

**KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS  
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS STANDING COMMITTEE  
MEETING AGENDA  
December 18, 2024  
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

The Board Academic Affairs Standing Committee (BAASC) will meet in the Kathy Rupp Conference Room, located in the Curtis State Office Building at 1000 SW Jackson St, Suite 520, Topeka, Kansas 66612. To the extent possible, a virtual option will be provided to accommodate those who prefer not to attend in person.

- I. Call to Order** Regent Mendoza, Chair
  - A. Roll Call and Introductions
  - B. Approve Minutes from December 4, 2024 Meeting p. 3
  
- II. Board Consent Items**
  - Rocky Vista University Degree-Granting Authority Crystal Puderbaugh p. 5
  
- III. Board Discussion Agenda Items**
  - No items
  
- IV. Other Matters**
  - A. First 15 Initiative Rusty Monhollon
  - B. Math Pathways and English Initiatives Jenn Bonds-Raacke
  - C. AY 2025 Performance Report Updates Sam Christy-Dangermond
  - D. Complete College America (CCA) Launch Rusty Monhollon
  
- V. Announcements**
  - Next BAASC Meeting – January 2, 2025
  
- VI. Adjournment**

**BOARD ACADEMIC AFFAIRS STANDING COMMITTEE**

Four Regents serve on the Board Academic Affairs Standing Committee (BAASC), established in 2002. The Regents are appointed annually by the Chair and approved by the Board. BAASC meets virtually approximately two weeks before each Board meeting. The Committee also meets on the morning of the first day of the monthly Board meeting. Membership includes:

Diana Mendoza, Chair

Alysia Johnston

Neelima Parasker

**Board Academic Affairs Standing Committee**

**AY 2025 Meeting Schedule**

<i><b>BAASC Academic Year 2024- 2025 Meeting Dates</b></i>			
<b>Meeting Dates</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Agenda Materials Due</b>
September 4, 2024	Virtual Meeting	10:00 a.m.	August 14, 2024
September 18, 2024	Topeka	11:00 a.m.	August 28, 2024
November 6, 2024	Virtual Meeting	10:00 a.m.	October 16, 2024
November 20, 2024	Kansas State University	11:00 a.m.	October 30, 2024
December 4, 2024	Virtual Meeting	10:00 a.m.	November 13, 2024
December 18, 2024	Topeka	11:00 a.m.	November 25, 2024
January 2, 2025	Virtual Meeting	10:00 a.m.	December 11, 2024
January 15, 2025	Topeka	11:00 a.m.	December 24, 2024
January 29, 2025	Topeka	11:00 a.m.	January 8, 2025
February 12, 2025	Topeka	11:00 a.m.	January 22, 2025
February 26, 2025	Virtual Meeting	10:00 a.m.	February 5, 2025
March 12, 2025	Topeka	11:00 a.m.	February 19, 2025
April 2, 2025	Virtual Meeting	10:00 a.m.	March 12, 2025
April 16, 2025	Pittsburg State University	11:00 a.m.	March 26, 2025
April 30, 2025	Virtual Meeting	10:00 a.m.	April 9, 2025
May 14, 2025	Topeka	11:00 a.m.	April 23, 2025
May 28, 2025	Virtual Meeting	10:00 a.m.	May 7, 2025
June 11, 2025	Topeka	11:00 a.m.	May 21, 2025

Please note that virtual meeting times are 10:00 a.m. and Board Day meetings are 11:00 a.m., unless otherwise noted.

**KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS  
BOARD ACADEMIC AFFAIRS STANDING COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
DECEMBER 4, 2024**

Chair Diana Mendoza called the December 4, 2024, Board Academic Affairs Standing Committee meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. The meeting was held virtually via Zoom.

MEMBERS PRESENT:           Regent Diana Mendoza, Chair  
                                  Regent Alysia Johnston  
                                  Regent Neelima Parasker

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Regent Mendoza noted that an edit was needed on page two of the minutes, changing ‘p.m.’ to ‘a.m.’. Regent Parasker moved that the minutes of the November 20, 2024, meeting be approved. Following the second of Regent Johnston, the motion carried unanimously.

**BOARD CONSENT ITEMS**

**ROCKY VISTA UNIVERSITY DEGREE-GRANTING AUTHORITY**

Director of Academic Affairs Crystal Puderbaugh presented the request from Rocky Vista University for degree-granting authority in Kansas. Rocky Vista University is seeking approval to offer clinical placements in Kansas for the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine program and the online Master of Physician Assistant Studies program. Regent Johnston requested more information on the need for programs in Kansas, clinical placement availability, and if this approval would negatively impact current Kansas universities offering similar programs. Director Puderbaugh stated that if an institution met the minimum requirements Kansas statute required the Board to approve the institution. Regent Mendoza suggested revisiting this at the December 18 meeting after additional information could be gathered. Director Puderbaugh stated that she would contact Kansas universities offering similar programs to collect data on the requested issues. Regent Johnston moved to table this request until January. Following the second of Regent Parasker, the motion carried unanimously.

**REQUEST TO CHANGE ACADEMIC CALENDAR – KU**

Director of Academic Affairs Sam Christy-Dangermond presented the request from the University of Kansas to modify their 2025 academic calendar. The modification would adjust the Fall 2025 start date from August 25 to August 18. These changes would not affect the number of instructional days, as the request also moves the last class date up one week, from December 11 to December 4. Stop Day and Finals Week were also moved up one week. University Registrar for the University of Kansas, Casey Wallace, provided further details about the requested changes and answered questions. Regent Johnston moved to approve the request. Following the second of Regent Mendoza, the motion carried unanimously.

**BOARD DISCUSSION AGENDA ITEMS**

**APPROVE NEW SYSTEMWIDE TRANSFER COURSES**

Director of Academic Affairs Karla Wiscombe presented the request to approve six additional courses to be recognized for transfer across the Kansas Board of Regents System. The Transfer and Articulation Council (TAAC) reviewed reports from the October 11, 2024, Kansas Core Outcomes Groups (KCOG) Conference and approved the new courses at their November 13, 2024, meeting. Regent Johnston moved to approve the recommended six courses. Following the second of Regent Parasker, the motion carried unanimously. Director Wiscombe also encouraged institutions to have their faculty review the transfer portal and available information.

**OTHER MATTERS**

### TAAC QUALITY ASSURANCE REPORT

Transfer and Articulation Council Co-chair Casey Fraites-Chapes presented the 2024 Quality Assurance Report. She provided background information about the roles of the Quality Assurance Subcommittee, the Transfer and Articulation Council, and the Kansas Core Outcomes Groups. Five full associate degree programs have been approved, streamlining the transfer experience for students and allowing them to complete the first 60 credit hours of corresponding bachelor's degree programs at Kansas institutions. The transfer data included in this report was generated from the KHEDS portal. The report is available on the Kansas Board of Regents website under the Transfer and Articulation subtab in the Academic Affairs section.

### PRIVATE POSTSECONDARY REPORT

Director of Academic Affairs Crystal Puderbaugh presented the FY2023 Private/Out-of-State Postsecondary Education Report. She provided history on the regulatory authority oversight for Private/Out-of-state Postsecondary institutions in Kansas and the application for such institutions. Due to modifying the definition of physical presence and adding an exemption for review courses, the number of approved institutions decreased in FY 2023. There were 114 approved institutions in FY2023, with 1,986 approved programs. There were 23,805 Kansas students enrolled at approved institutions during the fiscal year. Sixty-two percent of completions were in healthcare-related programs.

### RECEIVE QUALIFIED ADMISSIONS REPORT

Sam Christy-Dangermond presented the Qualified Admissions Report. This is an annual report submitted to the Legislature with information on students admitted by exception. No state university exceeded the ten percent threshold for the total number of undergraduate freshmen and transfer students who did not meet the minimum admission standards for 2023-2024.

### ACADEMIC AFFAIRS UPDATES

Vice President of Academic Affairs Rusty Monhollon shared that a working group has been established for the "First 15," and meetings are beginning to be scheduled, with the first meeting next week. More updates will be provided at the December 18 meeting.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next BAASC meeting will be held in Topeka at the KBOR office on December 18.

### ADJOURNMENT

Regent Johnston moved that the meeting be adjourned. Following the second of Regent Parasker, the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:57 a.m.

## Summary

*Rocky Vista University has applied for a certificate of approval to operate in Kansas and is requesting degree-granting authority. After thoroughly reviewing staff qualifications, record-keeping systems, coursework, and supporting materials, the institution demonstrates that it meets and complies with statutorily imposed requirements. Staff recommends that the institution be issued a certificate of approval.*

## Summary of Institution Requirements

The Private and Out-of-State Postsecondary Educational Institution Act (Act) requires private and out-of-state postsecondary educational institutions to obtain a certificate of approval from the Kansas Board of Regents (Board) to operate in Kansas lawfully. This Act covers “brick and mortar” institutions with a physical location within Kansas and institutions that offer or provide online distance education to Kansans who remain in the state while receiving their education.

To qualify for a certificate of approval, an institution subject to the Act must meet the standards established by the Act and the regulations adopted pursuant to the Act. Board staff reviews substantial documentation and evidence to determine if institutions demonstrate compliance with minimum requirements. Financial statements, proof of accreditation, evidence of compliance with safety codes, enrollment agreements, catalog, copies of advertisements, schedules of tuition and fees, and refund policies are reviewed by Board staff. Institutions must also provide descriptions of their programs and courses, administrator and instructor credentials, program objectives, and ownership structure information.

## Rocky Vista University

Rocky Vista University was established in 2006 in Parker, Colorado. The University also has campuses located in Irvine, Utah, and Billings, Montana. Rocky Vista University offers five programs: Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine, Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia, Master of Physician Assistant Studies, Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences, and Master of Medical Sciences. Rocky Vista University is seeking approval to offer clinical placements in Kansas for the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine program and the online Master of Physician Assistant Studies program.

Rocky Vista University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC), an agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. They also hold accreditation from the Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation (COCA) of the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) and the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, Inc. (ARC-PA).

## Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends issuance of a certificate of approval with degree-granting authority to Rocky Vista University.