhance the vitality of MSU and to expand the intellectual engagement of the University’s students, faculty and staff, and community.

## ROTC cadets selected to CULP

MSU’s ROTC program had eight sophomore cadets compete and selected for summer deployments in support of the U.S. Army Cadet Command Cultural Understand and Language Proficiency Program (CULP). The cadets selected will be deployed to and support either Humanitarian Operations or Cadet English Language Training Team (CELTT) missions.

The quality of MSU’s program is nationally known with a number of cadets highly ranked according to the “National Order of Merit” list. For example, in 2006-07, MSU Cadet Shannon Niki Martin was ranked third out of 3,806 cadets from 272 universities across the nation. In 2010-11, MSU Cadet Commander Wesley Tudor was ranked number one out of 5,342 cadets from 272 universities across the nation.

## Fall Commencement recognizes nearly 650 degree candidates

MSU honored nearly 650 degree candidates at its fall commencement ceremonies on Saturday, Dec. 14, at the Academic-Athletic Center.

Amy Lane Storner of Lexington was the student speaker. She began attending MSU in 2010 as a transfer student from Eastern Kentucky University, 11 years after graduating from Lafayette Senior High School.

James H. Booth and Linda D. Booth were presented honorary degrees during the ceremony.



Following the ceremony, the newest alumni were inducted into the MSU Alumni Association Inc., by its president, Sen. Robin Webb of Grayson.

## MSU continues commitment to SOAR

MSU President Wayne D. Andrews led a delegation of nearly three dozen MSU faculty and staff to the “SOAR – Shaping Our Appalachian Region” Summit held Monday, Dec. 9, at the East Kentucky Expo Center in Pikeville.

The one-day event was the result of a bi-partisan effort led by Gov. Steve Beshear and U.S. Congressman Harold “Hal” Rogers to discuss the future of Eastern Kentucky.

An estimated 1,000 people attended and discussed job creation and retention, diversifying the regional economy, education, tourism, infrastructure, healthcare and other topics.

Dr. Andrews and Johnathan Gay, director of the Innovation and Commercialization Center, represented Morehead State on the planning committee.

## Cheer squad claims national championship

Morehead State University’s cheerleading team claimed the 2014 All-Girl Division I National Championship and placed second in the Division I coed competition at the Universal Cheerleaders Association College Nationals.

The win by the all-girl squad was the 35th championship in the history of the program. MSU narrowly missed its 24th coed championship in school history after finishing as the runner-up to Delaware.

The Morehead State dance team also competed at the Universal Dance Association College Nationals for the second time in 13 years.



## New MSU Paducah Regional Campus facility opens

The new facility for the Murray State University Paducah Regional Campus officially opened on Tuesday, Jan. 7. A Grand Opening for the all-new Crisp Center featured tours of the new building and information on programs of study that are available to both first-time students and those looking at returning to college. A special task force was created by the MSU board of regents in 2007 to study options for the expansion of programs, services and facilities to better meet undergraduate completion and graduate education needs in the Paducah and McCracken County area. Murray State partnered with McCracken County, the City of Paducah and the Paducah Economic Development Council in bringing the campus to life.

## \$450,000 grant provides opportunity to "Test Drive a Racer"

The Jesse D. Jones College of Science, Engineering and Technology is the recipient of a \$450,000 grant award from the James Graham Brown Foundation for a new "Internship and Professional Practice" program. Known informally as "Test Drive a Racer," the program funds will provide paid internship experiences for 30 students each summer. The initiative will begin this summer — regional agencies and industries will be invited to "test drive" Murray State students. The university is offering to pay each intern's salary for the first summer of employment. The industry partner is then asked to take on a student and provide a matching stipend in the following summer, which doubles the impact of the grant. To participate, students must be pursuing a degree in the science, technology, engineering or mathematics (STEM) disciplines.

## Murray dean wins national ACTE award

Dr. Tony Brannon was named the national Outstanding Career and Technical Educator by the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE). He is the dean of the MSU Hutson School of Agriculture. The national award recognizes career and technical educators, other than full-time teachers, who have provided significant contributions to professional associations and career and technical education programs for youth and/or adults in their states.



## MSU wins with Canvas change

ConnectKentucky honored the state's technology leaders at its 2013



Tech Day. The Postsecondary Institution Technology Award went to Murray State University's Center for Teaching, Learning and Technology for the recent upgrade of its Learning Management System to Canvas. The change was radical and extensive, and included faculty in the decision-making process.

## Murray launches new doctor of education degree

The college of education announced a new, innovative graduate degree program to begin next fall. A new "Doctor of Education in P-20 & Community Leadership" provides education leaders at all levels with the opportunity to pursue advanced study. Specializations in pK-12 and postsecondary education are available. The specialization in STEM Leadership gives the degree a distinctive focus. The offering of the degree program through Murray provides unprecedented access to a terminal degree for the education community in West Kentucky.

## U.S. News ranking recognizes quality of online M.B.A.

*U.S. News & World Report* recognized Murray State as having one of the 2014 Best Online Business Master's Programs in the country. MSU was the top-ranked university of the four Kentucky schools in the listing, coming in at #46.

## MSU a top school for veterans

Murray State is on the *U.S. News* list of "Best Colleges for Veterans." The rankings feature 10 separate categories; Murray State University is ranked #4 in the Regional Universities (South) category, ranking ahead of the three other schools in Kentucky that appeared on the list.



## **MSU “off the chain” as a top Chainless Challenge finisher**

Murray State won first place in two of the three races in the 2013 Parker Chainless Challenge in Irvine, Calif. Chainless Challenge is a hydraulic bicycle design competition that “challenges” engineering and engineering technology students to create an innovative design and develop a bicycle that will transfer riders’ manual power to the driving wheel through safe, biodegradable hydraulic fluid without using a traditional chain or other direct drive mechanisms.

## **Freshman places high in national FFA competition**

Rachel Ross, Murray State freshman, placed fifth in the nation in the FFA National Job Interview Career Development Event at the 86th National FFA Convention and Expo in Louisville.

## **University alumnus honored by Albanian government**

The government of Albania bestowed on Diplomatic Security Special Agent Barry Hale its Medal of Honor for distinguished service in support of the Albanian State Police. The award is the highest honor the Albanian government can confer upon a foreign official, and it also marks the first time the Albanian government has so honored a U.S. Embassy employee. Hale earned his B.S. and master’s degrees at Murray State University.

## **Celebrating reservoir research milestones**

Murray State’s Watershed Studies Institute and Hancock Biological Station marked two milestones last fall — the 25th anniversary of its long-term monitoring program on Kentucky Lake and the 500th monitoring cruise associated with that program.

## **Murray students unlock the secrets of the past**

Murray students conducted an archaeological research study at the Backusburg Mounds archaeological site in Calloway County, Ky., with the permission of The Archaeological Conservancy, which owns the site. Dr. Anthony Ortmann, associate professor of geosciences, was in charge of the fieldwork and was assisted by Dr. Kit Wesler, anthropology professor.

## **Muuka presents strategic planning at workshop in the South Pacific**

Dr. Gerry N. Muuka, associate dean in the Arthur J. Bauernfeind College of Business, spoke at a business workshop in Port Moresby, capital of Papua New Guinea in the South Pacific, on “Micro and Macro Level Strategic Planning in Papua New Guinea: Contemporary Perspectives.”



## **Van Horn elected ACHE president**

Dr. Brian Van Horn, dean of the Center for Continuing Education and Academic Outreach, was elected president of the Association for Continuing Higher Education (ACHE) at its Annual Conference and Meeting in Lexington. The Association for Continuing Higher Education began in 1939 as the Association of University Evening Colleges. Today, it has become an organization dedicated to serving the entire spectrum of continuing higher education in the United States and internationally. The Association for Continuing Higher Education is an organization of professionals from adult continuing education units worldwide, along with other industry professionals whose primary interest is adult continuing education.

## **Journalism student chosen for reporting fellowship**

Lexy Gross, an MSU journalism student, was selected a 2014 Roy W. Howard National Reporting Fellow. She is one of nine students nationwide chosen for the program; they will receive an all-expense paid trip to Japan to tour media and historical landmarks.





# GOLD RUSH

FEB 2014 NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY



## GO FIGURE



➔ \$800,000

Investment Toyota has made in NKU's Next Generation STEM Classroom program, which works with elementary and middle school teachers to strengthen STEM education.

➔ 647

Number of high school students enrolled in NKU classes through the School-Based Scholars program. The university hopes to enroll 1,000 students by fall 2016.

➔ 350

Number of Northern Kentucky middle schoolers who recently participated in the annual Middle School Leadership Symposium at NKU.



## NKU BOARD APPROVES FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

The NKU Board of Regents has approved a five-year strategic plan that will guide the institution through its 50th anniversary in 2018.

"This plan, which was created by the entire university community, will build upon our existing strengths, while promoting further innovation and creativity," NKU President Geoffrey Mearns said. "But a plan is only as good as its implementation. It is the combination of planning and execution that will define our impact – and distinguish our university."

The plan, titled "Fuel the Flame: The 2013-18 Strategic Plan for Northern Kentucky University," focuses on student success both in the classroom and beyond graduation. It is the result of a year-long process that included open forums with faculty and students; a comprehensive campus survey completed by nearly 1,000 faculty and nearly 2,000 students; 20 meetings with external constituents to discuss regional needs; a stakeholder conference with more than 100 internal and external participants; and a website and online forum to facilitate a public dialogue about NKU's future. The process was led by a strategic planning committee chaired by Mearns.

A central theme of the plan is an innovative, transdisciplinary approach to serving students, the region, and the commonwealth. This will involve faculty from different disciplines working closely together to create new approaches to teaching and problem-solving through a shared conceptual model that integrates and transcends the separate disciplinary perspectives.

**READ MORE:** <http://www.fueltheflame.com>

## COLLEGE CORNER

### HAILE/US BANK COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

The NKU Haile/US Bank College of Business is one of the nation's most outstanding business schools, according to education services company The Princeton Review in the 2014 edition of its book, "The Best 295 Business Schools."

"It's an honor to be included again in Princeton Review's best business schools," said Dr. Rick Kolbe, dean of the college. "Our outstanding faculty continue to offer innovative programs that ensure our students are prepared for success both in the classroom and beyond graduation."

The book profiles schools' academics, student life, and admissions. In the profile on the Haile US Bank College of Business, the Princeton Review editors reported "Overall, students find NKU to be a place where

'The student is the top priority.'" Students are also quoted in the profile as saying that NKU's greatest strength is the course work itself.

"We recommend Northern Kentucky University as one of the best institutions a student could attend to earn a business school degree," said Robert Franek, Princeton Review senior VP-publisher.

"We chose the schools we profile in this book based on our high regard for their academic programs and our reviews of institutional data we collect from the schools," he added. "We also solicit and greatly respect the opinions of students attending these schools who rate and report on their experiences at them on our 80-question student survey for the book."

# NKU FOUNDATION ASSETS TOP \$100M



A milestone for the NKU Foundation, Inc., means more support for the university's students and programs.

The Foundation's total assets as of Jan. 1 now exceed \$100 million for the first time in the Foundation's 43-year history. This includes an \$89 million endowment pool and other funds the Foundation manages.

"We are fortunate to live in a community that understands the value of investing in education," said NKU President Geoffrey Mearns. "During tough economic times, NKU and the NKU Foundation continued to receive support from alumni, corporations, foundations, and friends that made us the major metropolitan university we are today. Without their help, we would not have experienced the rapid growth or success we have seen in the last 20 years or enabled as many students to pursue their dreams."

"It is a success that poises us for additional growth," said J. David Bender, Foundation president. "We couldn't have accomplished this growth without the prudent and skilled management by our volunteer Investment Committee and the work of NKU's university advancement division."

READ MORE: [http://nku.edu/news/\\_140106foundation.html](http://nku.edu/news/_140106foundation.html)



## THE SCOREBOARD

The NKU basketball teams are midway through their second seasons of Division I competition. The men are 4-4 in the Atlantic Sun Conference and have won six of their last seven home games. The women are 9-8 overall and 5-1 in the A-Sun. The men are led by junior guard Jordan Jackson (14.7 ppg, 4.4 rpg) and the women are led by junior forward Melody Doss (17.9 ppg, 7.9 rpg).

## BRIEFS

### CHASE LAW LAUNCHES ACADEMY FOR LAW, BUSINESS + INFORMATICS

The NKU Chase College of Law has approved a new curriculum for the W. Bruce Lunsford Academy for Law, Business + Technology, with the first courses being offered next year. The honors immersion program will focus on developing "Renaissance lawyers" for the Information Age. The program's specialty courses enhance the comprehensive legal education provided by Chase by emphasizing legal technology, business, finance, leadership and other skills critical to the future of the practice of law.

READ MORE: [http://www.nku.edu/news/\\_140114lunsford.html](http://www.nku.edu/news/_140114lunsford.html)

### SEMESTER AT SEA PROVIDES EDUCATIONAL ADVENTURE FOR NKU GRAD

NKU graduate Sarah Hayley Shaw spent her final semester in college on a floating university visiting Europe, Africa, and South America during a voyage sponsored by the Semester at Sea program.

Shaw, who graduated last month with a degree in environmental science, is the first NKU student to complete the program. She spent 107 days attending classes on board the ship and going on field trips in more than 10 countries on three continents.

READ MORE: <http://www.nku.edu/features/2014/january/semesteratsea.html>

## FACULTY FOCUS

Dr. Brett Zyromski, associate professor and director of the NKU School Counseling Program, is working with educators across the country to improve school counseling in Kentucky and beyond. Dr. Zyromski, in collaboration with others at NKU and faculty from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, organizes the Evidence-Based School Counseling Conference hosted annually by NKU. The conference focuses on equipping professional school counselors with the skills to choose evidence-based interventions and the tools to evaluate the effectiveness of existing programs by measuring the impact of interventions on critical measurements such as test scores, grade-point-averages, post-secondary going rates, attendance rates, office referrals and drop-out rates.

### ENTREPRENEURSHIP STUDENTS EARN NATIONAL RECOGNITION

A team of NKU entrepreneurship students has earned the Best Chapter Business Award at the Collegiate Entrepreneurs Organization National Conference. The award honors the most creative, unique, and successful student-run business among the 400 schools in attendance. The team presented its apparel line, Punch Press Threads, which is showcases the interplay between art and entrepreneurship. The brand also spreads entrepreneurship across disciplines to help students raise money for various projects.

READ MORE: [http://www.nku.edu/news/\\_131120entrepreneurs.html](http://www.nku.edu/news/_131120entrepreneurs.html)

### NKU HONORED AMONG 'BEST FOR VETS'

NKU has been selected as a "Best for Vets College" by the Military Times Edge. NKU was the only university in the Northern Kentucky region to achieve a ranking and is one of five Kentucky four-year universities ranked in the top 50.

NKU was also selected by *GI Jobs* magazine for the fourth consecutive year as "Military Friendly," a recognition placing the university in the top 15 percent of all universities in the nation.

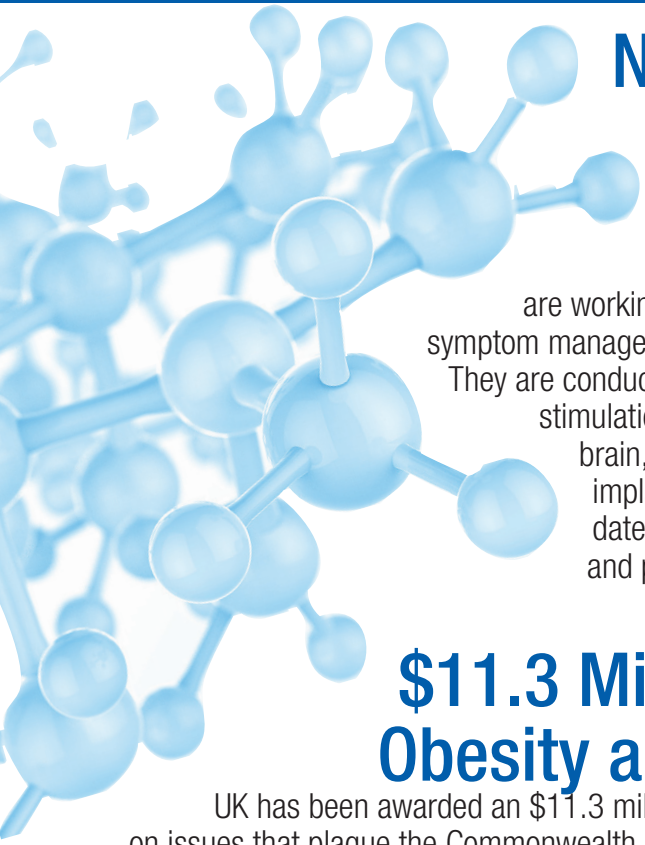
NKU supports more than 500 student veterans and their families.

READ MORE: [http://nku.edu/news/\\_131111veterans.html](http://nku.edu/news/_131111veterans.html)

## ALUMNI NEWS



David Moore (MPA '06) wasn't ready for what he'd encountered when, as a local fire chief two years ago, he agreed to teach basic fire safety in Nairobi, Kenya. The fire department there was protecting a city of 5 million people with two working fire engines, one ladder truck and 156 firefighters. Moore came home determined to make a difference. After resigning as chief in 2013, he founded the Africa Fire Mission, a nonprofit offering firefighting training, equipment, and resources to departments in Kenya and Ethiopia. The organization is working with 15-20 local fire departments, who have donated training equipment. And Moore doesn't intend to rest on his laurels. His long-term goal: to make fire departments sustainable across the continent of Africa.



## New Treatment Strategy Developed for Parkinson's Disease

Craig van Horne and his team in the Department of Neurosurgery are working to develop a new treatment strategy that could drastically improve symptom management and possibly halt or change the course of Parkinson's disease. They are conducting the first-ever clinical trial of a procedure to supplement deep brain stimulation (DBS) with a graft of patients' own peripheral nerve tissue into the brain, with the hope that the regenerative capacity of the peripheral nerve implant will stimulate the damaged parts of the brain to heal on its own. To date, five patients have undergone the combined DBS-nerve graft procedure and preliminary results are encouraging.

## \$11.3 Million NIH Grant Focuses on Obesity and Cardiovascular Disease

UK has been awarded an \$11.3 million National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant supporting research focusing on issues that plague the Commonwealth, obesity and cardiovascular disease. Lisa Cassis, professor and chair of the Department of Molecular and Biomedical Pharmacology, is program director of the grant that supports the Center of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE) focused on obesity and cardiovascular diseases.



## AcoUstiKats Take the Center of National Stage

On December 9, UK's acoUstiKats began competing on NBC's "The Sing-Off" as one of the nation's top 10 a cappella groups. They were one of only two collegiate groups selected for the show. The acoUstiKats advanced to the second week of competition and were eliminated after the fifth night of the seven-night competition.





## Nancy Cox Named Dean of UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment

In January, Dr. Nancy Cox officially began her tenure as the new dean of the UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment. Cox was previously associate dean of research in the college, a position she has held since 2001 when she came to UK from Mississippi State University.

She is widely regarded as a leader in the field, serving on several national policy boards and organizations and has close ties to both civic and agricultural leaders throughout the Commonwealth, which enthusiastically supported her candidacy for dean.

Cox replaced Scott Smith, who has led the college since 2001. He will return to the faculty, where he has been a member for 35 years.



### Phase II-C

In January, the UK Board of Trustees authorized Phase II-C of an ongoing public-private partnership with EdR to construct more than 1,140 modern residence hall beds in two new facilities on north campus. The next phase brings the total approved/ongoing construction to more than \$348 million, 5,733 beds, 202 active learning spaces and 12 buildings across campus to be completed by 2016.



By utilizing a third-party to provide equity financing for this massive construction, the partnership yields a higher-quality living/learning experience at a lower cost to students. At the same time, using a private company to finance the construction minimizes impact on UK's debt capacity -- a critical element in the University's ability to debt-finance other necessary construction such as the Gatton College, Academic Science Building and Commonwealth Stadium approved in House Bill 7 last year.

## University of Kentucky and the Kentucky National Guard Announce Partnership

University of Kentucky President Eli Capilouto and Major General Ed Tonini, Adjutant General for the Kentucky National Guard, signed a Memorandum of Understanding outlining a framework for a wide range of collaborative projects.

While many of the specifics for collaborations are still under development, initial efforts will focus on providing guardsmen with resources in job training, behavioral health, and leadership skill development. UK will also explore the possibility of creating more flexibility in education programs that would accommodate the diverse needs of soldiers and their families. Additional collaborations are being discussed in areas such as leadership exchange, information sharing, medical research and athletics.

As an example, Capilouto cited a new initiative that will allow Kentucky National Guard medics to shadow staff in the UK Chandler Hospital Emergency Department. This project will further refine the state's emergency preparedness skills and could be one of the first such initiatives of its kind in the country.



## A Letter from the President

Dear Friends and Family of UofL,



As Kentucky legislators reconvened in Frankfort earlier this month, there was the expected news – the state doesn't have enough revenue to meet the needs of our state, most notably the needs of higher education. We understand the continued slow revenue growth the state is experiencing as well as the

structural imbalance between the state's revenues and

expenditures has prompted the governor to recommend a 2.5 percent budget cut for higher education, including UofL. That cut would be the 14th in 14 years and result in \$3.5 million less for our operating budget each of the next two years. Therefore, we have committed, along with the governor, to encourage our legislators to consider new sources of revenue such as expanded gaming and reform of our antiquated tax system.

We will also continue to support the Council on Postsecondary Education's recommendation of more money for higher education in each of the next two fiscal years. That investment would pay for UofL's top priorities which include: more operating money, more money for

Bucks for Brains and construction of a new classroom building. We appreciate Gov. Beshear including funding for Bucks for Brains and the classroom building in his budget recommendations. We understand these are tight budget times but we hope state lawmakers will be bold this legislative session and provide the money needed to keep UofL on its upward trajectory.

We look forward to sharing more good news with you as 2014 evolves.

James R. Ramsey



Credit: Kentucky Office of Creative Services

**"We are fitting the pieces together to create a seamless, cradle-to-career education system that is better preparing our students for this complex world."**

— Gov. Steve Beshear, 2014 State of the Commonwealth Address

## 2014 legislative priorities

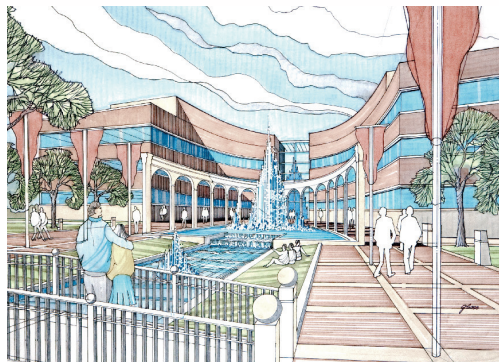
Like Gov. Beshear, we at UofL recognize that funds are lean, but we refuse to abandon our commitment to higher education. Between 1998 and 2013, our six-year graduation rate climbed from 30.1% to 53.5%, and undergraduate degrees awarded jumped from 1,734 to 2,731. In order to build upon this positive momentum, our 2014 legislative priorities include:

### Keeping education affordable



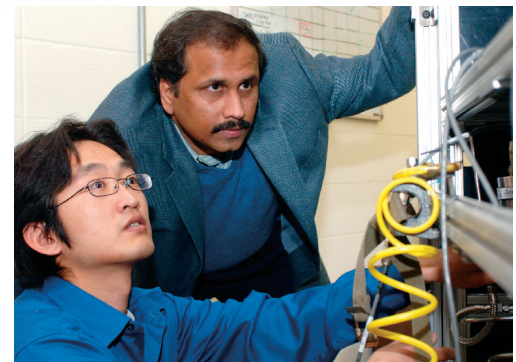
As one of the Commonwealth's two research universities, UofL faces unique challenges in meeting the needs of the business community and ensuring that higher education remains affordable. We embrace the budget model recommended by the Council on Postsecondary Education and urge the General Assembly to consider innovative ways to fund our operating needs in full.

### Building for the future



UofL is attracting both a higher quantity and quality of students, as witnessed by the average ACT score of 25.2 posted by this fall's incoming class. The construction of a new academic building on the Belknap campus is critical to the university's ability to facilitate the highest caliber scholarship among growing numbers.

### Fueling the economic engine



Research is the engine that drives Kentucky's economic growth. Through the Research Challenge Trust Fund, also known as the Bucks for Brains program, UofL has generated:

- \$ Additional tax revenues of \$3.6 million for Louisville
- \$ Additional tax revenues of \$19 million for Kentucky
- \$ Employment gains of over 1,500 for Kentucky
- \$ Increase in earnings of \$290.4 million for Kentucky
- \$ Net economic impact of \$840.6 million for Kentucky
- \$ Influx of \$390.5 million in non-state extramural funding



Watch a video featuring our researchers' accomplishments at [UofLresearchvideo.com](http://UofLresearchvideo.com)

# Bucks for Brains program achieves extraordinary results

Funding the Bucks for Brains program makes good economic sense, but the best outcomes of the program are the improvements made to people's lives. From research in organ transplants, to cardiology, to spinal rehabilitation and more, UofL researchers continue to translate discoveries into new techniques and applied therapies. The stories of the first Bucks for Brains participants below represent the significant impact UofL has on the health of Kentuckians and the world.



## Breakthroughs in organ transplants

Suzanne T. Ildstad, MD, PhD, UofL's first Bucks for Brains researcher, and her team developed a transplant treatment that uses stem cells to avoid the need for anti-rejection medications, the side effects of which often devastate the body. Given the treatment's clinical trial success, Ildstad signed a global licensing agreement with international pharmaceutical company Novartis. Organ recipient Robert Waddell feels he has received "a fountain of youth," having been medication-free for the past three years.



## A future cure for heart failure

Roberto Bolli, MD, PhD, along with a research team at UofL's Institute for Molecular Cardiology, has found that adult cardiac stem cells may aid in regenerating heart tissue and treating heart disease. Besides stunning the medical community, these findings have given patients like Mike Jones a second chance at life.



## Great strides in spinal cord research

The collaborations of Scott R. Whittemore, MD, PhD, and Susan J. Harkema, MD, PhD, bring hope to sufferers of spinal cord injuries. Their research on the nervous system and epidural stimulation led to actionable rehabilitation, and their advances enabled former national champion baseball player Rob Summers to stand on his own two feet after a spinal cord injury paralyzed him below the neck.

## Russell Athletic Bowl fans provide aid to typhoon survivors

About 50 students, alumni and fans of the University of Louisville and University of Miami came together Dec. 28 in Orlando to pack more than 2,500 baggies with toiletries for typhoon victims in the Philippines. This volunteer effort marks the third time UofL has performed a service project in conjunction with postseason football or basketball games.



## UofL professor to receive prestigious Hind Rattan Award



University of Louisville professor Daya Singh Sandhu has been selected to receive the prestigious 2014 Hind Rattan Award in New Delhi, India. The award, named "Jewel of India" in English, recognizes Sandhu's lifelong work to reduce suicides by removing the stigma associated with seeking mental health services. A committee, including Indian President Pranab Mukherjee, selects non-resident Indians to receive this honor.

Western Kentucky University news for the Council on Postsecondary Education, February 2014  
 For more WKU news, visit [www.wku.edu/news](http://www.wku.edu/news).



**Confucius Institute at WKU receives top award at conference**

The Confucius Institute at WKU received the Confucius Institute of the Year Award during the 8th Global Confucius Institute Conference in Beijing.

The prestigious award for extraordinary achievement was given to 28 Confucius Institutes worldwide. There are 433 CI's worldwide, so the selection process is rigorous with well documented facts of exceeding the mission set forth by Hanban/Confucius Institute Headquarters.

The conference included 2,500 participants from 118 countries.

*Dr. Wei-Ping Pan accepted the Confucius Institute of the Year Award on behalf of the Confucius Institute at WKU.*

<http://wkunews.wordpress.com/2013/12/12/ci-2013award/>

**3 WKU students awarded Gilman International Scholarships**

Three WKU students were awarded funding through the U.S. Department of State Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program to participate in study abroad programs around the globe this spring.

Paige Hughart, a sophomore majoring in Biology and Cultural Anthropology from Roseville, Mich., is studying Biology at Yeditepe University in Istanbul, Turkey.

Andrew Miller, a junior majoring in Arabic, History and Middle Eastern and North Africa Studies from Georgetown, is in an Arabic immersion program at the Center for International Learning in Oman.

Andre Williams, a senior majoring in Public Health from Owensboro, is participating in the Spanish immersion Sol for Education Abroad program in Heredia, Costa Rica.

<http://wkunews.wordpress.com/2013/12/13/gilman-spring2014/>

**Three selected for Kentucky Teacher Hall of Fame**



*The 2014 inductees into the Gov. Louie B. Nunn Kentucky Teacher Hall of Fame are (from left) Golda P. Walbert of Glasgow, Debra Burgess of Murray and Cynthia S. Wooden of Kenton County.*  
<http://wkunews.wordpress.com/2013/11/22/kythof-2014/>



### **WKU's Doctor of Nursing Practice program earns accreditation**

The Doctor of Nursing Practice program at WKU has been accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education. The CCNE's Board of Commissioners approved the five-year accreditation through Dec. 31, 2018. WKU's DNP program met all four accreditation standards and the board found no compliance concerns with the key elements.

"The DNP program prepares graduates for advanced roles that demonstrate excellence in practice related to improved health care outcomes, evaluation and dissemination of evidence based practice, information systems and technology, leadership, and inter-professional collaboration," Mary Bennett, director of the School of Nursing, said.

<http://wkunews.wordpress.com/2013/11/25/dnp-accreditation/>

### **WKU student attends U.N. water resources workshop in China**

Megan Laffoon, a WKU sophomore from Louisville, recently returned from Guilin, China, where she attended a two-week training workshop on water resources at UNESCO's International Research Center on Karst (IRCK).

Laffoon was one of 17 students on five continents selected for the program, the "International Training Course on Karst Hydrogeological Investigation, Dynamic Monitoring, and Applications in River Basins." IRCK operates under the auspices of the United Nations Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization.

The training course offered Laffoon an opportunity to gain experience related to both of her academic pursuits at WKU, her study of biology and her language study as a participant in the Chinese Language Flagship Program at WKU. <http://wkunews.wordpress.com/2013/12/04/china-laffoon/>



*Megan Laffoon*

### **Online program in Recreation & Sport Administration among best in U.S.**

TheBestSchools.org has ranked WKU's Master of Science in Recreation & Sport Administration as the 13th Best Online Sports Management Master's Degree program in the country and the only program in Kentucky listed in the top 20.

The 100 percent online program is offered through a partnership between the WKU Department of Kinesiology, Recreation & Sport (KRS), the WKU School of Journalism & Broadcasting and WKU Cohort Programs. Concentrations are available in Athletic Administration & Coaching, Facility & Event Management or Sport Media & Branding. <http://wkunews.wordpress.com/2013/11/22/krs-online-ranking/>



### **WKU-Owensboro researcher testing basil as cancer treatment**

Plants that may help fight breast cancer are sprouting and taking root in a WKU biology faculty member's laboratory at the Owensboro Centre for Business and Research.

Dr. Chandra Emani, assistant professor of plant molecular biology at WKU-Owensboro, is conducting research on the pharmaceutical and therapeutic benefits of the basil plant (*ocimum sp.*), the herb widely known for its medicinal and culinary uses.

In his lab, Dr. Emani and his students are genetically engineering the basil to produce more eugenol, a compound in basil that "has a very great pharmaceutical value because it's shown to control breast cancer."

<http://wkunews.wordpress.com/2014/01/16/wkuo-basil-research/>

*Dr. Chandra Emani*

### **NSF grant will fund STEM scholarships at WKU**

WKU will use a grant from the National Science Foundation to fund a five-year scholarship program in the STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) disciplines. The \$616,669 grant will fund the Biotechnology S-STEM Program, which will provide scholarships to 20 students with majors in agriculture, biology, biochemistry, chemistry, computer science or math and an interest in biotechnology. <http://wkunews.wordpress.com/2013/12/09/nsf-stem-grant/>

The Council on Postsecondary Education expresses strong support for reinvestment in public higher education in Kentucky, including restoration of the proposed 2.5% reduction to the operating budgets of the state colleges and universities and full funding of the Kentucky Employee Retirement Systems rate increase. According to national data, 40 states in the current fiscal year have increased state general fund support for higher education. Kentucky is not among those states. The Council commends the current proposal for its strong emphasis on general fund supported capital projects and research and economic development in the form of Bucks for Brains. Kentucky's economic future depends on a vibrant and well trained workforce and educated citizenry; however, this cannot be achieved without a renewed investment in our colleges and universities.