

FACULTY REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT
ON THE
COUNCIL ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION MEETING

November 6, 2009

Kentucky State University

Frankfort, Ky.

10:00 a.m. Budget Approval Meeting, Paul Patton presiding:

CPE President Dr. Robert King's Report:

HEWG:

Dr. King stated that CPE staff Lee Nimocks and Melissa Young had worked around the clock on the final report of the Governor's Higher Education Work Group. This Group had been reconvened in June 2009 with a slightly different charge. This time the areas of focus were financial aid, transfer, and financial efficiency. One of the most important points made in the report is that it is essential to expand need-based aid.

Here is a link to the full report on the CPE website:

<http://cpe.ky.gov/NR/rdonlyres/CFCC3CB9-29B6-4A4F-9EB6-F32992CDF054/0/FINALHEWGNovemberReport.pdf>

Implementation of SB1:

CPE staff Su Cain, Aaron Thompson, and John DeAtley are working with colleagues in the State Dept. of Education on defining the curriculum in K-12 that will be needed for students to succeed in college. The goal is to reach a place that a high school diploma will mean a student is “college ready.” We have over 80 university faculty working with K-12 teachers. We will develop tools to see that students actually are learning what they should. We plan to go after some of the 4.2 billion dollars of federal “Race to the Top” money. To this end, a grant proposal is in the works to use in the preparation and support of “effective teachers” (as opposed to earlier language which emphasized “qualified teachers”—qualifications are important, but being effective is essential). A “longitudinal data system” for P-20 is under development with grant funding. Al Lind at CPE, staff at the Dept. of Education, and others are involved in the design of this system to track students from kindergarten through graduate education.

The Budget:

Dr. King stated that all campuses had to make compromises for this budget request. He thinks everyone has realized that standing together will work better than each university seeking their own advantage.

Dan Flanagan pointed out that a work group from the CPE had worked with John Hayek, the chief budget officers of the universities, and also with the university presidents in preparation of this budget.

2010-2012 Operating and Capital Budget Recommendation:

The proposed budget was presented by CPE staff John Hayek and Sherron Jackson with help from Ron Carson. Hayek recognized university chief budget officers and expressed appreciation for their help in this process. He noted that all university presidents had signed the Points of Consensus document.

Here is a link to the complete budget proposal (It is no.2 on the Council’s Agenda):

<http://cpe.ky.gov/committees/executive/meetings/2009/Nov+2009+CPE+Mtg+Agenda.htm>

The net appropriation for higher education had been cut by 78 million dollars over the past two years. The Governor provided 70 million dollars in federal stimulus funds to compensate for this loss. This money must be replaced by state funds for the next biennium. The proposed budget includes base adjustments such as restoration of M & O (maintenance and operations) money for new buildings and KSU's land grant (i.e. state matching funds required for receipt of federal moneys).

With regard to the "Strategic Initiatives Funds" requested in this budget, it was noted that this money, if available, would focus on improvement of retention and graduation rates. The money would be distributed proportionately to institutions.

The "Capital Investments" section is a very whittled down list. It is in line with a 2007 study (conducted by VFA, Inc. of Boston, Mass.) of campus needs which had indicated that the majority of buildings at Kentucky's institutions of higher education are over 30 years old and in "relatively poor condition." At the same time there is a significant need to add new capacity to support the increased number of students coming into the system to double the number of bachelor's degree holders in Kentucky. The budget request attempts to balance these competing needs. The priorities under capital investments are:

- 1) Capital Renewal/Asset Preservation (to begin addressing a \$2 billion backlog of deferred capital renewal, maintenance and infrastructure projects)—\$100,000,000
- 2) New and Expanded E & G (educational and general), Space Adequacy, and Support Facilities and Major Renovations—\$821,247,000
- 3) Research and Economic Development (i.e. funds for construction of new research space)—\$267,434,000
- 4) Information Technology Infrastructure Pool—\$50,000,000

Discussion of the budget proposal:

A Council member asked whether it is possible to convince the Legislature that this is a bare bones budget and that the CPE is not asking for more than it thinks it can get. Dr. King responded that he does not think there will be a problem with restoration of the base amount (that has been covered with federal stimulus money for the past biennium). He emphasized that restoration of M & O is essential. This budget request has a built-in “back-up plan,” namely the Strategic Initiatives of each school in which the emphasis is on graduation and retention. Certainly there is a risk that we’ll be given less than requested. He assumes there probably are contingency plans at individual campuses.

In response to a comment by John Hayek that the increase in enrollment and degree production is a good thing, Dr. King stated that he had recently testified in a Legislative committee and had made the point that funding for higher education is no longer tied to enrollment. It is not like public school funding which is per pupil.

Paul Patton remarked that he thinks it is wise to restore credibility to the CPE budget request by making a modest request that is appropriate to the current economic environment (as opposed to an earlier practice of asking for more than was likely to be received from the Legislature).

Dr. King indicated that he has been meeting individually with legislators and that they have viewed the budget as realistic, though they won’t make any definite commitment at this point.

The budget request was approved by a unanimous vote of the Council.

2009-2010 Interim Capital Projects Proposal:

The CPE must review any capital project for more than \$600,000 regardless of the source of funding. In reviewing projects the Council’s staff asks these questions: Has the project been approved by the university’s board? Has it been funded? If there is debt financing the CPE cannot approve the project; only the general assembly can authorize this.

The following interim projects were presented for Council approval:

- 1) Renovate Old Paul Sawyer Library (Kentucky State University)–\$1,000,000
- 2) Equine Mare Reproductive Biology Program/Stallion Research (UK)–\$1,200,000
- 3) Renovate Nutter Training Center Football Meeting Rooms (UK)–\$750,000
- 4) Replace Wildcat Lodge Student Housing (UK)–\$7,000,000

In view of the recent controversy in the newspapers regarding the last UK project being funded by and named for the coal industry, it was carefully explained to the Council that private funds are available for all the UK projects and that the UK Board has guidelines in place for the naming of buildings. The CPE has no authority to act on the naming of a building.

The Council voted unanimously to approve all interim capital projects.

2010-2011 Tuition Policy and Process:

John Hayek stated that tuition rates will not be acted upon until 2010. There will be an action item at the February CPE meeting with modifications to be done in March. The actual tuition rates will be adopted at the Council's May meeting.

Student representative Chris Crumrine indicated that he would like for students to be included in the tuition-setting process. Dr. King pointed out that he had met with all the SGA presidents at a dinner arranged by Crumrine.

Hayek mentioned Morehead's per-credit-hour tuition fee structure and indicated that a number of comprehensives had expressed an interest in this. The CPE would appreciate institutions coming to them early to work on plans of this nature.

Paul Patton stated that nobody wants to see tuition go up, but there comes a point at which schools cannot operate without making changes. What KCTCS has had to face is very difficult. His priority is maintaining quality, not running diploma mills!

2011-2015 Strategic Agenda Process Update:

House Bill 1 (Ky. Postsecondary Ed. Improvement Act of 1997) requires the Council to review its “strategic agenda” every 4 years and its implementation plan every 2 years. Council staff has begun the initial phase of a 3-phase process:

Phase 1: Planning & Analysis (Nov.-Feb. 2010)–Reviewing mission, vision and goals and talking with constituent groups

Phase 2: Public Input (March-June 2010)–Will decide whether to maintain The Five Questions, whether to develop new strategies. Will possibly hold statewide forums to public comment. A work group might be useful; some Council members may be asked to serve on this.

Phase 3: Finalize Agenda & Monitoring System (July-Sept. 2010)

Improving Educator Quality State Grant Program:

John DeAtley presented a request that the Council approve the awarding of \$1,144,000 of *No Child Left Behind*, Title II, Part A funds to support 8 projects. For the list of projects and descriptions, see the full report at this link:

<http://cpe.ky.gov/NR/rdonlyres/7FA547AD-992A-49B5-A929-F23FCCA2E82A/0/5 IEQ.pdf>

The Improving Educator Quality program awards grants to partnerships that deliver research-based professional development programs to P-12 teachers. To be eligible, a

partnership must include a postsecondary institution's school of arts and sciences and its teacher preparation program as well as at least one high-need local school district.

Council staff received 16 applications and recommended that 8 of them receive funding. In response to a question as to why 8 were rejected, it was explained that 4 were worthy of funding, but the available money was not sufficient to fund them. The other 4 proposals did not meet the required criteria.

The Council voted unanimously to approve the awarding of the 8 grants.

The meeting of the CPE was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Report submitted by,

Nancy McKenney, Faculty Rep. to the CPE