

Kentucky Board of Education

October 2, 2018

Report from the President of the Council on Postsecondary Education

Upcoming Council Meetings

The next meeting of CPE will be held Nov. 15-16 at Southcentral Kentucky Community and Technical College in Bowling Green.

CPE Board Actions

- Heard an update on Kentucky's dual credit efforts from CPE Executive Vice President Aaron Thompson. Highlights include
 - Statewide: Nearly 35,000 high school students participated in dual credit courses through a college or university during the 2017-18 academic year, up 45 percent since the 2015-16 year. Preliminary data for fall 2017-18 shows nearly \$5.6 million in scholarship funding was distributed for dual credit.
 - KCTCS: The number of dual credit students increased by 47 percent, up from 11,303 in the 2015-16 year to 16,576 last year. Earned credit hours climbed 92 percent reaching 106,385 hours last year. Among the dual credit courses 25 percent were aligned to targeted workforce skills, while 71 percent were general education.
 - Public four-year universities: Student participation grew 41 percent, increasing from 9,188 in 2015-16 to 12,977 students in 2017-18. The credit hours these students earned grew 50 percent, a gain of 21,533 college credit hours over three years.
 - Association of Independent Kentucky Colleges and Universities (AIKCU): Student participation increased 50 percent, up from 3,463 to 5,214 total students over three years. Attempted credit hours increased 34 percent during the same period.

The Council also previewed the new dual credit interactive data system, which shows detailed information by campus and by high school. The dual credit dashboard is located online at <http://cpe.ky.gov/data/dualcredit.html>.

- Formed a work group to pursue further research options and to identify potential costs and funding sources for a common application for Kentucky's public universities. All have developed a unique online application for undergraduate admission; however, the University of Kentucky and Eastern Kentucky University also participate in the national Common App, which allows students to submit one common application to as many as

20 member schools. In response to a CPE survey distributed to campus staff gauge their interest in pursuing a Kentucky common application, seven campuses indicated they would be likely or very likely to participate; two were unsure. Perceived benefits of a common application include a more streamlined process for students, a possible increase in applications, increased brand visibility throughout the state, and increased opportunities to promote Kentucky institutions through social media platforms and statewide marketing efforts.

- Approved a Bachelor of Arts in U.S. culture and business practices for the University of Kentucky. This 120-credit hour interdisciplinary program is designed to blend training in the history, politics, society, art, and culture of the United States with significant training in business. Students will work with faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences' humanities and social science departments as well as faculty in the Gatton College of Business and Economics.
- Amended the Council's bylaws. Statutes related to CPE presidential compensation and video teleconferencing for Open Meetings were amended in the 2018 legislative session requiring alignment of the amendments and the bylaws.
- Approved Kentucky State University's interim capital project requests for the renovation of Hunter Hall with \$2,296,500 in federal funds and the mechanical repair of Old Young Hall with \$2.1 million in agency-restricted funds.
- Heard a presentation from Reecie Stagnolia, CPE's vice president for adult education, and Dr. Jay Box, president of Kentucky Community and Technical College System, on the On-Ramp initiative. This initiative aims to improve the skills gap within Kentucky's workforce by providing clear student pathways to certificate programs, job credentials and degree attainment.
- Reviewed the schedule for the upcoming strategic agenda campus presentations. In previous years, each campus presented to the board on a rotational basis with two to three campuses presenting at each Council meeting. Per the board's request at the February 2018 retreat, the 2018 presentations for the universities will occur at the same meeting. The four-year universities are scheduled for the Nov. 15-16 Council meeting and KCTCS will present at the Feb. 21, 2019 meeting.
- Heard reports from the Commissioner of Education from Interim Commissioner Wayne D. Lewis, CPE President, CPE Presidential Search Committee, Committee on Equal Opportunities, and reports from the institutions were available.

CPE staff present to Interim Budget Review Subcommittee on Education

On Aug. 30, CPE staff provided an update on Kentucky's newly adopted performance-funding model to the Interim Budget Review Subcommittee on Education. At the meeting, President Bob King, Executive Vice President Aaron Thompson, and Vice President Bill Payne shared information regarding the development and early implementation of the model; an overview of

model components, metrics and calculations; and they responded to questions regarding the model's impact on the postsecondary institutions.

The presentation, [*Kentucky's Performance Funding Model for Postsecondary Education*](#), can be viewed online. In addition to CPE staff, University of Kentucky President Eli Capilouto, Morehead State University President Jay Morgan, and KCTCS President Jay Box also made presentations to the subcommittee.

CPE sets new board member orientation Oct. 22

CPE will host the 2018 orientation and training session Oct. 22 for new board members. The orientation is designed for regents and trustees appointed within the last year, and will feature a number of topics, including the statewide strategic agenda, performance funding, legal matters such as open records and meetings, and the statewide budget and tuition-setting processes.

Additionally, Carol Cartwright, President Emerita from Kent State University, will be returning to this annual program to provide the national perspective on governance in higher education, fiduciary duties, governing board responsibilities and case studies. Attendees will also have the opportunity to network at a luncheon before the training.

Chief academic leaders set priorities for year at retreat

Chief academic officers and other institutional academic leaders met for a two-day retreat in August to articulate their roles, clarify current policies, identify priorities for the upcoming academic year and develop action plans to address those priorities. The group also discussed policy issues, including a statewide definition of academic quality, as well as the possibility of bringing together faculty and advisors to talk about curricular issues, create or modify degree pathways and focus on academic quality issues.

The group identified several priorities for the upcoming academic year, including:

- 1) Increasing the focus on bridge programming, deeper partnerships with K-12 and other college readiness issues.
- 2) Strengthening partnerships between KCTCS and universities to address achievement gaps.
- 3) Focusing on post-graduation outcomes and building partnerships with employers.
- 4) Measuring academic quality through student learning outcomes assessment.
- 5) Creating leadership development opportunities for campus faculty and staff.

New Contract Spaces Work Group making progress

The 2018-2020 Executive Branch Budget Bill (HB 200) directed the Council to establish the Contract Spaces Working Groups for both Optometry and Veterinary Medicine. Members of the

working groups include both minority and majority members of the Senate and House, representatives of related professional associations, government entities, interested parties and CPE leadership.

The groups are considering the potential effects of budget cuts to Kentucky's existing Contract Spaces program, as well as the use of forgivable loans, the possible expansion of the program's options, and the value of tying the educational subsidies to a service requirement in Kentucky. They will meet at least two more times and submit a report of recommendations to the General Assembly on Dec. 1, 2018. Meeting materials are available at <http://cpe.ky.gov/aboutus/meetings>.

Contract Spaces, offered by states participating in the Southern Regional Education Board, is a tuition discount program for students pursuing degrees not available in their home state. In Kentucky, students apply for a seat for veterinary or optometry programs at an offering out-of-state university, and then pay a reduced tuition rate at that institution, with the Commonwealth paying the difference.

CPE team delivers two presentations at national SHEEO conference

CPE was well represented at the August SHEEO Higher Education Policy Conference in Denver. CPE staff presented a one-hour research presentation titled "Is Kentucky's College Readiness Policy a Barrier to Access and Success?" Presenters included Aaron Thompson, executive vice president and chief academic officer; Lee Nimocks, vice president for policy, planning and external relations; and David Mahan, associate vice president, information, research and analysis. The presentation is available online at http://www.sheeo.org/sites/default/files/Wednesday_315_Mahan_BallroomG.pdf.

Mahan and KYSTATS (formerly known as KCEWS) staff also conducted a second presentation, "Kentucky Data Roadshow: Empowering Campuses and Students to Use State Information." The session highlighted the efforts of CPE, KYSTATS and other agencies to collaborate in disseminating actionable information and research to Kentucky stakeholders who support student and employment success of commonwealth citizens.

For example, the CPE has recently launched 10 new interactive reports, focusing on student information in areas such as academic momentum (enrollment intensity), yearly degrees and certificates conferred, diversity initiatives, tracking of dual credit growth, campus retention and graduation rates. Most all of these reports compare outcomes of the overall population to Kentucky's low-income and underrepresented minority citizens. <http://cpe.ky.gov/data/>.

The presentation is available online at http://www.sheeo.org/sites/default/files/Thursday_11_Mahan_BallroomH.pdf.