

29 November 1995

TO: Members, University Senate

FROM: University Senate Council

RE: AGENDA ITEM: University Senate Meeting, Monday, December 11, 1995. Consideration of and Action on Position Paper, Coalition of Senate and Faculty Leadership (COSFL)

Statement of Support for Higher Education
by the
Coalition of Senate and Faculty Leadership (COSFL)

Support for higher education in Kentucky has seriously eroded in the recent past. While state tax revenues have increased by 40% over the last decade and enrollment in state institutions has increased by 34%, state general funding for higher education has decreased by 3%. Faculty members at Kentucky's public institutions of higher education, speaking through their respective faculties/senates, endorse the position paper of the Kentucky Advocates for Higher Education and applaud their efforts. In addition, we endorse the Council on Higher Education's funding proposal for 1996-98. We encourage consideration of the needs of higher education in any governmental discussion of budget surplus or restructuring of tax laws.

As faculty members of Kentucky's public institutions of higher education, we welcome the opportunity to work closely with the new administration in its efforts to gain broad support for higher education in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Background:

The above statement was developed by the Coalition of Senate and Faculty Leadership (COSFL). The Coalition of Senate and Faculty Leadership for Higher Education in Kentucky (COSFL) is cooperating with the Advocates for Higher Education in encouraging support for the revised formula for funding higher education in the 1996-98 biennium. Accordingly, COSFL is asking all faculty senates at public universities and community colleges in Kentucky to endorse the statement of support.

COSFL is composed of senate chairs, faculty trustees/regents, and other designated faculty leaders from Kentucky's public universities and community colleges. One of its functions is to serve as an advocacy body on behalf of its collective membership before the Council on Higher Education, the governor, the legislature, and the general public. This statement is but one part of COSFL's advocacy efforts.

The Senate Council approved the statement unanimously and recommends it to the Senate.

If approved, the statement will be forwarded to Professor Loys Mather, current President of COSFL.