

**KY Council on Postsecondary Education
Committee on Equal Opportunities
Meeting Minutes: January 27, 2020**

The Committee on Equal Opportunities met January 27, 2020 on the campus of Jefferson Community & Technical College (“JCTC” - Louisville, KY). Chair Dr. Robert “Bob” Staat presided over the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by CEO Chair Dr. Bob Staat at 1:06 PM. Dr. Staat gave a brief welcome and thanked JCTC for hosting the meeting.

ROLL CALL: Dr. Dawn Offutt (Director, Initiatives for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion for CPE) called roll.

Members present: Whitney Allen, Alfonso de Torres Nuñez, Dr. Luv’Tasha Robertson, Ling-Yuh Pattie (online), Dr. Robert Staat

Members absent: Deborah Aparicio, David Carpenter, Robert Croft, Shawn Reynolds, Kim Halbauer, Grant Minix

Council staff and institutional representatives present: Dr. Dawn Offutt, Travis Powell, Deverin Muff, Jessica Romious, V. Faye Jones, Dr. Natalie Gibson, Darryl Peal, Dr. Sonja Feist-Price, Michael Crowe, Dr. Molly Beth Kerby, Dr. Timothy Forde (online), Cami Duffy (online).

PRESENTATION: Dr. Ty Handy, President of JCTC gave a welcome and brief overview of the institution’s diversity strategies aimed at closing the achievement gap for postsecondary education. Contact jessica.romious@ky.gov if you would like a copy of the PowerPoint presentation.

- To kick-off the presentation of strategies, Danielle Sims Brooks - Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs, introduced several underrepresented minority students; they shared their success stories at JCTC.
- Various JCTC staff members spoke on the implementation and results of five strategies; each strategy fell under the statewide diversity policy’s three focus areas: Opportunity, Success, and Impact.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The meeting minutes for October 28, 2019 and December 12, 2019 were unable to be approved because there was not a quorum present.

- CPE UPDATES:** Mr. Travis Powell - Vice President and General Counsel for CPE, provided several updates and highlights from the Council meetings that took place on Jan. 23-24 in the Gatton Student Center of the University of Kentucky:
- CPE is in the process of relocating from the Capital Center Drive location which may cause a disruption in services until the move is complete. CPE's new address is 100 Airport Rd. Frankfort, KY 40601.
 - Ben Brandstetter, of Hebron, is the new chair of the CPE, and Kimberley Halbauer, of Fort Thomas, is vice chair.
 - Dr. Aaron Thompson – CPE President, received a contract extension of 2.5 years (June 2023).
 - Several reports were given at the Council meeting; information such as agendas and minutes can be found [here](#) as it becomes available.
 - The 2020 Kentucky General Assembly will be in session soon. Governor Andy Beshear will be presenting the new education budget which has a projected reinvestment in higher education. More information can be found [here](#).

DIVERSITY PLAN REVIEW PROCESS: Dr. Dawn Offutt reviewed the annual report evaluation process, timeline and responsibilities. Contact jessica.romious@ky.gov if you would like a copy of the PowerPoint presentation. A doodle poll will be sent out to schedule trainings on how to use the new evaluation tool.

SPECIAL TOPIC: John Sunnygard - Associate Provost for Global Learning and International Affairs at Western Kentucky University (WKU) gave a brief talk about WKU's Confucius Institute which was recently ended due to changes in federal funding limitations. WKU still has the Chinese Language Flagship Program, in partnership with the United States Department of Defense, and is revamping recruitment efforts.

MEETINGS: Upcoming CEO meeting dates are:

- April 27, 2020
- June 22, 2020

Locations are TBD and will be sent out as they are confirmed.

OTHER: Dr. Dawn Offutt introduced her new staff member within CPE's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) unit, Jessica Romious, who previously served as an intern. In addition, Michael Weaver, a senior undergraduate student at Kentucky State University, is interning with CPE for spring 2020. The DEI unit's upcoming events and projects include:

- The Academic Leadership Development Institute (ALDI)

- Cultural Competence Certificate (CCC) which will be a micro-credential for faculty, staff, and students within Kentucky
- Planning for the 2nd Annual Higher EDquity Symposium which will take place in November, hosted by the University of Louisville.
- Research and development of reports that will detail emerging trends, best practices, etc. regarding diversity in postsecondary education.
- Increased effort to bring greater visibility to the work and events taking place on Kentucky's college campuses; CPE's goal is to be a "hub" for campus collaboration.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:17 PM.