7 October 2002
COSFL REPORT

COSFL held its first meeting of the current academic year on 14 September 2002 in the W.T. Young Library, University of Kentucky.

After welcoming remarks, the following officers were elected:

President  Rick Feldhoff, University of Louisville
Vice-President  Carol Bredemeyer, Northern Kentucky University
Treasurer  Carolyn Siegel, Eastern Kentucky University
Secretary  Bill Pierce, University of Louisville

A wide-ranging discussion was initiated concerning COSFL's relationship with the CPE and its staff. Richard Freed, EKU Department of English, CPE faculty representative, and member of the CPE president search committee reported that COSFL will be included in meetings with presidential search finalists around the third week in October.

COSFL’s participation in the workshop session on Shared Governance at the Governor’s Conference for Trustees and Regents 9/22-23 was explained. Among many suggestions, the one most repeated was to explain to trustees and regents the value faculty participation adds to the development of academic plans, policies, and practices.

Richard Freed discussed the Agenda Book that is sent to all members of the CPE prior to each meeting. It is similar to those sent to members of university governing boards. Information and action items in the Agenda Book are centered on the five questions that drive reform:

1) Are more Kentuckians ready for postsecondary education?
2) Are more students enrolling?
3) Are more students advancing through the system?
4) Are we preparing Kentuckians for life and work
5) Are Kentucky’s communities and economy benefiting?

Apropos of these items, the CPE announced at its meeting on 22 September 2002 that

1) As of Fall 2002, there is a 4.9 percent increase ( 8838 more students) in enrollment in Kentucky’s public colleges and universities than in Fall 2001.
2) Since 1998, enrollment in Kentucky's public colleges and universities has increased 19.9 percent (over 31,500 students). Almost 190,000 are enrolled.

3) Since 1998, the Kentucky Community and Technical College System has increased enrollment by 45.8 percent (20,800 students).

4) Enrollment in the Kentucky Virtual University has grown from 230 students and nine programs in Fall 1999 to 9,732 students and 32 programs in Fall 2002.

COSFL will meet again in mid-October in Frankfort with CPE staff and again in November after revenue forecasts have been made public. A member of the Governor's Economic Forecasting group was present and noted that the group will be called to develop a new forecast based on Q1 2002 revenues.