

Kentucky Board of Education
February 7, 2018
Report from the President of the Council on Postsecondary Education

Upcoming Council Meetings

February 1-2, 2018 (CPE retreat; joint meeting of student body, postsecondary and CPE presidents; regular business meeting)

Kentucky Adult Education Skills U Issues Request for Applications

Kentucky Adult Education (KYAE) Skills U recently launched its Request for Application (RFA) for multiple-year adult education services grants. KYAE Skills U will be accepting applications from eligible applicants to develop, implement and improve adult education activities within the state.

The RFA calls for establishing or operating programs to provide a comprehensive service model for adult education services, including programs that provide such activities concurrently for multiple fiscal years of July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2021. As part of a continuing effort to be good stewards of funding, the RFA features measures to increase both programmatic efficiencies and cost effectiveness, including a multi-county management model, an increased emphasis on demand-driven services, and postsecondary and career preparation. The deadline for RFA submission is March 2, 2018, 5:30 p.m. EST.

Seventh Annual Student Success Summit Set for April 9-10

The seventh annual Kentucky Student Success Summit will take place April 9-10 at the Marriott Louisville East.

This year's summit will focus on the theme, "The Future of Undergraduate Education, The Future of Kentucky." The first day of the summit will explore three priority areas: improving academic quality; increasing equity and diversity; and ensuring affordability. The second day will focus on how colleges and universities can better engage and support non-traditional adult students, in recognition that Kentucky cannot reach its 2030 educational attainment goal without enrolling and graduating more adults.

Keynote speakers confirmed to date include Dr. Michael McPherson, co-chair of the American Association of Arts and Sciences' Commission on the Future of Undergraduate Education and president emeritus of the Spencer Foundation, and Dr. Judy Genshaft, president of the University of South Florida. Registration information is available at <http://cpe.ky.gov/studentsuccess>.

New Work Groups to Focus on Key Policy Issues

CPE staff have formed several new work groups and committees to help implement the statewide strategies in the statewide strategic agenda "Stronger by Degrees." The overarching Committee on Undergraduate Education (CUE), comprised of associate provosts, provides input

on policy development, and the various work groups provide information and guidance to the CUE.

Each group focuses on many of the same policy issues, but approaches them from different perspectives. The current policy priorities are listed below:

- Define and develop metrics for “academic quality;”
- Revise statewide minimum college admissions standards;
- Support adult learners, with a special emphasis on military students;
- Take co-requisite developmental education to scale;
- Establish curricular pathways that allow students to choose quantitative gateway courses that are better aligned with their majors; and
- Develop a statewide definition and criteria for STEM+H programs.

Listed below are the new work groups and their work to date:

- **Academic Quality Assurance**
This group, comprised of assessment directors, met at the CPE offices in November, and each member gave a short presentation on institutional assessment. The group met again in January at the University of Louisville’s Teaching Innovation Learning Lab, where members developed a definition of and possible metrics for “academic quality.”
- **Committee on Undergraduate Education**
The group met in January at the CPE offices to discuss proposed changes to the minimum admissions and placement policy, as well as the academic program review policy. The group also discussed various student success strategies on their campuses.
- **General Education Work Group**
Comprised of chairs of institutional general education committees, the General Education Work Group met at the CPE offices in November. Each institution provided a summary of curriculum revisions, planned changes, the incorporation of diversity and equity into the curriculum, and the use of high-impact practices in general education.
- **Teaching and Learning Work Group**
The Teaching and Learning Work Group is a combination of the former Faculty Development Work Group and the Distance Learning Steering Team. The group met at the CPE offices in November to discuss promising practices as well as obstacles to promoting pedagogical professional development.

Tuition Development Work Group Meeting

The first meeting of the Tuition Development Work Group in 2018 took place on January 23. The group reviewed and discussed the Governor’s proposed budget and its implications for the

2018-19 tuition cycle. It also finalized the policy and process that will guide tuition setting this fiscal year.

CPE Sponsors Free Assessment Design Workshop

The Council on Postsecondary Education sponsored a free faculty workshop aimed at improving student learning in the area of written communication, an essential skill needed for today's workforce. The workshop, focused on assignment design, was held January 19 at the University of Louisville Shelby Campus.

Participating campus teams were encouraged to go back to their institution and share this professional learning opportunity with other faculty members. Dr. Bonnie Orcutt, professor of economics and an assessment fellow at Worcester State University in Massachusetts, facilitated the workshop. This activity was funded by the Council's faculty collaborative grant from the Association of American Colleges and Universities