

## MEETING MINUTES

*Approved by the Committee on October 23, 2023*

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Who: Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education  
Meeting Type: Academic and Strategic Initiatives Committee  
Date: September 11, 2023  
Time: 10:00 a.m. ET  
Location: Virtual Meeting via ZOOM Webinar

### CALL TO ORDER

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The Academic & Strategic Initiatives Committee met Monday, September 11, 2023, at 10:00 a.m., ET. The meeting occurred virtually via ZOOM webinar. Committee Chair Karyn Hoover presided.

### ATTENDANCE

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All committee members attended the meeting: Dr. Kellie Ellis, Dr. Meredith Figg, Karyn Hoover, LaDonna Rogers and Kevin Weaver.

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 June 6, 2023, meeting, were approved as distributed.

### PROPOSED NEW ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

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Dr. Melissa Bell, CPE's Vice President of Academic Excellence and Student Success, introduced two new academic programs for review and approval. KRS 164.020 (15) empowers the Council on Postsecondary Education to define and approve the offering of all postsecondary education technical, associate, baccalaureate, graduate, and professional degree, certificate, or diploma programs in the public postsecondary education institutions.

Council staff reviewed the proposed programs and recommended approval.

#### Criminal Justice (B.S./B.A.) - CIP 43.0100 – University of Kentucky

Presented by: Justin Miller, Dean & Research Professor in the College of Social Work

- The 120-credit hour program would provide students with an interdisciplinary, comprehensive understanding of the multifaceted criminal justice system. The curriculum is designed to cultivate critical thinking through examining the role of social

and legal systems, structures, and institutions in addressing individual and community needs and seeking equitable outcomes.

#### Criminal Justice (M.S.) - CIP 43.0100 – University of Kentucky

Presented by: Justin Miller, Dean & Research Professor in the College of Social Work

- The 30-credit hour program would provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the integration of theory, policy, and research within leadership and administrative roles in criminal justice systems. The curriculum will cultivate critical thinking in examining the synthesis of social and legal systems, structures, and institutions in implementing and evaluating outcomes.

MOTION: Ms. Rogers moved the Committee approve both proposed programs from the University of Kentucky and recommend final approval by the Council at its September 19, 2023, meeting. Dr. Figg seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

### **KENTUCKY'S ADULT LEARNER INITIATIVES**

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Amanda Johannsen, CPE's Associate Director of Postsecondary Completion and Adult Learning Initiatives, provided an update on the work completed since the release of CPE's 2022 report, *Moving Up: An Action Plan to Improve Economic Opportunity for Kentucky Adults Through Lifelong Learning*. The report was the result of a year-long effort that brought together a team of state and national experts to recommend action steps to advance this important work. Ms. Johannsen highlighted CPE's current initiatives aligned with the strategies and highlighted specific efforts being done in the area of student basic needs.

### **SUMMER BRIDGE PROGRAMS**

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Dr. Amanda Ellis, CPE's Vice President of K-12 Policies and Programs, and Dr. Robin Hebert, CPE's Senior Fellow of K-12 Policies and Programs, provided a report on summer bridge programs, including strategies, data, and value added for students, institutions, and overall student completion. The goal of the program is to ensure incoming students who complete a summer bridge experience will enter their fall term with confidence, a network of support, and a strong foundation for success. Dr. Hebert also discussed the Summer Bridge Convening set to take place on September 29, where attendees would discuss the challenges and strategies for first-year transition support.

### **STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS ON THE VALUE OF POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION**

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Dr. Rick Smith, CPE's Vice President of External Affairs and Economic Partnerships, provided an update on the work of the Communications unit since its reorganization in January of 2023. The unit is established with leading the agency's strategic communication's efforts, promoting the value of higher education, increasing public awareness about the role and priorities of

CPE, as well as strengthening external partnerships with economic development leaders, associations, state agencies, nonprofit organizations, community organizations, and other key stakeholders. Dr. Smith also introduced Jesse Osbourne, who joined the Council earlier in the month to serve as Director of Strategic Communications and Brand Identity.

## **2023 HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE COLLABORATORY**

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Dr. Leslie Sizemore, CPE's Assistant Vice President of Workforce Initiatives, invited the Committee members to the first ever Healthcare Workforce Collaboratory taking place on October 10, 2023, at the Marriott Griffin Gate in Lexington, Kentucky. The in-person only event features sessions and networking opportunities that help bridge the gap between postsecondary institutions and workforce partners. Planned sessions include panel discussions on how AI is impacting healthcare workforce operations; legislative perspectives on healthcare, workforce, and postsecondary education; and existing partnerships that have been shaped by the Healthcare Workforce Collaborative since its formation.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

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The Academic & Strategic Initiatives Committee adjourned at 11:10 a.m., ET.