MINUTES
Council on Postsecondary Education
Strategic Agenda Work Group
March 16, 2010

The CPE Strategic Agenda Work Group met March 16, 2010, at 1 p.m. at the CPE offices in Frankfort, Kentucky.

ROLL CALL

All members of the work group were present: Chris Crumrine (by phone), Dan Flanagan, Joe Graviss, Nancy McKenney, Pam Miller, Lisa Osborne, and Joe Weis.

KDE PLANNING PROCESS

Ruth Webb, deputy commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Education, discussed KDE's planning process currently underway. The process is primarily driven by the Race to the Top proposal and the new common core academic standards mandated by Senate Bill 1. The board members will hold a retreat in May to revisit their current goals. KDE currently has four goals and 100 indicators to measure performance, and Commissioner Holliday hopes to reduce those to no more than three to five for each board goal. Ms. Webb suggested that, since there is overlap in the work of K12, postsecondary education, and the Education Professional Standards Board, the three agencies might develop some common metrics and common goals to display publicly. A few cross-agency teams might be organized to think about how each agency can contribute to achieve the goals.

Areas of interest mentioned by the CPE members included measuring the quality of teachers being produced by the institutions for the K12 system, adequately preparing K12 students so they do not require remediation upon entering college, preparing and encouraging students early to go to college, building a culture for higher education within the general public, attaining degrees within four years, building a seamless pipeline from preschool through postsecondary, and engaging students to make them want to stay in high school and graduate and then continue to college.

Mr. Graviss suggested that the partner agencies agree on common terminology among the groups when developing their plans.

Ms. Webb offered to continue to update the Council on the KDE planning activities.

A representative from the Cabinet for Economic Development is scheduled to attend the April 22 meeting to discuss the cabinet's

strategic planning process. Other agencies such as EPSB and KHEAA could also be invited to attend a meeting to discuss common issues.

VISION, VALUES, AND MISSION EXERCISE

The staff shared a summary of the discussion with the Strategic Agenda Institutional Advisory Group regarding development of a vision statement, values, and a mission statement.

After a discussion and brainstorming session, the group suggested that this proposed vision statement be shared with the institutional group prior to the joint April 22 meeting: "To produce the best-educated, best trained workforce in the world." A conference call might be scheduled prior to the April 22 meeting to hear the responses from the institutions. The vision statement would be finalized at the April 22 joint meeting.

The group agreed with the values proposed by the institutional group and agreed those could serve as internal guideposts when creating strategies for achieving the objectives and performance targets.

When the discussion of the mission statement began, Mr. Flanagan suggested that the group should first decide whether the five questions would continue to be used as the new plan is developed. The group then decided to move to a discussion of the draft conceptual map and did not come back to the discussion of the mission statement.

CONCEPTUAL MAP AND FOCUS AREAS

The staff shared a draft conceptual map outlining how the new strategic plan will simplify and focus the work of postsecondary and adult education by: (1) reducing the five questions of the Public Agenda to three areas of focus, while adding a focus on the effective use of resources; (2) strengthening the link to House Bill 1 (1997) goals; and (3) incorporating the preliminary degree target established under the Double the Numbers plan into the degree objectives. Mr. Weis suggested that an additional column be added for an implementation plan to indicate the responsible agency and desired date of completion. The four suggested areas of focus are: (1) college and work readiness, (2) degrees and credentials, (3) research, and (4) efficiency and innovation.

TIMELINE AND PROCESS

The staff proposed that the Council Strategic Agenda Work Group (SAWG) and the Strategic Agenda Institutional Advisory Group (SAIAG) hold some joint meetings so that the two groups can come together to talk about issues and the process along the way.

In response to the CPE members' desire to involve all the necessary partners in the planning process, staff suggested creating

subcommittees for each of the four focus groups suggested on the draft conceptual map. These broader groups could think more extensively about these key objectives and, using a common template on what is needed, would ultimately bring ideas back to the full Council member group for consideration. Each Council member on the planning group would serve on one of the subcommittees along with a CPE staff person. The staff will develop a list of proposed members for each group.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is April 22 at 1 p.m. at the Council offices. This will be a joint meeting with the institutional group.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting concluded at 3:20 p.m.

John C. Hayek
Vice President, Finance, Planning, and Performance

Phyllis L. Bailey
Senior Associate, Executive Relations