

MINUTES
Council on Postsecondary Education
July 10, 2006

The Council on Postsecondary Education met July 10, 2006, at 10:30 a.m. at the Council offices in Frankfort, Kentucky. Vice Chair John Turner presided in Chair Greenberg's absence.

ROLL CALL

The following members attended: Walter Baker, Peggy Bertelsman, Kevin Canafax, Dan Flanagan, John Hall, Phyllis Maclin, Ryan Quarles, Joan Taylor, John Turner, and Mark Wattier. Ron Greenberg, Alois Moore, Jim Skaggs, and Gene Wilhoit did not attend.

Chair Turner recognized Education Secretary Ginni Fox and Senator Johnny Ray Turner in the audience and thanked them for attending.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the May Council meeting were approved as distributed.

**BUDGET & FINANCE
POLICY GROUP REPORT**

Mr. Flanagan reported that the Budget and Finance Policy Group met earlier in the day and reviewed and discussed a plan of work and timeline for the group and the issue papers assigned to that policy group. One issue paper – nonresident students – was discussed. The policy group reviewed the 2006-07 agency operating agenda and recommended it for approval by the Council.

**FOCUS ON REFORM:
KENTUCKY ADULT
EDUCATION**

Sarah Hawker, the Council's vice president for Kentucky Adult Education, addressed several issues that KYAE will address in the next few months – providing the very best tools and knowledge to adult education instructors and program directors, ensuring that KYAE's data system provides the information necessary for continuous improvement of state and local levels, working together with local adult education providers to improve performance and efficiency, and collaborating with federal partners on research and development initiatives.

Dr. Hawker said that adult education is a program of instruction and services to teach reading, writing, and mathematics to persons age 16 or older who are not in school, do not have a high school diploma, or do not have the basic literacy skills to fully participate in the economic and civic life of the Commonwealth. She said that there are both public and private interests served by adult education – employment skills needed in the Kentucky economy, literacy ability to continue to learn new employment skills and knowledge on the job, literacy skills to continue to higher levels of education, increased ability to earn a sustainable wage and support families without public assistance, contribution to the tax base that funds communities, and modeling learning for children which is one of the most powerful interventions to breaking the cycle of illiteracy and poverty. She said that people who can read adequately are healthier, enter the correctional system with less frequency and return less

often, are less likely to be on public assistance, experience less unemployment, and contribute more to social and economic stability. She said that adult education is key to building a trained and trainable workforce and to improving the quality of life for hundreds of thousands of Kentuckians each year.

Dr. Hawker said that in 1997 House Bill 1 set Kentucky on the path to achieving economic opportunity and a standard of living above the national average by 2020. In 2000, the Kentucky Adult Education Act, Senate Bill 1, acknowledged adult literacy as a fundamental barrier to every major challenge facing Kentucky and placed Kentucky Adult Education within the Council on Postsecondary Education to elevate the quality of adult education and the importance of its students in meeting the goals of HB 1. She read some statistics that paint a picture of why SB1 acknowledged the challenges of adult educational attainment in Kentucky:

- According to the 2003 State Assessment of Adult Literacy, 42 percent of working-age Kentuckians (nearly half the state's population) read at the two lowest levels of literacy (below the level considered to be adequate for high school graduation or employment in meaningful jobs).
- According to the 2000 U.S. Census, in just over half of Kentucky counties, more than 30 percent of the population, has less than a high school credential.
- Of all ninth graders in Kentucky, 85 percent do not graduate from college.
- In 2002, 54 percent of students entering college in Kentucky were underprepared in at least one subject.
- There are not enough high school students currently enrolled each year to meet the 2020 baccalaureate degree goals of the Council's Public Agenda.
- At this time, 60 percent of today's jobs require some amount of postsecondary education; by 2020, the percent will be even higher.

Dr. Hawker said that re-engaging these adults in the educational process and raising their academic skills and their educational aspirations are critical if Kentucky is to raise its standard of living and reach the goals of HB 1 and the Public Agenda by 2020. To help meet these goals, Kentucky Adult Education must: (1) increase the adult college participation rate from 3.6 percent to 4.5 percent, (2) more than double the annual number of GED graduates – from 10,000 to 26,000 per year, and (3) increase the college-going rate of GED graduates from 19 percent to 43 percent.

Dr. Hawker said that Kentucky has already generated strong momentum that must be maintained. Since 2000, Kentucky Adult Education has experienced enrollment growth well over 100 percent, produced more

than 60,000 GEDs, and increased the GED college-going rate from 12 percent to 19 percent. For six of six years, Kentucky Adult Education has met performance targets set by the U.S. Department of Education, helping the Commonwealth to receive \$8 million in federal funding for outstanding performance.

Dr. Hawker said that KYAE is known across the country for its innovation and achievement. In order to preserve that good reputation and build upon it, KYAE has three priority areas on which to enhance the administration of the system and the outcomes of the students:

(1) Teaching and learning:

- Provide the very best tools and knowledge to adult educators so they can continuously improve their teaching and student learning.
- Continue to develop curriculum standards that raise learning expectations and help ensure success in the workplace and in postsecondary education.
- Equip instructors to use research-based instructional strategies designed for adults to help students maximize their achievement.
- Help local programs better advise and counsel adult students of their educational options for the future.
- Provide assistance in administrative, student, and fiscal reporting and management.

(2) Accountability:

- The KYAE data system must be the best it can be and be capable of providing KYAE and the Council the data needed to identify strengths and weaknesses and improve performance. Accurate data are essential as adult education continues to contribute to the ambitious goals of the Public Agenda and essential in communicating with the legislature on funding needs and the return on investment of state funds.
- Continuing to meet the accountability requirements of the U.S. Department of Education is important to retain both funding and the position as a leader in adult education.

(3) Collaboration and dialogue:

- KYAE must be in collaboration and dialogue with local programs and with federal and state funding bodies, meet the requirements of this highly regulated federal program, and, within that framework, make policy that allows, assists, and requires programs to serve students well.
- KYAE will provide leadership in delivering targeted and accessible professional development for instructors and program directors, will create advisory groups and task forces to gather field input and agreement on critical issues, and will fully participate in the activities of the state P-16 Council and other task forces that

- address remediation, dual credit, and other initiatives.
- KYAE has a significant responsibility to work with the U.S. Department of Education on national research and development efforts and to advocate policy that benefits Kentucky's programs and students.

2006-07 KENTUCKY
ADULT EDUCATION
SERVICE DELIVERY
SYSTEM

President Tom Layzell said that Kentucky Adult Education contracts with fiscal agents to provide adult education services in all 120 counties. The Adult Education Act requires adult education services to be targeted to communities with the greatest need; therefore annual enrollment goals are based on the number of working age adults functioning at literacy levels 1 and 2 in each county. Information was provided in the agenda book on the fiscal agents, enrollment goals, and funding levels by county based on the statewide goal of 125,000.

2006-07 KENTUCKY
ADULT EDUCATION
PERFORMANCE
MEASURES

KYAE is required by the federal Office of Vocational and Adult Education to negotiate statewide performance measures. Information was included in the agenda book about these performance measures and KYAE enrollment.

P-16 COUNCIL UPDATE

An update on P-16 Council activities was included in the agenda book. Mark Wattier will serve as chair of the P-16 Council for the coming year.

PROJECT LEAD THE WAY

In July 2000, the Council approved a Statewide Joint Engineering Strategy to increase the number of baccalaureate engineering degree holders in the state by improving regional access and productivity in engineering education in Kentucky. A key component of that strategy was to increase the number of Kentucky high school graduates prepared to succeed in engineering programs at the postsecondary level. The Council requested 2006-08 funding to assist the Kentucky Department of Education in developing an articulated engineering pipeline to increase the number of Kentucky students prepared for engineering programs through implementation of Project Lead The Way, the nationally recognized model pre-engineering curriculum. The Council and KDE staff recently awarded \$650,000 of Council funding to 13 school districts across the state to implement or expand the Project Lead The Way curriculum. The staffs of the Council and KBE are working together to select a postsecondary institution to serve as a university affiliate for the program. The Council staff will present information on this project to an interim legislative committee in August.

COMMISSIONER OF
EDUCATION REPORT

A report about the activities of the Kentucky Board of Education was distributed. Dr. Layzell noted that the required program of studies (the single rigorous curriculum) was approved at the June KBE meeting and will now proceed through the review process by the appropriate legislative committees. He said that is a huge step for Kentucky and has

great potential and also places great demands on the postsecondary education community as that curriculum goes into effect.

CPE CAMPUS VISITS – STRATEGIC PLANNING, KEY INDICATORS, AND 2020 PROJECTIONS

Dr. Layzell said that during the months of May and June, the Council staff visited the nine public postsecondary institutions. The purpose was threefold: (1) to help the Council staff better understand each campus' internal strategic planning process, (2) to explain the 2020 projections model and discuss how institutional key indicator goals relate to these 2020 targets, and (3) to receive feedback from campuses about how the Council can better facilitate progress and move reform forward. A summary report was included in the agenda book. Based on these discussions, the Council staff is updating the 2020 educational attainment numbers and will bring preliminary planning parameters for approval at the September Council meeting.

CEO REPORT

Mr. Baker gave the report from the Committee on Equal Opportunities. He said that the vendor for the diversity study should be selected by the end of July and the contract signed by the end of August. The CEO will begin visiting the campuses of the KCTCS institutions. The committee is seeking the help of Kentucky's U.S. Senators to learn the status of the partnership agreement with the Office for Civil Rights. The committee received a special interim report on the Kentucky Legal Education Opportunity Scholarship. Mr. Baker said that the Chief Justice confirmed that the scholarship is funded for the 2006-08 biennium. A complete report was included in the agenda book.

TRUST FUND GUIDELINES – REGIONAL STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

RECOMMENDATION: The staff recommends that the Council approve the Regional Stewardship Program Guidelines.

Mr. Wattier said that at its May 22 meeting, the Council approved two of three components of the 2006-08 guidelines. Following a recommendation of the Quality and Accountability Policy Group, the Council asked staff to modify sections of the guidelines pertaining to the distribution of stewardship initiative pool funds, so that greater emphasis is placed on the role of the regional advisory committees in the development and approval of strategic plans and proposals for stewardship funding.

Mr. Wattier offered an amendment to the guidelines regarding annual reporting (the final paragraph of guidelines):

AMENDMENT: The Council staff will work with regional advisory committees to devise and maintain reporting procedures that specify the content and format of Regional Stewardship Program annual reports. The reports will include accountability for outcomes that support action plans contained within the 2005-2010 Public Agenda.

Ms. Bertlesman said that there is no intention of eliminating the institutions from the process. Representatives from all of the institutions in the region, public and independent, plus representatives from other

interested groups in the region would comprise the regional advisory committee. The chair of the regional advisory committee would sign the proposal and work with the Council.

After further discussion, an amendment to the amendment was offered:

AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT: The Council staff, working with the comprehensive universities and the regional advisory committees, will devise and maintain reporting procedures that specify the content and format of Regional Stewardship Program annual reports. The reports will include accountability for outcomes that support campus action plans contained within the 2005-2010 Public Agenda.

MOTION: Mr. Wattier moved that the amendment to the amendment be approved. Ms. Bertelsman seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

MOTION: Ms. Bertelsman moved that the guidelines as amended be approved. Mr. Wattier seconded the motion.

VOTE ON THE GUIDELINES AS AMENDED: The motion passed.

**QUALITY AND
ACCOUNTABILITY
POLICY GROUP
REPORT**

Mr. Wattier said that the Quality and Accountability Policy Group met earlier in the day. In addition to the regional stewardship program guidelines, the group discussed the draft Kentucky Virtual University strategic plan, transfer study, issue papers being reviewed by the policy group, and education doctorate degrees at comprehensive universities. He said that a developmental education task force is being formed to construct a comprehensive plan for improving the outcomes of postsecondary developmental education.

**STATEWIDE FACILITIES
CONDITION
ASSESSMENT**

An update was given on the statewide facilities condition assessment. VFA Inc. of Boston is expected to complete the institutional facility assessments by mid-September. Status reports will be provided to the Council at the September and November meetings. A draft report is expected in mid-November with a final report in December. The statewide assessment is one of a number of tools that the Council and the institutions will use to identify postsecondary capital needs and to make recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly as a part of the biennial budget process.

**RESEARCH, ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT, AND
COMMERCIALIZATION
POLICY GROUP REPORT**

Mr. Hall reported that the Research, Economic Development, and Commercialization Policy Group met earlier in the day and discussed the issue papers assigned to that group – Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) P-20 Pipeline Initiative and Statewide Translational Research and Economic Development. He called attention

to a handout highlighting Kentucky's life science and bioscience industry initiatives. The report was produced by the Cabinet for Economic Development.

2006-07 AGENCY
OPERATING BUDGET

RECOMMENDATION: The staff recommends that the Council approve the 2006-07 agency operating budget.

Mr. Flanagan noted that the Budget and Finance Policy Group reviewed the operating budget in detail and recommended its approval.

MOTION: On behalf of the Budget and Finance Policy Group, Mr. Flanagan moved that the agency operating budget be approved. Ms. Bertelsman seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

NEW POLICY GROUP
STRUCTURE

A proposed new policy group structure was distributed to Council members for their review.

CPE RETREAT

The Council will hold a retreat August 14 and 15 at the Embassy Suites in Lexington.

NEXT CPE MEETING

The Council will meet September 17 in conjunction with the 2006 Governor's Conference on Postsecondary Education Trusteeship.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Thomas D. Layzell
President

Phyllis L. Bailey
Senior Associate, Executive Relations