

**Council on Postsecondary Education
September 16, 2007**

Project Lead the Way

The Council received \$700,000 from the General Assembly during the 2006 session to collaborate with the Kentucky Department of Education in implementing Project Lead the Way® in Kentucky. PLTW is the model P-12 pre-engineering program cited in The National Academies' report, *Rising Above the Gathering Storm*.

Council and KDE staff awarded \$650,000 of Council funding to 13 pilot school districts across the Commonwealth to implement or expand the PLTW curriculum. Another 25 school districts have expressed interest in implementing a PLTW curriculum. Expanding to these districts would require approximately a \$2 million increase in program funding in the next biennium.

A key component of this initiative involves identification of a lead in-state university in each participating state to assist in the professional development of PLTW teachers. In June 2007, the University of Kentucky was selected as Kentucky's national affiliate institution. With an award of \$50,000, UK faculty have begun the affiliate university's responsibilities of providing summer institutes for PLTW master teachers, technical consultation, graduate credit articulation, pipeline assessment, and engineering education leadership. In partnership with the Council and KDE, UK also will support and conduct an annual school counselor awareness conference.

