

**Kentucky Board of Education
December 9, 2015
Report from the President of the
Council on Postsecondary Education**

CPE November 13 Meeting

The Council on Postsecondary Education met on Friday, November 13, at Gateway Community and Technical College in Florence, Kentucky. The board took action on several items and heard a variety of reports.

At the meeting, the Council:

- Approved the 2016-18 CPE Postsecondary Education Budget Recommendation.
- Approved continuation funding for four Improving Educator Quality federal grant programs.
- Approved a Bachelor of Science in Digital Media and Design at the University of Kentucky.

In other business, the Council heard the following reports:

- CPE President's report
- Commissioner of Education report
- Committee on Equal Opportunities report
- Institutional reports

The next Council meeting and retreat will be held February 11-12, at the UK Lexmark Center in Lexington.

Strategic Agenda Update

The new strategic agenda highlights three key policy areas that will demand sustained attention over the next six years if Kentucky is to make significant progress toward the goals and vision articulated in the 1997 postsecondary reform legislation. They are "Opportunity," "Success," and "Impact." The proposed agenda also includes updated mission, vision, and value statements for postsecondary and adult education, as well as performance metrics and statewide objectives and strategies to guide work in each of the three areas of focus. Over the next several months, CPE staff and institutional representatives will meet to negotiate statewide and institution-level performance targets based on the metrics. The agenda will be formally presented for adoption at the February 1 meeting.

Kentucky Rising Update

CPE staff continues to collaborate with KDE and EPSB on Kentucky Rising. Several meetings have been scheduled for the next couple of months. The Early Childhood Education Advisory Board will meet on December 17, and an overview of Kentucky Rising will be presented. On January 12 the Steering Committee and the Teacher Preparation Work Group will meet.

"Game Changers" Is Topic of Student Success Summit, April 4-5

Planning is underway for the next Student Success Summit, which is set for April 4-5 at the Louisville Marriott East. Confirmed speakers include Freeman Hrabowski, president of the University of Maryland, Baltimore County and chair of President Obama's Advisory Commission on Educational Excellence for African Americans; and Blane Harding, director of the Center for Student Cultural Diversity at the University of Nevada, Reno. The summit, "Student Success Game Changers: Practical and Proven Strategies for Elevating Your Student Success Game," will offer pragmatic advice and data-supported strategies for increasing student success.

Kentucky Sends Team to *Reach Higher* White House Convening

A Kentucky team led by Aaron Thompson attended a White House convening on “Strengthening School Counseling and College Advising” at the University of North Florida last week in support of President Obama’s Opportunity Agenda and the First Lady’s Reach Higher Initiative. The invitation-only event was coordinated by the National Consortium for School Counseling and Postsecondary Success and brought together nearly 500 delegates from 35 state teams representing K-12, higher education, and others. Kentucky’s participants, in addition to Thompson, included:

- Jimmy Adams, executive director, Education Professional Standards Board;
- Amanda Ellis, associate commissioner for Next Generation Learners, Kentucky Department of Education;
- Dreama Gentry, executive director, Office of Education Partners, Berea College, and vice chair, Kentucky College & Career Connection (Ky3C) coordinating board;
- Bruce Brooks, executive director, GEAR UP Kentucky;
- Susan Hopkins, director of outreach services, Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority;
- Tye Mortensen, president, Kentucky Association for College Admission Counseling; and
- Brett Zyromski, associate professor, school counseling program director and clinical director, Department of Counseling, Social Work and Leadership, Northern Kentucky University.

STEM Is Focus of Regional Faculty Development Workshops

The Council is pleased to join with Kentucky Campus Compact to co-sponsor a series of professional development workshops to strengthen science education. The workshops will feature staff from the SENCER Center for Innovation located at UNC Asheville. SENCER (Science Education for New Civic Engagements and Responsibilities) is a project supported by the National Science Foundation. The first of these workshops was hosted by Northern Kentucky University last month, and others will be announced for the spring semester.

The workshops feature hands-on demonstrations of the pedagogical techniques employed by SENCER, including techniques for connecting STEM learning to civic engagement. SENCER focuses on getting more students interested in STEM fields, helping students connect STEM learning to their other studies, and strengthening students' understanding of science and their capacity for responsible work and citizenship.

More than 230 Attend GEAR UP Kentucky’s First School Counseling and Advising Institute

GEAR UP Kentucky hosted its first Kentucky School Counseling and Advising Institute in October at the Northern Kentucky University METS Center in Erlanger, Kentucky. The two-day, statewide institute was designed to mobilize P-20 educational professionals to collaborate in the effective delivery of early and ongoing advising for postsecondary preparation, access and success. More than 230 education professionals attended, representing every stage of the education pipeline.

Featured keynote speakers included Mr. Greg Darnedier, senior advisor to the Secretary of Education on the College Access Initiative at the U.S. Department of Education, and Mr. Ranjit Sidhu, president and CEO, National Council for Community and Education Partnerships (NCCEP). Other featured speakers included:

- Aaron Thompson, executive vice president, Council on Postsecondary Education;
- Prichard Committee on Academic Excellence Student Voice Team;
- Brett Zyromski, director, School Counseling Program at Northern Kentucky University and co-founder of the National Evidence-Based School Counseling Conference; and
- Amanda Ellis, associate commissioner for Next Generation Learners, Kentucky Department of Education.

Commonwealth College Holds Fall Summit

The Commonwealth College's fall summit convened more than 40 people from the universities and KCTCS for collaborative learning and problem solving. Topics included financial aid for adults in competency-based programs, learning and student tracking tools, marketing, and the Council's strategic agenda. The Commonwealth College's partner institution, Western Kentucky University, will begin enrolling students in the competency-based Advanced Manufacturing program December 1. University of Louisville's B.S. in Organizational Leadership & Learning with a concentration in Healthcare Leadership program will enroll students in 2016. Morehead State University recently joined the consortium and expects to enroll students in its RN-BSN program next year.