

## **CPE President's Report to KBE Board**

### **February 5-6, 2025**

**Performance Gains:** CPE recently published several data reports highlighting gains in postsecondary enrollment and degrees/credentials. Highlights include:

- A 6.4% gain in total degrees and awarded in 2023-24 over the previous year, driven by growth at the undergraduate certificate and graduate level. Bachelor's degrees were essentially flat over the same period.
- A 3.9% annual increase in undergraduate enrollment at public universities in fall 2024, and a 5.7% annual increase at KCTCS.
- Also, Kentucky had the second highest gain in the nation in its six-year completion rate, rising from 59.4% to 62.2%. This metric captures how many undergraduates complete a credential at any institution within six years, regardless of where they started.

**Futuriti:** On February 4, Dr. Thompson participated in the launch of Futuriti at the capitol rotunda. This website will serve as a one-stop shop for college and career planning for Kentucky students, including adults. This initiative grew out of a recommendation from the Commonwealth Education Continuum, and CPE, along with KYSTATS, were heavily involved in developing the site.

**SkillBridge Partnership:** The U.S. Department of Defense recently approved CPE as a designated SkillBridge employer. This prestigious program connects recently separated military service members with career training, internships and real-world work experience to facilitate their seamless transition into civilian employment. At CPE, these individuals will have the opportunity to apply their expertise in areas such as policy development, workforce alignment, data analysis and educational programming. The 12–24-week program provides practical experience and professional growth, empowering veterans to launch successful careers in Kentucky's higher education and workforce development sectors.

**Student Success Summit:** CPE's fourteenth annual student success summit will be held February 10-11 at the University of Kentucky's Gatton Student Center. The theme of the summit is fostering leadership, innovation and collaboration, and nearly 400 participants have registered for this event. We have a distinguished group of speakers this year,

featuring Dr. Tristan Denley, Deputy Commission for Academic Affairs and Innovation at the Louisiana Board of Regents, as well as Dr. Tia McNair, a partner at the national higher education consulting firm SOVA.