

MINUTES

Council on Postsecondary Education

Type: Business Meeting
Date: September 14, 2021
Time: 10:00 a.m. ET
Location: Virtual Meeting – Council members by ZOOM teleconference.
Public viewing on the CPE YouTube page.

WELCOMING & CALL TO ORDER

The Council on Postsecondary Education met Tuesday, September 14, 2021, at 10:00 a.m., ET. In an effort to prevent the spread of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), the CPE met utilizing a video teleconference. Members of the public were invited to view the meeting virtually on the CPE YouTube page. Chair Lucas Mentzer presided.

ATTENDANCE

Members in attendance: Muhammad Babar, Ronald Beal, Colby Birkes, Eric Farris, Lori Harper, Karyn Hoover, Lucas Mentzer, Richard Nelson, Vidya Ravichandran, Madison Silvert, Robert Staat, Elaine Walker, Kevin Weaver, and Commissioner Jason Glass.

Member not in attendance: Carol Wright.

CPE President Aaron Thompson served as Secretary of the board, per the CPE Bylaws. Ms. Heather Faesy, CPE's senior associate for Board Relations, served as recorder of the meeting minutes.

OATH OF OFFICE

Franklin County Judge Executive, Huston Wells, administered the oath of office for new Council member Elaine Walker.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the June 25, 2021 meeting were approved as distributed.

WELCOMING AND UPDATE FROM CPE PRESIDENT, AARON THOMPSON

President Aaron Thompson provided a written report in the agenda materials. He discussed the results of the 2021 Special Legislative Session, the AGB Gardner Student Success Academy, and the current status of the biennial budget request for 2022-24.

UPDATE FROM KENTUCKY STATE UNIVERSITY RE: EXECUTIVE ORDER 2021-504

Mr. Travis Powell, CPE's Vice President and General Counsel provided an overview of the work staff have completed since Executive Order 2021-504 was signed on July 20, 2021. The directives of that order stated:

- 1) CPE shall provide an assessment of the current financial status of KSU, and shall provide a report to the Governor detailing its assessment prior to providing recommendations concerning appropriations for the next biennial budget.
- 2) To assist CPE in performing its assessment, KSU shall provide CPE access to any records CPE deems necessary to preparing its assessment.
- 3) CPE shall assist the KSU Board of Regents in developing a management and improvement plan with goals and measurable metrics, which shall be subject to the approval of CPE. The management and improvement plan shall be designed to assist with organizational and financial stability. The management and improvement plan shall provide for continuing oversight by, and reporting to, CPE concerning the implementation of the plan.
- 4) CPE shall make recommendations to the KSU Board of Regents concerning the KSU administrative structure and leadership.

Since that time, CPE has hired a part-time consultant and worked directly with KSU's leadership and board to complete the directives of the order. KSU's Interim President Clara Stamps and Greg Rush, KSU's newly-appointed Chief Financial Officer, discussed KSU's actions to mitigate issues in the short term, the budget issues it has identified as immediate concerns, and the measures that have been taken thus far to increase transparency with its board and stakeholders.

INFORMATIONAL BRIEFING FROM KET – KENTUCKY EDUCATIONAL TELEVISION

Shae Hopkins, KET's Executive Director and CEO, and Tonya Crum, KET's Senior Director of Education, provided the Council with an over of its work toward the

educational attainment of Kentucky's citizens. KET is Kentucky's largest classroom, serving more than one million people each week via television, online, and mobile. They produce digital education tools for the classroom and are Kentucky's highest-quality source for public affairs and cultural programming. The governing body for KET is the Kentucky Authority for Educational Television, an agency of the Commonwealth of Kentucky in the Education & Workforce Development Cabinet. Council members Kevin Weaver and Karyn Hoover currently serve on that board.

REPORT FROM KDE COMMISSIONER JASON GLASS

Kentucky Department of Education's Commissioner, Jason Glass, provided an update on the current work of the P-12 system and its efforts to mitigate COVID-19 transmissions in the classroom and during extracurricular activities.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – REPORT AND ACTION ITEMS

Chair Mentzer reported that the Executive Committee met on August 18 and September 14, and they did not have any actions to recommend for approval.

ACADEMIC AND STRATEGIC INITIATIVES COMMITTEE – REPORT AND ACTION ITEMS

Committee Chair Lori Harper presented the Academic and Strategic Initiatives Committee Report, which included actions and reports received at its meetings held in July and August 2021.

Proposed New Academic Programs

The following new academic programs were proposed for consent approval, each of which were reviewed and approved by the Committee at its August 30, 2021 meeting.

- Two new academic programs at Northern Kentucky University
 - Education, Culture and Society (B.A.) – CIP Code 13.0901
 - Cybersecurity (M.S.) – CIP Code 11.1003
- One new academic programs at Western Kentucky
 - Legal Studies (B.A.) – CIP Code 22.0001

MOTION: The Academic and Strategic Initiatives Committee recommendation served as the motion. A second was not needed.

VOTE: The motion passed.

Update on the Development of the 2022-30 Statewide Strategic Agenda

Ms. Lee Nimocks, CPE's Vice President and Chief of Staff, presented a summary of the work completed thus far on the development of the next statewide strategic plan. She discussed the process and stakeholders involved, the overarching goal and statewide priorities, objectives developed to accomplish the priorities, and the proposed planning and review cycle for the length of the Agenda. According to the timeline, the Council anticipates reviewing and approving the final agenda at the November 5th meeting.

2021 KY Postsecondary Education Return on Investment Report

Ms. Nimocks; Mr. Travis Muncie, CPE's Executive Director of Data, Research, and Advanced Analytics; and Dr. Grace Dai, CPE's Senior Associate for Data and Research, provided an overview of the latest return on investment report. The report titled, "Early Economic Return on Higher Education Investment," followed 43,655 students in Kentucky's high school class of 2011 from high school graduation to 2019. It explores the median net cost of public postsecondary credentials, median grant and scholarship awards, and median loan amounts for the cohort, by credential level and discipline. It also looks at earnings from 2011 to 2019 by credential level and academic discipline.

FINANCE COMMITTEE – REPORT

Committee Chair Lucas Mentzer reported that the Finance Committee met on September 2, 2021, and they did not have any actions to recommend for approval.

CAMPUS "GOOD NEWS" REPORTS

Reports from the institutions were provided in the agenda materials.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Chair Mentzer appointed Elaine Walker to the Finance Committee to fulfill the term ending June 30, 2023 and left vacated by Doris Thomas.

RESOLUTION

The Council approved a resolution for Council member Kristi Nelson in thanks of her support and service to the Council on Postsecondary Education and the Commonwealth of Kentucky,

ADJOURNMENT

The Council adjourned at 12:30 p.m. ET.

MINUTES REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL: November 5, 2021