

**Committee on Equal Opportunities
Council on Postsecondary Education
October 14, 2010**

Status: Kentucky Plan Support Programs

The following information focuses on The Kentucky Plan activities since the Committee on Equal Opportunities met April 2010.

Governor's Minority Student College Preparation Program

As a result of budgetary actions, it is possible that the GMSCPP Academically Proficient African American High School Junior and Senior Conference will be scaled back and that the number of programs receiving funds to support campus-based programs for the GMSCPP will be reduced. A number of the current programs were funded with non-recurring fund sources which are no longer available. They were removed from the CPE budget by the 2010 General Assembly as part of the budget balancing process. Thus programs at two universities and 14 community and technical colleges have been de-funded by the action of the 2010 session of the General Assembly. Approximately 227 students and 57 schools are affected by the loss of program funding. Some programs have fund balances that can be used to support program activities in the current fiscal year. However, unless another source of funds becomes available or institutions fund the programs, they will cease to operate in fiscal 2012.

SREB Doctoral Scholars Program

The Commonwealth, in collaboration with the University of Kentucky and the University of Louisville, is supporting seven new students in fall 2010: four doctoral scholars, one dissertation year scholar, and administrative support for two scholars. The students were selected from a total of 23 applicants for fall 2010. The scholars were selected jointly by the Council, the University of Kentucky, and the University of Louisville. The specific areas of concentration supported by the program are science, mathematics, education (math or science), and engineering.

All SREB scholars will attend an Institute on Teaching and Mentoring October 28-31 in Tampa, Florida. The Institute is designed for scholars currently supported by Kentucky. Kentucky's public institutions have been invited to participate in the Institute's career fair where they will have access to over 400 students at varying points in their pursuit of the PhD to increase the number of minority faculty at their campus. The career fair is by invitation only and requires recommendation by the CPE.

The Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) Doctoral Scholars Program is a cooperative interstate venture to address the underrepresentation of minorities with a terminal degree. The program seeks to increase the number of minorities employed as college faculty and executives by increasing the available pool. The SREB program is part

of a national effort; similar programs exist in the northeast and the west. The program is in its 15th year of operation.

As with the GMSCPP, the SREB Doctoral Scholars Program is funded with a combination of General Funds (four slots) and nonrecurring funds (11 slots). The 2010 session of the General Assembly, as part of its budget balancing process, removed the non-recurring funds from the CPE budget and reduced the General Funds for this program by 1.5 percent. This has the effect of reducing the funding for approximately 18 students that are already in the program and restricting new participation to four students. The impact on the program is severe. Unless other monies are identified or the universities assume the financial responsibility for the scholars, they will be informed that the support from the Commonwealth is no longer available as of June 30, 2011.