

## **MINUTES**

### **Council on Postsecondary Education**

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Type: Academic & Strategic Initiatives Committee  
Date: October 29, 2021  
Time: 10:00 a.m. ET  
Location: Virtual Meeting - Committee members by ZOOM teleconference, Public viewing hosted on CPE YouTube Page.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

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The Academic & Strategic Initiatives Committee met Friday, October 29, 2021, at 10:00 a.m., ET. The meeting occurred virtually via ZOOM teleconference. Members of the public were invited to view the livestream on the CPE YouTube page.

Committee Chair Lori Harper presided.

### **ATTENDANCE**

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Members in attendance: Muhammad Babar, Lori Harper, Karyn Hoover, Richard Nelson, Vidya Ravichandran, Robert Staat, and Kevin Weaver.

Members not in attendance: Colby Birkes and Lucas Mentzer.

Heather Faesy, CPE's senior associate for Board Relations, served as recorder of the meeting minutes.

### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

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The minutes of the August 31, 2021 meeting were approved as distributed.

### **APPROVAL OF THE 2022-30 STATEWIDE STRATEGIC AGENDA FOR KENTUCKY POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION**

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Ms. Lee Nimocks, CPE's Vice President of Strategy and Chief of Staff, presented the final draft of the 2022-30 Statewide Strategic Agenda for Kentucky Postsecondary Education. The agenda sets performance goals for students and institutions that reflect high expectations and standards, emphasizes continuous improvement, and supports technology-based solutions and innovative practices.

Building on previous agendas, “Higher Education Matters” is a blueprint for accelerating change and improvement in Kentucky’s public postsecondary system. The strategic priorities identified represent the primary issues and top concerns as Kentucky faces the demographic, economic, and technological forces reshaping higher education.

The following areas lead the directives of the agenda:

- Overarching Goal: Kentucky will increase the percentage of its adult population with a high-quality postsecondary credential to 60% by the year 2030.
- Cross-cutting Priority: Equity - Kentucky will ensure all students have equitable access to higher education and the necessary tools to complete their programs prepared for life and work.
- Statewide Priorities:
  1. Affordability - Kentucky will ensure postsecondary education is affordable for all Kentuckians.
  2. Transitions - Kentucky will ensure more students successfully transition to college prepared to succeed.
  3. Success - Kentucky will ensure more students earn high-quality degrees and credentials.
  4. Talent - Kentucky will increase talent and innovation to support our communities, employers and economy.
  5. Value - Kentucky will improve public understanding that postsecondary education is key to greater opportunity and economic growth.

MOTION: Mr. Weaver moved the Committee approve the 2022-30 Statewide Strategic Agenda as presented and recommend approval by the full Council at its November 5, 2021 meeting. Ms. Ravichandran seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

## **REPORT: POSTSECONDARY DEGREES AND CREDENTIALS REPORT**

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Mr. Travis Muncie, Executive Director, and Dr. Grace Dai, Senior Associate, provided an update on Kentucky’s Degree and Credential Production from 2015-2021. The report looked at undergraduate degree and credential production from four-year public and AIKCU institutions and from KCTCS as well as graduate degree production from

four-year public and AIKCU. It also specifically looks at the following profiles: URM students, in-state students, and working-age students. The full report will release in November 2021.

## **UPDATES ON STUDENT SUCCESS**

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CPE staff presented updates on the Kentucky Student Success Collaborative and the Educational Attainment Academy.

### Kentucky Student Success Collaborative (KYSSC)

Dr. Lilly Massa-McKinley, CPE's Executive Director for the Collaborative, discussed the initial phases of the KYSSC which is the first statewide center in the country to link two- and four-year higher education institutions with policy and industry leaders to increase graduation rates, close equity gaps and strengthen workforce readiness. Funded by a \$2.1 million grant from the James Graham Brown Foundation, the collaborative is housed in the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education. The collaborative will focus on information sharing, professional development and best practice implementation support. Its work is based on evidence that outdated policies and practices contribute significantly to student failure. When supports such as programs for first-year success and improved credit transfer are put in place to address challenges students face today, a meaningful number of students who are struggling can successfully graduate and enter the workforce.

### Education Attainment Academy

Ms. Nimocks discussed the newly formed Education Attainment Academy and how its work will help make progress toward Kentucky's 60x30 goal. Kentucky was chosen by the State Higher Education Executive Officers (SHEEO) and Education Strategies Group (ESG) as one of four states to participate in the Academy to help states focus, plan, and develop implementation strategies/recommendations around key areas of need. Kentucky's focus will be building out a more comprehensive state strategy to improve educational outcomes for adult learners, with a strong focus on equity and addressing the needs of low-income Kentuckians and people of color. The project will focus on barriers to enrollment and completion (onboarding, finances, childcare, social and emotional supports), academic pathways leading to a family-sustaining career, and strategies to improve outreach and communication to this diverse population.

## **GO!VEMBER CAMPAIGN – NOVEMBER 8-12, 2021**

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Ms. Missy Brownson-Ross, Associate Director for GEAR UP Kentucky (GUK), discussed GO!vember which is a collaborative campaign designed to inform Kentucky

high school students and their key influencers about the college-going process and encourage them to complete the FAFSA and apply for and enroll in postsecondary education. The campaign includes a social media campaign the week of November 8-12, a virtual parent night on November 17, 2021, a resource compilation webpage, and a partner participation toolkit.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

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The Academic & Strategic Initiatives Committee adjourned at 11:40 a.m., ET.

***MINUTES REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY THE COMMITTEE: January 19, 2022***