Memo of Record
Research, Economic Development and Commercialization Policy Group
Council on Postsecondary Education
May 22, 2006

The Research, Economic Development and Commercialization Policy Group, a committee of the Council on Postsecondary Education met Monday, May 22, 2006, at 8:00 a.m. at the Adult Education Training Room of the Council Offices, Frankfort, Kentucky. Committee Chair John Hall presided.

Attendance

The following members attended: John Hall, Committee Chair and Allyson Handley, Council Staff. Ron Greenberg, Ex Officio, Alois Moore, Dan Flanagan, John Turner, and Kevin Canafax were absent from this committee meeting.

Introductory Remarks

Mr. John Hall called the meeting to order and welcomed attendees. The notes from the last meeting were approved.

Discussion

Mr. Hall gave an overview of the meeting.

Draft Trust Fund Guidelines

Dr. Allyson Handley began the discussion by referring to the January meeting where a draft of the Trust Fund Guidelines was discussed. Since the original document was written before the state budget was adopted, the trust fund document had to be revised.

Dr. Bill Payne, Council staff member, reviewed the revised document for the committee. The basic changes in the document reflect the changes in funding from the state government and the changes in distribution to the institutions. The new document defines the limited amount of money funded to provide research support to the institutions.

This document was reviewed for the committee and discussed in more detail during the full board meeting where action would be taken. The Guidelines will be reviewed again for the next biennium for the cluster priority areas.

E^3

Mr. Reecie Stagnolia and Mr. Stuart Johnston presented e^3 which is a broad computer application that combines employment services and resources for education, employment, and economic development. Mr. Johnston demonstrated the use of the program to the committee, encouraged the observers to explore the site on their own, and requested suggestions for improvement. Developmental funding for this endeavor was explained and it was disclosed that the site had been built as a project of KY Adult Education. Future funding will need to be secured to assure continued availability and maintenance of the site. It was noted that this site is a great marketing tool for the Commonwealth of Kentucky. It is anticipated that the greatest users of this tool will be organizations focused on career development and college/career placement people at educational institutions. Two significant challenges for the Commonwealth include: a) an understanding that a high school diploma is no longer enough to ensure

employment opportunities and b) keeping educated people in the state. Committee Chairman Hall recommended that at the next CPE meeting a demonstration of e^3 be made to the entire CPE Board.

Dr. Handley discussed information items for the committee. The SBIR (Small Business Innovation Research) meeting was held in Louisville and sponsored by Kentucky Science and Technology Corporation (KSTC) and the Department of Commercialization and Innovation (DCI). The meeting included four conference tracks: Getting Started, Making the Process Work, Using SBIR to Build Your Business, and Special Topics (featured KY Successes). Mahendra Jain was the conference organizer and did a marvelous job. Over 800 people attended from across the country. The Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC) The Council is planning a Kentucky Roundtable in August in Louisville modeled on the MHEC Roundtable held in St. Paul in October, 2005. The event will bring together representatives from business, education and government. CPE will then explore sponsoring county meetings with representatives from the three sectors (listed). These events are in the very early stages of planning.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Allyson Hughes Handley
Senior Policy Advisor for
Economic Initiatives

Pegge Woolums
Executive Secretary