

## MEETING MINUTES

*Approved by the Council, September 19, 2023*

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Who: Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education  
Meeting Type: Board Retreat  
Date: June 8-9, 2023  
Time: 9:00 a.m. ET  
Location: Cumberland Falls State Park, DuPont Lodge, Moonbow Room

### WELCOME REMARKS

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The Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education met on Thursday, June 8 and Friday, June 9, 2023, in a board retreat. The meeting occurred in the Moonbow Room of the DuPont Lodge at Cumberland Falls State Park. Chair Madison Silvert presided.

### ATTENDANCE

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Council Members attendance:

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

CPE President Aaron Thompson served as Secretary of the board, per the CPE Bylaws. Ms. Heather Faesy, CPE's senior associate for Board Relations, served as recorder of the meeting minutes.

### WELCOME AND ESTABLISHING GOALS FOR THE RETREAT

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Chair Silvert called the meeting to order and invited President Aaron Thompson to provide welcoming remarks. Chair Silvert established the strategic purpose of the retreat and clarified the day's objectives. Council members also engaged in an icebreaker activity in which they shared their purpose for serving on the Council.

### PLANNING FOR THE 2024 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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President Thompson and Dr. Jennifer Fraker, CPE Legislative Liaison, engaged in a facilitated discussion with Senate President Robert Stivers on a number of postsecondary issues as well as anticipations for the next legislative session. He also discussed his perspective on how higher education in Kentucky has advanced since the implementation of House Bill 1 (1997) and what additional changes should be considered in the coming decade.

## **WHAT'S HAPPENING IN HIGHER EDUCATION? A NATIONAL PERSPECTIVE**

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Dr. Nancy Zimpher, Interim Executive Director of the National Association of System Heads (NASH), discussed the numerous shifts in the landscape of higher education over the last three years and gave insight on how Kentucky can best position itself for the continuous rapid changes. This session included small group reflection and discussion time.

## **LUNCH BREAK**

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The Council members took a lunch break onsite at the Riverview Restaurant. There was no agenda nor was business conducted during this session.

## **WHAT'S HAPPENING IN HIGHER EDUCATION? A STATEWIDE PERSPECTIVE**

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President Thompson and Ms. Lee Nimocks, Sr. Vice President and Chief of Staff, discussed CPE's work over the last year, highlighting successes and identifying continued areas of needed growth and focus. As part of this session, the Council discussed how the budget request for the next biennium should be tailored to meet the agency's priorities.

## **DEFINING BOARD PRIORITIES FOR 2023-24**

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Council members met in small groups to reflect on the national, state, and legislative perspectives presented throughout the day to narrow their focus and intents. The outcome was identifying common themes and thoughts for the 2023-24 academic year.

## **COUNCIL DINNER AND OVERNIGHT BREAK**

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Council members adjourned the retreat discussions for the day, enjoyed dinner at the Riverview Restaurant, and networked informally.

## **RETREAT CLOSING DISCUSSION**

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The Council reconvened at 8:30 a.m. ET on June 9, 2023, to finalize and close out its discussions on board priorities for 2023-24. At the end of the session, the board identified its draft priorities which included improving collaboration, coordination and communication as well as removing barriers and increasing supports. Final edits will be reviewed at the next Council meeting.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

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The Council adjourned its 2023 board retreat at 9:30 a.m. ET on June 9, 2023.