

# **FEBRUARY 12, 2025**

**Kansas Board of Regents**  
Curtis State Office Building  
1000 SW Jackson, Suite 520  
Topeka, KS 66612

2024-2025  
Carl Ice, Chair  
Jon Rolph, Vice Chair

## **KANSAS BOARD OF REGENT MEMBERS:**

Blake Benson  
Alysia Johnston  
Jon Rolph

John Dicus  
Diana Mendoza  
Wint Winter

Carl Ice  
Neelima Parasker  
Kathy Wolfe-Moore

## **Building a Future**

Higher Education's Commitment to Kansas Families, Businesses, and the Economy

1. Helping Kansas families
2. Supporting Kansas businesses
3. Advancing economic prosperity

# BOARD GOALS 2024-2025

*Approved by the Kansas Board of Regents*



## Goals

### **Pillar One: Family – Access and Affordability**

1. Expand access by creating opportunities for Kansas high school juniors and seniors to earn at least 15 credit hours of college courses at no cost to the student.
2. Improve systemwide transfer of associate degrees by ensuring courses transfer as degree requirements.

### **Pillar One: Family – Access and Success**

3. Continue implementation of the Student Success Playbooks with a focus on expanding Open Educational Resource adoption, Apply Kansas initiatives, FAFSA completion and a review of activities at the community and technical colleges.

### **Pillar One: Family – Success and Pillar Two: Business – Talent Pipeline**

4. Successfully launch the Kansas Blueprint for Literacy Initiative.
5. Gather recommendations from universities and develop a framework and definitions for reporting industry-recognized alternative credentials awarded by the public universities.

### **Pillar Three: Prosperity**

6. Develop a systemwide research initiative that leverages the combined resources and expertise of universities to attract businesses, serve as economic engines, create opportunity for Kansans, and uplift the state and its communities.

### **Bedrock Governance Goal**

7. Establish information technology, cybersecurity and enterprise risk management policies for state universities.

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# MEETING INFORMATION AND SCHEDULE

Unless noted, all meetings take place at the Curtis State Office Building (CSOB) at 1000 SW Jackson, Suite 520, Topeka, Kansas, 66612 in the meeting room indicated. Addresses for offsite meetings can be obtained by contacting the Kansas Board of Regents office at 785-430-4240.

## Wednesday, February 12, 2025

Time	Committee/Activity	Location
8:30 am - 9:00 am	System Council of Chief Academic Officers	Suite 530
9:00 am - Adjournment	Council of Chief Academic Officers	Suite 530
9:00 am - 10:00 am	Governance Committee	Kathy Rupp Room <a href="#">Livestream</a>
9:00 am - 10:30 am	Council of Student Affairs Committee	Sunflower Room C
10:15 am - Noon	Fiscal Affairs & Audit Standing Committee	Board Room <a href="#">Livestream</a>
10:30 am - 11:00 am	System Council of Presidents	Suite 530
11:00 am - Adjournment	Council of Presidents	Suite 530
11:00 am - Noon	Academic Affairs Standing Committee	Kathy Rupp Room <a href="#">Livestream</a>
Noon - 1:00 pm	Council of Faculty Senate Presidents	Kansas Room A
Noon - 1:00 pm	Students' Advisory Committee	Kathy Rupp Room
Noon - 1:00 pm	Lunch <i>Board of Regents &amp; President Flanders</i>	Flint Hills Room B
1:15 pm - Adjournment	Board of Regents Meeting	Board Room <a href="#">Livestream</a>
Adjournment -	Roundtable <i>Board of Regents, President Flanders, and Academic Officers</i>	Kathy Rupp Room
6:00 pm	Dinner <i>Board of Regents, President Flanders, and Community and Technical College Leadership</i>	Topeka Country Club 2700 SW Buchanan

# MEETING AGENDA

The Kansas Board of Regents will meet in the Board Room located in the Curtis State Office Building at 1000 SW Jackson, Suite 520, Topeka, Kansas, 66612.

## Wednesday, February 12, 2025

- |  |                                       |              |
|--|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>I. Call To Order</b>  | Regent Ice, Chair                     |              |
| <b>II. Approval of Minutes</b><br>January 15, 2025 meeting   |                                       | <i>p. 5</i>  |
| <b>III. Introductions and Reports</b>  |                                       |              |
| A. <i>Introductions</i>  |                                       |              |
| B. <i>Report from the Chair</i>  | Regent Ice, Chair                     |              |
| C. <i>Report from the President &amp; CEO</i>  | Blake Flanders, President & CEO       |              |
| D. <i>Report from Council of Faculty Senate Presidents</i>   | Norman Phillip, PSU                   |              |
| E. <i>Report from Students' Advisory Committee</i>   | Hannah Eckstein, PSU                  |              |
| <b>IV. Standing Committee Reports</b>  |                                       |              |
| A. <i>Academic Affairs</i>   | Regent Mendoza                        |              |
| B. <i>Fiscal Affairs &amp; Audit</i>   | Regent Benson                         |              |
| C. <i>Governance</i>   | Regent Ice, Chair                     |              |
| <b>V. Approval of Consent Agenda</b>   |                                       |              |
| A. <i>Fiscal Affairs &amp; Audit</i>   |                                       |              |
| 1. Act on Request to Amend the FY 2025 Capital Improvement Project Plan and Approve Program Statement for Lied Biomedical Research Center Heating Hot Water System Replacement– KUMC   | Chad Bristow,<br>Director, Facilities | <i>p. 13</i> |
| 2. Act on Request to Amend the FY 2025 Capital Improvement Project Plan and Approve Program Statement for Sudler Mechanical, Electrical, and Plumbing Infrastructure Renovation – KUMC |                                       | <i>p. 13</i> |
| 3. Act on Request to Amend the FY 2025 Capital Improvement Plan and Approve Program Statement for Bioprocessing and Industrial Value Added Products Innovation Center – KSU            |                                       | <i>p. 14</i> |
| 4. Act on Request to Amend the FY 2025 Capital Improvement Project Plan and Approve Program Statement for Kansas Forest Service/College of Agriculture Joint Facility – KSU            |                                       | <i>p. 15</i> |

- 5. Act on Request to Raze Buildings at Beef Cattle Research Center- KSU p. 16
- 6. Act on Request to Amend Acceptance of Real Property – PSU p. 17
- B. Technical Education Authority*
  - 1. Act on Request for Degree and/or Certificate Program: Technical Certificate B, C and AAS in Electrical Technology – Cowley Community College p. 18  
April White,  
VP, Workforce Development
  - 2. Act on Excel in Career Technical Education (CTE) Fees – Cowley Community College p. 21
  - 3. Act on Promise Act Programs – Cowley Community College p. 23
  - 4. Act on Submitted Academic Year 2025-2026 Excel in Career Technical Education (CTE) Fees p. 25

**VI. Consideration of Discussion Agenda**

- A. Academic Affairs* Regent Mendoza
  - 1. Act on Request to Approve Master of Science in Medical Dosimetry – Washburn p. 27  
Provost Fritch
  - 2. Act on Request to Change Qualified Admissions – KU p. 31  
Rusty Monhollon,  
VP, Academic Affairs  
Provost Bichelmeyer
  - 3. Receive Annual Report on Apply Kansas Application Campaign, Receive Report on Kansas Free Applications Days, and Act on Kansas Free Application Days for 2025-2026 Academic Year p. 34  
Mistie Knox,  
Associate Director,  
Academic Affairs
- B. Governance* Regent Ice
  - 1. Act on Student Health Insurance Benefits and Premium Rates for Plan Year 2025-2026 p. 36  
Jeff DeWitt  
Chair, Student Insurance  
Advisory Committee
- C. Strategic Plan*
  - 1. Receive Annual Report on the Board’s Strategic Plan, Building a Future p. 38  
Blake Flanders,  
President and CEO
- D. Other Matters*
  - 1. Receive Update on Legislative Investment in Student Success p. 38  
Kansas State University  
Pittsburg State University  
University of Kansas

- |  |   |              |
|--|---|--------------|
| 2. Receive Report on Kansas Comprehensive Grant Program – System | Elaine Frisbie,<br>VP, Finance & Administration | <i>p. 39</i> |
| 3. Receive Legislative Update                                    | Fred Patton,<br>Government Affairs              | <i>p. 41</i> |

**VII. Adjournment**

# MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The meeting was called to order by Chair Carl Ice at 1:15 p.m. The meeting was held at the Board Office, Curtis State Office Building, 1000 SW Jackson, Ste. 500, Topeka, Kansas. Proper notice was given according to the law.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Carl Ice, Chair  
Jon Rolph, Vice Chair  
Alysia Johnston  
Blake Benson  
John Dicus  
Neelima Parasker  
Wint Winter  
Diana Mendoza

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regent Rolph moved to approve the minutes of the Board’s December 18, 2024 meeting. Regent Dicus seconded the motion. The motion carried.

## INTRODUCTIONS

Wichita State University President Richard Muma introduced Dr. Monica Lounsbery, WSU’s new Senior Executive Vice President and Provost.

## GENERAL REPORTS

### REPORT FROM CHAIR

Chair Ice wished the meeting attendees a happy new year. He explained that the meeting would feature information sharing helpful to building the Board’s long-term plan, focusing on what the universities do with state investments, and the student success initiative, which is one of the Board’s pillars. After the meeting, the Board will attend the Governor’s State of the State address. Chair Ice said that the Board is looking forward to seeing the state’s policy makers at the address.

### REPORT FROM PRESIDENT AND CEO

Board President and CEO Blake Flanders said he is excited that the Legislature is back in Topeka, and that the Board has a great relationship with state policy makers. President Flanders testified last week on state employee compensation. Board of Regents and state university employees received reduced amounts in the most recent two rounds of state employee pay plans compared to other employees. President Flanders shared market information with legislators and will provide any additional information requested.

President Flanders also noted that RSVPs should be made by Friday for the Complete College America launch event that Washburn University is hosting on February 11. President Flanders thanked Washburn for hosting the event.

### REPORT FROM COUNCIL OF FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENTS

Pittsburg State University Professor Norman Philipp, Chair of the Council of Faculty Senate Presidents, reported that the Council completed its updated recommendations on the Board’s faculty of the year award policy, which would permit an additional award for non-tenured, non-tenure track faculty. The Council will also recommend changes to the definition of work duties.



Chair Ice noted that the Governance Committee discussed the issue this morning and is planning on reviewing the faculty award policy in February, along with discussing a possible staff award.

#### REPORT FROM STUDENTS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Pittsburg State University Student Government Association President Hannah Eckstein, Chair of the Students' Advisory Committee, said the Committee enjoyed breakfast with the Regents in December, and is looking forward to Higher Education Day at the Capitol in February 17. At today's meeting, the Committee discussed upcoming elections and tuition and fee decisions.

#### STANDING COMMITTEE AND OTHER REPORTS

##### ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Regent Mendoza, Chair of the Board Academic Affairs Standing Committee, reported that BAASC met this morning and approved Washburn University's request to offer an MS in Medical Dosimetry. This would be the only such program in the state. BAASC also approved the University of Kansas' request to change its qualified admissions criteria. Sam Christy-Dangermond, Director of Academic Affairs, reviewed the performance report rubric, and BAASC will continue discussing the rubric at its next meeting. Rusty Monhollon, Vice President for Academic Affairs, announced First 15 workgroup dates and said a webpage would be live later this week.

Regent Mendoza extended her appreciation to Dr. Karla Wiscombe, Director of Academic Affairs. Regent Mendoza congratulated Dr. Wiscombe on her upcoming retirement. Chair Ice echoed Regent Mendoza's comments.

##### FISCAL AFFAIRS AND AUDIT

Regent Benson, Chair of the Board Fiscal Affairs and Audit Standing Committee reported that the Committee conducted its agenda call on January 2 and met this morning. Today, the Committee heard annual audit plans and prior year outcomes from Kansas State University, Emporia State University, and Fort Hays State University. The Committee discussed the importance of adequate resources dedicated to the internal audit function, cross-training staff, and developing succession plans. The Committee requested information from the universities on how their staffing levels compare to those of similar universities and their peers. In addition, going forward, the Chair of the Fiscal Affairs and Audit Standing Committee will co-sign the universities' audit charters with the campus CEOs as they are updated.

Regent Benson next stated the Committee reviewed and recommended favorably to the Board all the Fiscal Affairs items included in the Board's agenda.

Finally, Regent Benson reported that, as authorized by Board Policy, the Committee approved Wichita State University's request for authorization to refund a portion of nontaxable bonds issued in 2021. The refinancing will permit WSU to lease space in its Digital Research and Transformation Hub on the Innovation Campus to private companies.

##### GOVERNANCE

Board Governance Committee Chair Carl Ice reported that the Committee met this morning. The Committee authorized the Board President to execute a contract for instructional design services for the Blueprint for Literacy program. In addition, the Committee received a report on proposed changes to the Board's faculty of the year award policy. The Committee also received an annual campus safety and security report from Wichita State University.

Lastly, Chair Ice reported that the Committee received an update on work an outside vendor will perform to aid evaluation of CEO compensation. A contract has been awarded. Board staff will have a kick-off meeting with the vendor, and the vendor's draft report is expected to be provided in March.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Regent Rolph moved to approve the consent agenda. Regent Benson seconded the motion. The motion carried and the following items were approved:

*Fiscal Affairs & Audit***ACT ON REQUEST TO ACCEPT PROPERTY FROM UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION – KSU**

Kansas State University received approval to accept ownership of an 85-acre tract of land known as Knox Lane from the KSU Foundation.

**ADOPT BOND RESOLUTION FOR THE ISSUANCE OF REVENUE BONDS TO FUND CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPPING OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR AVIATION RESEARCH HUB FOR ADVANCED MANUFACTURING AND RESEARCH AND RENOVATION AND EQUIPPING OF THE UNIVERSITY STADIUM; EXECUTION OF VARIOUS OTHER DOCUMENTS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH – WSU**

The Board adopted a resolution for the issuance of revenue bonds to fund two Wichita State University Projects: (1) constructing and equipping the National Institute for Aviation Research Hub for Advanced Manufacturing building (HAMR); and (2) renovating and equipping the university stadium.

The HAMR building will be a 167,500-square-foot research and training facility for emerging technology, advanced materials, digital twin, advanced machining, and automation. The total project cost is estimated to be \$66.8 million, with \$20.0 million debt financed, \$16.0 million funded by the Kansas Department of Commerce, \$26.4 million funded by a construction grant from the Federal Economic Development Administration, and the remaining balance funded from university resources. The Board resolution authorizes the issuance of bonds for the HAMR project in an aggregate principal amount sufficient to finance expenditures for costs of the HAMR project not to exceed \$20.0 million, plus all amounts required for costs of issuance, costs of interest on such revenue bonds during the construction of the project, credit enhancement costs, and any required reserves for the payment of principal and interest on such revenue bonds, for the purpose of funding the project. The debt will be secured by a pledge of generally available unencumbered funds of the university, and the debt will be serviced from NIAR funds.

The University Stadium project is a replacement for Cessna Stadium and, at completion of the phased construction project, will seat approximately 12,500-14,000 spectators. Project Phase 1A, comprising improvements on the east side of the existing track, began in summer 2024, funded by revenue bonds issued by the Wichita State University Board of Trustees. Wichita State University sought to cause \$6.81 million in revenue bonds to issue, to finance the completion of project phases 1A and 1B. The Board resolution authorizes the issuance of bonds in an aggregate principal amount sufficient to finance expenditures for costs of the University Stadium project not to exceed \$17.85 million (the full amount of bonding authority granted by the Kansas Legislature for the project) plus the costs of issuance, costs of interest on such revenue bonds during the construction of the project, credit enhancement costs, and any required reserves for the payment of principal and interest on such revenue bonds, for the purpose of funding the project. The debt will be secured by a pledge of generally available unencumbered University funds.

**ACT ON REQUEST TO RAZE THE OLATHE PAVILION AND TO ALLOCATE FY 2025 BUILDING DEMOLITION FUNDS– KUMC**

The University of Kansas Medical Center received approval to raze the Olathe Pavilion building. The Board allocated \$2,239,285 for the project from the state Building Demolition Fund. The demolition is in accordance with the planning goals identified by KUMC's 2024-2050 Campus Master Plan. The Olathe Pavilion has an estimated \$19.2 million deferred maintenance backlog.

The estimated cost for demolition, utility relocation, and exterior entry is \$6.9 million.

ACT ON REQUEST TO AMEND FY 2025 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PLAN AND APPROVE PROGRAM STATEMENT FOR THE BEEF CATTLE RESEARCH CENTER – KSU

Kansas State University received approval to amend the Fiscal Year 2025 capital improvement project plan, and the Board accepted the program statement for the construction of the Beef Cattle Research Center Facilities. The project will include a teaching and research feedlot, a metabolism research barn, and a feed mill. The construction will be carried out in two phases, with a total estimated project cost of \$16,001,000, to be financed totally with private money from philanthropic and industry partner gifts.

Technical Education Authority

ACT ON REQUESTS FOR DEGREE AND/OR CERTIFICATE PROGRAM: TECHNICAL CERTIFICATE B AND AAS IN BARBERING – HUTCHINSON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Hutchinson Community College received approval for the following program:

Barbering (12.0402) – Technical Certificate B/38 credit hours, and Associate of Applied Science/62 credit hours.

ACT ON CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY ARTICULATED CREDIT WITH KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

The Board approved an articulated credit crosswalk aligning public secondary and postsecondary Construction Technology programs. The crosswalk establishes the conditions under which postsecondary credit may be received for coursework completed under an approved Kansas State Department of Education Career Cluster Pathway.

**CONSIDERATION OF DISCUSSION AGENDA**

Academic Affairs

RECEIVE INFORMATION ON THE HIGHER LEARNING COMMISSION'S GUIDELINES FOR REDUCED-CREDIT BACHELOR'S PROGRAMS

Rusty Monhollon, Vice President for Academic Affairs, presented on the Higher Learning Commission's guidelines for reduced-credit bachelor's degree programs, which the Higher Learning Commission issued this fall. As distinguished from a three-year degree, in which a student completes a full-credit-hour program in a compressed timeframe, a reduced-credit degree carries a lower credit-hour requirement.

Vice President Monhollon discussed the HLC's guidelines, including the factors it would review when accrediting reduced-credit programs. He also discussed the perceived benefits and drawbacks of reduced-credit degrees. On one hand, for example, the programs offer students potential cost savings, and the programs' intense focus can lead to deeper student understanding. Additionally, shorter programs can help respond to workforce needs. On the other hand, students may encounter reduced extracurricular opportunities, and critics argue the programs may lack the depth and breadth of knowledge of full-credit-hour programs.

The Regents discussed questions surrounding reduced-credit programs' potential impact on students with some college but no degree; the ramifications of permitting institutions to offer reduced-credit programs; and the nuances distinguishing traditional four-year and reduced-credit bachelor's degrees.

[Presentation on file with official minutes.]

**BREAK**

Chair Ice called for a break at 2:10 p.m. The meeting resumed at 2:28 p.m.

ACT ON NON-BUDGETARY LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL TO SEEK BONDING AUTHORITY FOR STADIUM RENOVATION – WSU

Kelly Oliver, Chief of Staff, presented Wichita State University's request to seek authorization from the 2025 Legislature to issue revenue bonds to finance its University Stadium project. WSU would seek legislative authority for the Kansas Development Finance Authority to issue up to \$60,000,000 in revenue bonds to complete the project. WSU intends to limit any issuance to only the amount necessary to complete the project. WSU is fundraising to support the project, which could reduce the amount of the issuance. If approved, this item would be added to the Board's nonbudgetary legislative proposal.

Regent Benson said that the Fiscal Affairs and Audit Committee approved the proposal, and was assured no general use revenues would be used. In addition, Regent Benson noted that WSU will need to return to the Board for approval to issue bonds resulting from any authority that the legislature may grant.

Regent Rolph moved to approve the addition to the Board's non-budgetary legislative agenda. Regent Benson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

ACT ON PROPOSED UNIFORM MARKET-BASED TUITION FOR FOUNDATIONS IN STRUCTURED LITERACY COURSE AT THE STATE UNIVERSITIES IN ACADEMIC YEARS 2025 AND 2026

Cynthia Lane, Director of Literacy, presented a proposal to establish the market-based tuition rate for the Foundations in Structured Literacy course. This course is being developed pursuant to the Kansas Blueprint for Literacy, which requires that the course be made accessible to all in-service early childhood teachers, general education teachers, and special education teachers at low or no cost to the teachers. The proposed market-based tuition rate is \$300 per credit hour. The rate was developed by the Board's office of literacy, working with the deans of the colleges of education at the state universities and Washburn university.

Regent Benson moved to adopt the market-based tuition rate. Regent Rolph seconded the motion. The motion carried.

RECEIVE UPDATE ON LEGISLATIVE INVESTMENT IN UNIVERSITY PROGRAMS

Each of the state universities presented an update focusing on legislative investments in university programs.

For Fort Hays State University, Dr. Tanya Smith, Assistant Chair of the Department of Nursing, discussed FHSU's Western Kansas Nursing Program expansion. FHSU faculty collaborated to determine how to meet the need for nursing in western Kansas. Smith highlighted a \$12.75 million expansion in physical space, which will include increased classroom size. Dr. Smith also highlighted approvals received from the Kansas Board of Nursing to increase nursing student seats. Regent Ice inquired about the relationship between the physical expansion and increased student capacity. Dr. Smith noted that the existing space constricts the number of students who may be admitted. FHSU hopes that the physical expansion will triple its Bachelor of Science in nursing capacity to 120 students.

For Wichita State University, Dr. John Tomblin, Executive Vice President for Research and Industry and Defense Programs, discussed WSU's research model. WSU focuses on applied research and 9,000 WSU students are benefitting from the on-campus applied learning opportunities. WSU begins by going to industry or government to define a problem. It then provides a solution, injects students using its applied learning program, which results in students matriculating into the industry talent pipeline. WSU then scales the model. Reviewing recent successes, Dr. Tomblin reported that WSU had executed the largest industry-educational institution contract ever, exceeding the \$225 million contract between IBM and MIT for development of the IBM Watson computer. WSU is now home to the number one aerospace research group in the United States. Dr. Tomblin said that the \$22 million in state funding against WSU's \$401.9 million in research expenditures represents a 17:1 return on state investments. Dr. Tomblin also discussed the impact of WSU's work in generating local jobs, as well as WSU's future research aims.

For Emporia State University, Dr. Tim Burnett, Interim Dean of School of Science & Mathematics, discussed SMaRT Kansas 21. ESU receives \$500,000 per year to recruit, support, and train science and mathematics teachers. Program coordinator Kimberly Ideus reviewed scholarships granted under the program, which will grow to 65 scholarships totaling \$289,000 for Academic Year 2026. She also reviewed efforts to interest schoolchildren in science and mathematics.

For Kansas State University, Dr. Bonnie Rush, Dean of College of Veterinary Medicine, announced that the college recently received full accreditation for another seven years. Dr. Rush discussed a \$5,000,000 recurring appropriation that the College of Veterinary Medicine has received since 2019. The funding was initially used to renovate facilities and provide research support. It is now used to support research faculty. Among other items, Dr. Rush highlighted livestock infectious disease research that identified the cause of cow-to-cow transfer of avian influenza. The College received a National Institutes of Health grant for a core research facility that opened in October 2004. Reviewing performance indicators, Dr. Rush stated that the College receives approximately 2,200 applications for 120 student seats; and maintains a 90% four-year graduation rate and excellent board passage and employment rates.

For Pittsburg State University, Dr. Shawn Naccarato, Vice President, Research and Economic Development, discussed the National Institute for Materials Advancement. PSU is growing faculty expertise in electroactive materials. The Institute's Tyler Prove-Out Facility will enable small production runs that national manufacturers cannot perform in a cost-accessible way for entrepreneurs. The facility is expected to be completed in 2027. It will be key to an emerging research and development park currently experiencing about \$70 million in active development. With the facility, PSU is focused on expanding research and development, paving the way for industry partnerships, and positioning PSU as a battery technology leader.

For the University of Kansas, Dr. Jay Kalabas, State Geologist of Kansas and Director of the Kansas Geological Survey, discussed the Kansas Geological Survey. Dr. Kalabas highlighted the KGS' work around water usage in southwest Kansas, including the KGS' technology-enabled capacity to identify problems and create practical solutions. For example, Dr. Kalabas discussed airborne electromagnetic surveying, which enables KGS to generate three-dimensional models of the geological subsurface. KGS can model an entire aquifer, from which it can model outcomes based on variables such as precipitation and business usage.

[Presentations on file with official minutes.]

Due to time constraints, Chair Ice stated that the Board would deviate from the written agenda by receiving a legislative update and acting on two naming requests before receiving updates on legislative investment in student success.

#### RECEIVE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Fred Patton, the Board's governmental affairs consultant, reported that President Flanders provided testimony to the Legislature's employee compensation committee. Patton believed legislators appreciated the information, and stated that the committee will issue a report. Next Tuesday, there will be a hearing at which the Educational Building Fund is discussed.

Patton noted that the budget process is new this year. The process usually begins with the Governor's recommendation. This year, House Bill 2007—a budget bill with no enhancements—will be worked by the House first and then the Senate. Although the Governor will present her budget recommendations as usual, it is not clear what the Legislature will do with it.

ACT ON REQUEST TO NAME A FACILITY – WSU

Wichita State University President Richard Muma presented a request to name the main entrance of the Shocker Fly Lab in honor of Lynn and Sherry Nichols.

Regent Rolph moved to approve the request, seconded by Regent Johnston. The motion carried.

ACT ON REQUEST TO NAME A FACILITY – KSU

Kansas State University President Richard Linton presented a request to name KSU's Beef Cattle Research Center the Doug Laue Beef Cattle Research Center.

Regent Johnston moved to approve the request, seconded by Regent Benson. The motion carried.

Regent Ice thanked the Fiscal Affairs and Audit Committee for its quick work on project approval for the Center.

RECEIVE UPDATE ON LEGISLATIVE INVESTMENT IN STUDENT SUCCESS

Three of the state universities updated the Board on their student success initiatives. The remaining three will provide updates at the next Board meeting.

For Wichita State University, Dr. Ashlie Jack, Associate Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness, stated that WSU focused on using student success funding on transformational practices that provide continuous support to WSU's students. Dr. Jack provided an overview of WSU's strategic enrollment management plan. There are four goals within the plan, and initiatives relating to each goal. Dr. Jack explained how WSU's National Institute for Student Success (NISS) Playbook recommendations fit within those goals.

Dr. Jack discussed the manner in which WSU has acted to meet the NISS recommendations, including WSU's data-driven approach to course design. She highlighted the university's use of academic data to maximize retention. She also noted that 18 front-facing offices for students have been consolidated in the Shocker Success Center. In Fall 2024, WSU had over 19,300 student visits within the building. Dr. Jack also discussed the ways in which WSU has worked to standardize academic advising, ensure intentional academic pathways for retention, and strengthen financial outreach to students. Regarding the latter, Dr. Jack highlighted expansion of the Shocker Promise program and the increase in first-time freshmen receiving financial aid. Dr. Jack noted that WSU has lowered the time to degree across multiple cohorts based on students' starting credit hours and has increased its persistence rates.

Regent Parasker asked whether WSU's efforts involved addressing the cost of required books. Dr. Jack said that WSU is continuously working on this. All open-access courses are marked for students. This may also be addressed through communications between advisors and students. Dr. Jack noted that the University bookstore is supportive to students. She also said that there are specialized advisors and resources to help students who cannot afford books.

For Fort Hays State University, Dr. Jill Arensdorf, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, highlighted the role of student success in FHSU's 2024-2027 Strategic Plan. The University seeks to improve equitable access for all students by reducing achievement gaps and improving persistence by three percent. Dr. Arensdorf updated the Board on FHSU's progress toward its NISS recommendations. FHSU is working to implement and integrate three data sources, including EAB Navigate; and to complete initial analysis of its D-F-W rates and other statistics. FHSU finished implementing its centralized advising model in Fall 2024. Each undergraduate student now has a faculty mentor in their field, in addition to their faculty advisor.



Wesley Wintch, FHSU Vice President for Administration and Finance, discussed how FHSU used funding it received for need-based aid. The funds supplemented existing programs and funded a new income-based award for students with family adjusted gross incomes of \$70,000 or less. Wintch provided information on the amount of aid and number of students receiving assistance in the current and previous academic years. FHSU resident enrollment and its retention and graduation rates are all up in AY 2024.

For Emporia State University, Dr. Taylor Kriley, Vice President for Student Success, reported that ESU is ahead of schedule on all four of its NISS goals. She provided an overview of work currently being done regarding each of the goals: creating structured pathways; standardizing academic advising; strengthening student financial well-being; and enabling the use of actionable data in support of improved student outcomes and better-coordinated student communications. Dr. Kriley discussed how ESU is using data, such as graduation and retention rates, to evaluate its progress. ESU has seen an increase in freshman and online first-semester retention rates; an increase in first year retention rates for freshmen and transfer students; and an increase in its 4-, 5-, 6- and 8-year graduation rates.

In response to a question from Regent Winter, Dr. Kriley said the NISS Playbook has complemented the University's strategic plans. It helped the University generate engagement on-campus and has assisted it in working with the other state universities.

[Presentations on file with official minutes.]

**ADJOURN**

Chair Ice adjourned the meeting at 4:25 p.m.

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Blake Flanders, President and CEO

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Carl Ice, Chair

# REPORTS AND CONSENT AGENDA

### III. Introductions and Reports

- A. *Introductions*
- B. *Report from the Chair* Regent Ice, Chair
- C. *Report from the President & CEO* Blake Flanders, President & CEO
- D. *Report from Council of Faculty Senate Presidents* Norman Philipp, PSU
- E. *Report from Students’ Advisory Committee* Hannah Eckstein, PSU

### IV. Standing Committee Reports

- A. *Academic Affairs* Regent Mendoza
- B. *Fiscal Affairs & Audit* Regent Benson
- C. *Governance* Regent Ice, Chair

### V. Approval of Consent Agenda

- A. *Fiscal Affairs & Audit*
  - 1. **Act on Request to Amend the FY 2025 Capital Improvement Project Plan and Approve Program Statement for Lied Biomedical Research Center Heating Hot Water System Replacement– KUMC** **Chad Bristow,  
Director, Facilities**

The University of Kansas Medical Center requests approval to amend the Fiscal Year 2025 capital improvement project plan and acceptance of the program statement for the Lied Biomedical Research Heating Hot Water System Replacement project. The project budget has increased to \$2,103,245 due to inflation and a more thorough understanding of the project complexity, up from the \$1,600,000 previously approved by the Board. The project will be funded with a combination of the university’s FY 2025 allocation of State universities facilities capital renewal initiative funds and FY 2026 allocation of the Kansas campus restoration act funds. KUMC will procure professional design services utilizing the standard state selection process and intends to execute the project with the traditional state design-bid-build procurement method.

- 2. **Act on Request to Amend the FY 2025 Capital Improvement Project Plan and Approve Program Statement for Sudler Mechanical, Electrical, and Plumbing Infrastructure Renovation – KUMC**

The University of Kansas Medical Center requests approval to amend the FY 2025 capital improvement project plan and acceptance of the program statement for the Sudler Mechanical, Electrical, and Plumbing Infrastructure Renovation project. The project will be funded with a combination of the university’s FY 2025 allocation of State universities facilities capital renewal initiative funds and FY 2026 allocation of the Kansas campus restoration act funds. KUMC will procure professional design services utilizing the standard state selection process and intends to execute the project with the traditional state design-bid-build procurement method.



### **3. Act on Request to Amend the FY 2025 Capital Improvement Plan and Approve Program Statement for Bioprocessing and Industrial Value Added Products Innovation Center – KSU**

Kansas State University requests approval to amend the Fiscal Year 2025 capital improvement project plan and acceptance of the program statement for renovations and additions to the Bioprocessing and Industrial Value Added Products (BIVAP) Innovation Center. In order to meet workforce needs of biomanufacturing firms and other industry partners, the project will create space for biomanufacturing training and education and industry partnerships. Laboratory space will contain a comprehensive biomanufacturing line that supports all phases of modern biomanufacturing processes and prepares students for immediate transfer to industry. University researchers and corporate partners will also use the space to develop pilot-scale production of diagnostic, therapeutic and preventative countermeasures for a broad range of emerging zoonotic diseases. The project will be completed in four phases.

Phase 1 of the project focuses on renovating a portion of the second floor to create a biomanufacturing core and training facility. The core facility will include ISO Class 5, 6 and 7 clean rooms for media preparation, production, quality control and equipment prep, as well as material intake and autoclaving spaces. Additional areas include labeling, packaging, product storage and clean corridors with airlocks. The renovation will also provide office, break, reception and training rooms, along with dedicated office space for management and record storage. The facility will meet NIH BSL2 and USDA clean room requirements with premanufactured clean room panels, epoxy flooring and secure, monitored access. The training room will be equipped with flexible furniture and mobile lab setups to simulate the production environment.

Phase 2 of the project involves an addition to the BIVAP building and renovations within the existing structure to expand research space and provide more storage for pilot plant equipment. The scope includes 10 flexible, assignable research labs designed for various uses, including biological and chemical research, and equipped for bench and floor-mounted equipment. A new dedicated HVAC unit will support these labs. The renovation also includes additional collaboration spaces, sterilization and glassware washing facilities and upgrades to private offices. Pilot plant upgrades will focus on improved dust control with the addition of two ante rooms, as well as expanded storage for equipment and consumables.

Phase 3 adds a two-story addition to the northwest corner of the existing BIVAP facility to create dedicated space for partnership research. The first floor will include a pilot-scale baking laboratory for proprietary use by industry partners with the possibility of core lab assignments based on partner needs. The second floor will offer flexible, assignable lab space aimed at supporting industry collaborations.

Phase 4 of the project will address existing deferred capital renewal and maintenance, including replacement of the roof, HVAC, elevator maintenance, and other building system items that have reached end of life.

The total estimated project cost range is \$26.5-\$30 million. At this time, \$7 million from university funds, federal grants and philanthropic gifts has been identified to support Phase 1. The university will continue to seek additional funding to support the remaining phases of the project. KSU will procure professional design services utilizing the standard state selection process and intends to request authorization from the State Building Advisory Commission to use the state alternative delivery process and execute the project with the construction management at-risk procurement method.

**4. Act on Request to Amend the FY 2025 Capital Improvement Project Plan and Approve Program Statement for Kansas Forest Service/College of Agriculture Joint Facility – KSU**

Kansas State University requests approval to amend the Fiscal Year 2025 capital improvement project plan and acceptance of the program statement for a new Kansas Forest Service/College of Agriculture joint facility. The proposed project would create a single joint-use facility to efficiently and economically address overlapping needs of the Kansas Forest Service (KFS) and the College of Agriculture. The facility would produce vehicles for community disaster response use, strengthen Kansas communities' fire preparedness and provide instructional space for academic and regional workforce development programs.

In the 1960s, the KFS began repurposing surplus federal vehicles and other equipment for rural Kansas fire departments. Vehicle repair shop space was reduced over time due to budget and staffing cuts, but an increased demand from rural Kansas fire departments has created a volume of work and need for additional mechanics that the current KFS facilities are unable to support. Additionally, the College of Agriculture lacks dedicated facilities for its agricultural technology and mechanics classes and currently utilizes classroom-lab spaces at high schools in communities surrounding Manhattan. This limits the college's ability to provide students with access to state-of-the-art agricultural technology equipment and materials.

The new 13,268 square foot facility would include a multipurpose classroom/lab, a mechanical lab with flexible space and individual welding stations, drive-through vehicle bays and lifts appropriately sized to accommodate modern military vehicles, code compliant battery storage and exhaust ventilation systems, indoor storage for donated fire equipment and shared office space.

The total estimated project cost is \$5 million and will be funded by K-State Research and Extension reserve funds and an Economic Adjustment Assistance grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration. KSU will procure professional design services utilizing the standard state selection process and intends to construct the project with the traditional state design-bid-build procurement method.

## 5. Act on Request to Raze Buildings at Beef Cattle Research Center- KSU

Kansas State University requests approval to raze the remaining 11 obsolete buildings on the Beef Cattle Research Center site, located north of the Manhattan campus near the intersection of College Avenue and Purcell Road. The Board approved KSU's request to construct the new Doug Laue Beef Cattle Research Center at the January 2025 meeting. The obsolete buildings will be razed from the existing site in advance of constructing the new research center at the same location. No environmental issues are anticipated. Following demolition, the existing space will be incorporated into the site package for the Doug Laue Beef Cattle Research Center. The total estimated cost of demolition is \$800,000 and will be funded by the College of Agriculture. KSU will utilize on-call professional design services and bid the demolition project using the traditional state design-bid-build procurement method.

- **State building #36700-464:** This 4,961 gross square foot mission critical metal building was constructed in 1968 and is used for feed processing. Its estimated FCI rating is 0.347 (letter grade C) and the deferred maintenance is \$524,750.
- **State building #36700-464A:** This 4,992 gross square foot mission critical metal barn was constructed in 1968 and is used as a metabolism barn. Its estimated FCI rating is 0.347 (letter grade C) and the deferred maintenance is \$400,770.
- **State building #36700-464B:** This 2,628 gross square foot mission critical metal shed was constructed in 1998 and is used as a commodities shed. Its estimated FCI rating is 0.347 (letter grade C) and the deferred maintenance is \$210,982.
- **State building #36700-464C:** The Board approved demolition of this mission critical building at the March 2022 meeting after the building was significantly damaged during a December 2021 windstorm. The building elevation was demolished, but the foundation still exists and will be removed with this project.
- **State building #36700-464D:** This 3,300 gross square foot metal barn was constructed in 1970 and is used as a feeding barn. Its estimated FCI rating is 0.347 (letter grade C) and the deferred maintenance is \$253,403.
- **State building #36700-464E:** This 3,133 gross square foot metal barn was constructed in 1970 and is used as a feeding barn. Its estimated FCI rating is 0.347 (letter grade C) and the deferred maintenance is \$238,412.
- **State building #36700-464F:** This 3,411 gross square foot metal barn was constructed in 1970 and is used as a feeding barn. Its estimated FCI rating is 0.347 (letter grade C) and the deferred maintenance is \$259,567.
- **State building #36700-464G:** This 3,222 gross square foot metal barn was constructed in 1970 and is used as a feeding barn. Its estimated FCI rating is 0.347 (letter grade C) and the deferred maintenance is \$245,185.
- **State building #36700-464H:** This 1,152 gross square foot mission critical metal building was constructed in 2009 and is used as a processing facility and pharmacy. Its estimated FCI rating is 0.347 (letter grade C) and the deferred maintenance is \$121,853.
- **State building #36700-464I:** This 4,697 gross square foot metal structure was constructed in 1970 and is used as a feeding barn. Its estimated FCI rating is 0.347 (letter grade C) and the deferred maintenance is \$357,428.
- **State building #36700-464J:** This 4,975 gross square foot structure was constructed in 1970 and is used as a feeding barn. Its estimated FCI rating is 0.347 (letter grade C) and the deferred maintenance is \$378,583.
- **State building #36700-464K:** This 4,601 gross square foot metal structure was constructed in 1970 and is used as a feeding barn. Its estimated FCI rating is 0.347 (letter grade C) and the deferred maintenance is \$148,323.

**6. Act on Request to Amend Acceptance of Real Property – PSU**

In September 2024, the Board approved Pittsburg State University’s request to accept a gift of real property from the PSU Foundation. The approximately 7-acre property is comprised of two parcels located adjacent to campus and east of Tyler Research Center. The eastern portion of the site (Parcel 2) will be the location for construction of the new Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI) Pittsburg Regional Crime Center (to be planned and constructed by the KBI).

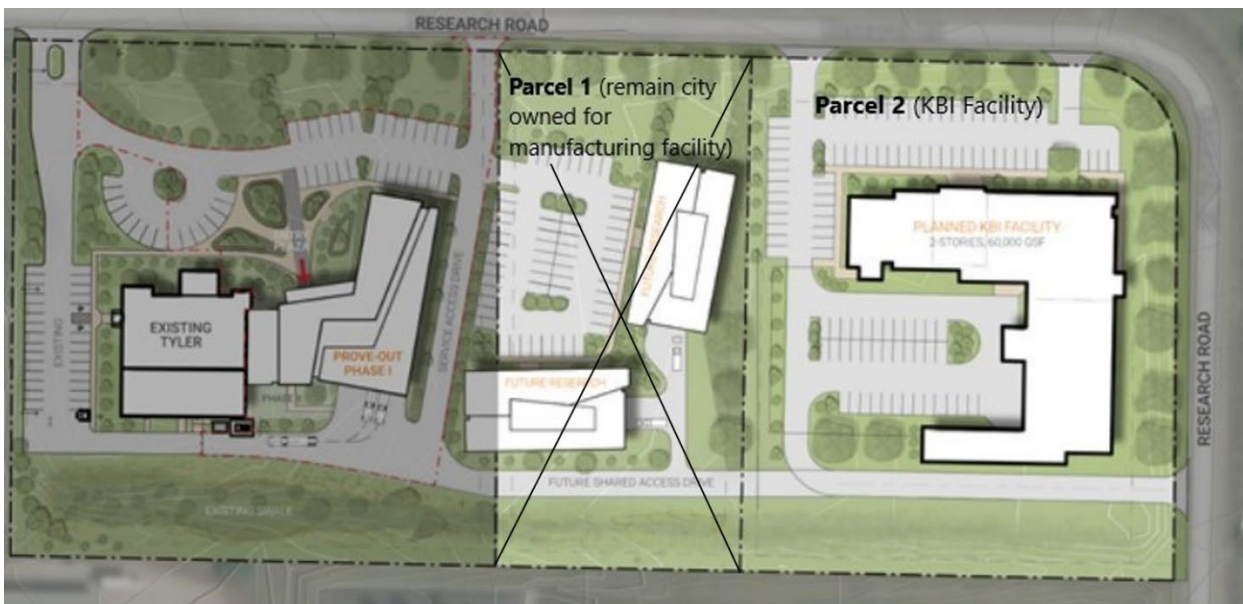
Since the original approval, a new opportunity has emerged that changes plans for the middle parcel (Parcel 1). This parcel will now remain owned by the City of Pittsburg, KS to be used for a manufacturing facility that will bring high quality jobs to Pittsburg. The company has ties to PSU and research work conducted at the adjacent Tyler Research Center and Prove-Out Facility, and the University anticipates deeper connections with the company moving forward. As a result, the University requests the Board amend the previous approval for acceptance of only the 4.4 acre eastern parcel (Parcel 2).

**Updated Abbreviated Boundary Descriptions**

Parcel 1 (Approximately 2.6 acres.) – **parcel to remain City owned**  
PTSBG RES&DEV PARK ADDITION, ACRES 2.6, E 236.61' LT 2, BLK 1

Parcel 2 (Approximately 4.4 acres) – parcel gifted to PSU for KBI site  
PTSBG RES&DEV PARK ADDITION, BLOCK 1, Lot 3, ACRES 4.4

**Updated Master Plan Concept**



B. Technical Education Authority

- 1. **Act on Request for Degree and/or Certificate Program: Technical Certificate B, C and AAS in Electrical Technology – Cowley Community College**

**April White,  
VP, Workforce  
Development**

**Summary**

*To develop and enhance the talent pipeline for Kansas business and industry, new programs and/or additional programs are required. The Board office received a request from Cowley Community College to offer a Technical Certificate B (33 credit hours), Technical Certificate C (49 credit hours) and an Associate of Applied Science degree (60-68 credit hours) in Electrical Technology.*

*The program addressed criteria requested and was subject to the 10-day comment period required by Board policy. The program was reviewed by the Technical Education Authority and is recommended for approval.*

Community and technical colleges submit requests for new certificate and degree programs utilizing forms approved by Board staff. Criteria addressed during the application process include but are not limited to the following: program description, demand for the program, duplication of existing programs, faculty requirements, costs and funding, and program approval at the institution level.

**Description of Proposed Programs:**

**Cowley Community College (CCC)** requests approval of the following program:

- Electrical Technology (46.0302) – Technical Certificate B/33 credit hours, Technical Certificate C/49 credit hours, and Associate of Applied Science degree/60-68 credit hours.

The U.S. Department of Education’s Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP Code) 46.0302 describes an Electrician program as one that prepares individuals to apply technical knowledge and skills to install, operate, maintain, and repair electric apparatus and systems such as residential, commercial, and industrial electric-power wiring; and DC and AC motors, controls, and electrical distribution panels. The curriculum includes instruction in the principles of electronics and electrical systems, wiring, power transmission, safety, industrial and household appliances, job estimation, electrical testing and inspection, and applicable codes and standards.

Cross walking the proposed CIP Code 46.0302 (Electrician) to occupations resulted in a match to Standard Occupation Classification code (SOC): 47-2111 Electrician, which is defined as an occupation in which one would install, maintain, and repair electrical wiring, equipment, and fixtures. Ensure that work is in accordance with relevant codes. Individuals may install or service streetlights, intercom systems, or electrical control systems.

CCC explained that the program proposal was the result of requests for the program from local business and industry. Mayfield Electric and Potucek Electric were involved in the program development.

The proposed program consists of a 33-credit hour Technical Certificate B, a 49-credit hour Certificate C, and a 60-68-credit hour Associate of Applied Science degree. Students will earn OSHA certification as well as be prepared to sit for the Journeyman Exam and National Center for Construction Education & Research (NCCER) certifications. CCC anticipates enrollment of 10 students the first year, and 20 students in year two. Electrical Technology is a statewide aligned program, and the proposal meets the aligned requirements.



The Kansas Department of Labor Long-term Occupation Projections 2022-2032 indicate a statewide change of employment for Electricians (SOC: 47-2111) of .9% annually, with an annual median wage of \$59,880. The typical education needed for occupation entry is a high school diploma or equivalent and an apprenticeship, and annual openings equate to 642 jobs per year. This occupation is included in the most recent High Demand/High Wage Occupation listing from the Kansas Department of Labor.

Lightcast job posting analytics show from December 2023 through December 2024, 616 total postings (270 unique postings) were advertised statewide. The annual median advertised salary was \$64,900. Removing job postings with no education level listed, 84% of postings indicate a high school diploma or equivalent for entry in the occupation.

CCC explained that the proposed program is included in the Perkins Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment as a program which is needed but not currently offered.

Three letters of industry support for the proposed program were received from Mayfield Electric, LLC, Potucek Electric, and Conco Construction. Supports and commitments for the program include interviewing program graduates, financial donations, hosting apprenticeships, and donating materials.

Currently, this program is offered by 12 institutions based on CIP code and/or program title. Below are the colleges, programs, total number of concentrators, total number of graduates, total number of graduates exiting the higher education system and employed, and average wage of graduates who exited the higher education system and are employed information from the 2023 K-TIP report, which includes only technical programs in two-year postsecondary institutions.

Kansas Training Information Program						
2023 K-TIP Electrician (CIP 46.0302)						
CIP Code	Program Name	Institution	Total # Concentrators	Total # Graduates	Total # Graduates Exited & Employed	Average Wage: Graduates Exited & Employed
46.0302	Electrician	Coffeyville Community College	11	9	8	\$36,583
46.0302	Electrician	Dodge City Community College	22	12	12	\$32,837
46.0301	Electrician	Fort Hays Tech North Central	60	29	28	\$37,822
46.0302	Electrician	Fort Hays Tech Northwest	44	42	25	\$49,822
46.0302	Electrician	Highland Community College	37	18	18	\$41,120
46.0302	Electrician	Hutchinson Community College	10	^	^	^
46.0302	Electrician	Johnson County Community College	114	44	29	\$46,169
46.0302	Electrician	Kansas City Kansas Community College	75	31	25	\$37,375
46.0302	Electrician	Neosho County Community College	6	^	^	^
46.0302	Electrician	Salina Area Technical College	10	9	6	\$41,642
46.0302	Electrician	Washburn Institute of Technology	61	43	39	\$31,956
46.0302	Electrician	Wichita State University Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology (approved November 2024)	NA	NA	NA	NA
Total			455	242	169	\$39,258

(^) small cell protection applied.

CCC collaborated with Highland Community College, Dodge City Community College, and Salina Technical college regarding resources, curriculum design, faculty recruitment, and serving diverse student populations. Winfield USD 465 and Arkansas City USD 470 provided letters of support for the program.

The college plans to begin the proposed program in the fall of 2025 and estimates the initial cost of the proposed program at \$197,623 total, including \$138,000 for equipment, tools, and instructional supplies, \$57,623 for new, full-time faculty, and \$2,000 for technology. Dr. Rachel Bates, Vice President of Academic Affairs, and Daniel Brooks, CTE Department Chair, will assume responsibility for the program.

The proposed program was subject to the 10-day comment period from December 19, 2024, to January 9, 2025, during which no comments were received.

**Recommendation**

The new program request submitted by Cowley Community College for a Technical Certificate B for 33 credit hours, a 49-credit hour Certificate C, and an Associate of Applied Science degree for 60-68 credit hours in Electrical Technology was reviewed by the Technical Education Authority and is recommended for approval.

**2. Act on Excel in Career Technical Education (CTE) Fees – Cowley Community College**

**Summary**

*To enhance the talent pipeline for Kansas business and industry, the Legislature enacted the Excel in CTE initiative to provide state-financed colleges tuition for high school students in postsecondary technical education courses. Per statute (K.S.A. 72-3810), the Kansas Board of Regents shall establish general guidelines for tuition and fee schedules in career technical education courses and programs. The Excel in CTE tuition and fee schedule of every technical education program shall be subject to annual approval.*

**Background**

K.S.A 72-3810 states:

“All tuition and fees charged for career technical education by any board shall be in such amounts as are authorized by rules and regulations adopted by the state board which shall establish general guidelines for tuition and fee schedules in career technical education courses and programs. The tuition and fee schedule of every career technical education program shall be subject to annual approval of the state board. A current complete schedule of tuition and fees for each career technical education course and program of each board as approved by the state board shall be maintained on file in the office of the state board and shall be open for public inspection at any reasonable time.”

"Fees means those charges assessed against a student by a community college, technical college or the institute of technology for student services, such as health clinics, athletic activities and technology services, or for books, supplies or other materials necessary for a particular course or program, the expense of which is not covered by tuition."

"Tuition means those charges assessed against a student by a community college, technical college or the institute of technology on a per credit hour, per course or per term basis, and that are charged to cover the general expense of providing instructional services."

As per the Postsecondary Technical Education Authority’s (TEA) request, on Thursday, December 19, 2019, representatives from community colleges, technical colleges, and Board staff met to set guidelines for fees associated with Excel in CTE courses and programs. As a result of this meeting, agreed upon allowable fees include items/services students take with them and industry-specific fees required for entrance/acceptance into the program.

Allowable fees include:

- Uniforms
- Personal protective equipment
- Background checks
- Fingerprints
- Drug tests
- E-subscriptions/E-books
- Textbooks
- Printing fees for textbooks/E-books
- Certification tests
- Membership fees for certifying bodies
- Liability insurance (example: student malpractice)
- Graduation fees (if applicable)
- Transcript fees (if applicable)
- Student Software Licenses
- Professional Equipment/Kits/Tools students purchase

Unallowable fees include:

- Student fees (general)
- Technology fees
- Health fees
- Consumable project materials
- Program or Institution Application fees
- Lab Fees
- Equipment / tool maintenance, usage, replacement
- Rental (such as tools, books, or uniform/gear)
- Student kits
- Accuplacer or other placement tests
- Student ID
- Student organization memberships (such as Skills USA)
- Fees charged on a per credit hour basis
- Any other fee not on the allowable list



Non-tiered courses - per statute (K.S.A. 71-1802) a technical program is defined as a “program of study comprised of a sequence of tiered technical courses and non-tiered courses, which is identified by the state board as a technical program for funding purposes.” For this reason, students enrolled in technical programs may take non-tiered courses and are responsible for all associated tuition and fees.

**Recommendation**

The Excel in CTE fees below have reviewed by the Technical Education Authority and are recommended for approval:

- Cowley Community College: Electrical Technology total \$1,286.90. Fees include \$651.90 in textbooks, \$160 for industry certifications, \$125 for work boots and \$350 in tools.

**3. Act on Promise Act Programs – Cowley Community College**

**Summary**

*The Kansas Legislature enacted the Kansas Promise Scholarship Act, which provides scholarships for students to attend an eligible postsecondary education institution. Eligible programs include any two-year associate degree program, career and technical education certificate, or stand-alone program that are approved by the Board of Regents and correspond to high wage, high demand, or critical need in:*

- *four specified fields of study (information technology and security; mental and physical healthcare; advanced manufacturing and building trades; and early childhood education and development).*
- *one college designated field of study from the specified list (Agriculture; Food and Natural Resources; Education and Training; Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security; or Distribution and Logistics).*
- *transfer programs with an established 2+2 and/or articulation agreements.*

**Background**

On May 23, 2022, Governor Kelly signed 2022 Senate Substitute for House Bill 2567, which adopted changes in the Kansas Promise Scholarship Act, K.S.A. 74-32,271, et seq. The Act maintains that the Board of Regents will administer the program. Administration is broken into three categories: rules and regulations, eligible programs, and other responsibilities.

Per statutory language (K.S.A. 74-32,271(b)(4) and K.S.A. 74-32,272(c)(1)(B)), a “promise eligible program” means any two-year associate degree program or career and technical education certificate or stand-alone program offered by an eligible postsecondary educational institution that is:

- a) approved by the Board of Regents;
- b) high wage, high demand, or critical need; and
- c) identified as a “promise eligible program” by the Board of Regents pursuant to K.S.A. 74-32,272, within any of the following fields of study:
  - Information Technology and Security
  - Mental and Physical Healthcare
  - Advanced Manufacturing and Building Trades
  - Early Childhood Education and Development

K.S.A. 74-32,273(a) states an eligible postsecondary educational institution may designate an additional field of study to meet local employment needs if the promise eligible programs within this field are two-year associate degree programs or career and technical education certificate and stand-alone programs approved by the Board of Regents that correspond to jobs that are high wage, high demand, or critical need in the community from one of the following fields:

- Agriculture;
- Food and Natural Resources;
- Education and Training;
- Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security; or
- Distribution, Logistics, and Transportation

K.S.A. 74-32,272(d) states that the Board of Regents may designate an associate degree transfer program as an eligible program only if such program is included in:

- a) An established 2+2 agreement with a Kansas four-year postsecondary education institution; or
- b) An articulation agreement with a Kansas four-year postsecondary educational institution and is part of an established degree pathway that allows a student to transfer at least sixty credit hours from the

eligible from the eligible postsecondary educational institution to a four-year postsecondary education institution for the completion of an additional sixty credit hours toward a bachelor's degree.

**Recommendation**

The following program is seeking approval to become a Promise Act eligible program. The program has been reviewed by the Technical Education Authority and is recommended for approval:

- Cowley Community College: Electrical Technology (46.0302) – falls under the Advanced Manufacturing and Building Trades category specified in legislation. SOC 47-2111 for Electricians was identified as a High Demand / High Wage occupation on the 2024 High Demand Occupations list from the Kansas Department of Labor.

**4. Act on Submitted Academic Year 2025-2026 Excel in Career Technical Education (CTE) Fees**

**Summary**

*To enhance the talent pipeline for Kansas business and industry, the Legislature enacted the Excel in CTE initiative to provide state-financed colleges tuition for high school students in postsecondary technical education courses. Per statute (K.S.A. 72-3810), the Kansas Board of Regents shall establish general guidelines for tuition and fee schedules in career technical education courses and programs. The Excel in CTE tuition and fee schedule of every technical education program shall be subject to annual approval.*

**Background**

K.S.A 72-3810 states:

“All tuition and fees charged for career technical education by any board shall be in such amounts as are authorized by rules and regulations adopted by the state board which shall establish general guidelines for tuition and fee schedules in career technical education courses and programs. The tuition and fee schedule of every career technical education program shall be subject to annual approval of the state board. A current complete schedule of tuition and fees for each career technical education course and program of each board as approved by the state board shall be maintained on file in the office of the state board and shall be open for public inspection at any reasonable time.”

“Fees means those charges assessed against a student by a community college, technical college or the institute of technology for student services, such as health clinics, athletic activities and technology services, or for books, supplies or other materials necessary for a particular course or program, the expense of which is not covered by tuition.”

“Tuition means those charges assessed against a student by a community college, technical college or the institute of technology on a per credit hour, per course or per term basis, and that are charged to cover the general expense of providing instructional services.”

As per the request of the Postsecondary Technical Education Authority (TEA), on Thursday, December 19, 2019, representatives from community colleges, technical colleges, and Board staff met to set guidelines for fees associated with Excel in CTE courses and programs. As a result of this meeting, agreed-upon allowable fees include items/services students take with them and industry-specific fees required for entrance/acceptance into the program.

Allowable fees include:

- Uniforms
- Personal protective equipment
- Background checks
- Fingerprints
- Drug tests
- E-subscriptions/E-books
- Textbooks
- Printing fees for textbooks/E-books
- Certification tests
- Membership fees for certifying bodies
- Liability insurance (example: student malpractice)
- Graduation fees (if applicable)
- Transcript fees (if applicable)
- Student Software Licenses
- Professional Equipment/Kits/Tools students purchase

Unallowable fees include:

- Student fees (general)
- Technology fees
- Health fees
- Consumable project materials
- Program or Institution Application fees
- Lab Fees
- Equipment/tool maintenance, usage, replacement
- Rental (such as tools, books, or uniform/gear)
- Student kits
- Accuplacer or other placement tests
- Student ID
- Student organization memberships (such as Skills USA)
- Fees charged on a per credit hour basis
- Any other fee not on the allowable list

KBOR staff continues to work to identify methods by which support may be provided to the Budget and Finance Committee and the TEA to identify and share best practices in reducing and/or eliminating the actual fees high school students participating in the Excel in CTE programs are assessed and ensure actual costs and potential subsidies are adequately communicated. To provide additional background regarding progress towards this goal; the changes submitted by each institution for AY2026 Excel in CTE Fees, and a program-level comparison of four years of approved fees is provided.

Reviewed documents include:

- AY2026 Excel in CTE Fees Review Course and Program Updates by Institution—which is a course-by-course list of requested fee increases and changes for each institution for AY2026.
- AY2023 through AY2026 totals by Program and Institution—which is the comparison spreadsheet with the revised fee requests by program area for each institution.

The TEA reviewed the submitted fee changes and members agreed that additional work is required to ensure that data submitted reflects actual fee requests, and to specifically address the goal to reduce and/or eliminate the actual fees high school students are assessed in the Excel in CTE program. The Budget and Finance Committee will assemble a small group tasked to gather feedback from the institutions, review data submission procedures, and identify areas where best practices may be shared between institutions on this goal.

### **Recommendation**

The Technical Education Authority's review of AY 2026 Excel in CTE Fees requests has been completed with the recommendation the AY 2026 Excel in CTE fees requested be approved at this time, with additional work to be conducted prior to the collection of fees next academic year.

# DISCUSSION AGENDA

## VI. Consideration of Discussion Agenda

### A. Academic Affairs

Regent Mendoza

#### 1. Act on Request to Approve Master of Science in Medical Dosimetry – Washburn

Provost Fritch

### Summary

*Washburn University may apply for approval of new graduate programs following the guidelines in the Kansas Board of Regents Policy Manual, Ch. III.A.7. As such, the university has submitted an application for approval and the proposing academic unit has responded to the requirements of the program approval process.*

*This proposal is reviewed by the System Council of Chief Academic Officers and the System Council of Presidents for informational purposes only. It is reviewed by BAASC for placement onto the Board agenda, at which time it is subject to Kansas Board of Regents approval. The Washburn Board of Regents reviewed the cost and funding structure of the program and approved it at its December 5, 2024 meeting. The new program will be fully funded by the University, and no state support will be used.*

### I. General Information

#### A. Institution

Washburn University

#### B. Program Identification

Degree Level:	Master’s
Program Title:	Medical Dosimetry
Degree to be Offered:	Master of Science
Responsible Department or Unit:	Allied Health Department/School of Applied Studies
CIP Code:	51.0907
Modality:	Online
Proposed Implementation Date:	July 2026

Total Number of Semester Credit Hours for the Degree: 44 credit hours

### II. Clinical Sites: Does this program require the use of Clinical Sites? Yes

Each student in the Medical Dosimetry program will be assigned to a clinical site. Clinical sites will be located across the United States and will vary depending on student needs. There are no other Medical Dosimetry programs in Kansas and therefore will not be competing with other state universities for the same clinical sites. We have not had conversations with other Medical Dosimetry programs outside of Kansas about competing for clinical sites. We have talked to clinical preceptors at clinical sites used in the Washburn Radiation Therapy program and have received positive feedback regarding potential use as clinical site for Medical Dosimetry. Typically, clinical sites are selected based on student location. Each clinical site has the authority to approve or deny student placement. The accrediting body for Medical Dosimetry, Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT), also informs programs if a site is a shared clinical site. If the site is identified as a shared site, the Medical Dosimetry program faculty will have conversations with the clinical site at the time of securing student placement to verify that the JRCERT’s requirements for clinical sites are met and that the student load requirement is not exceeded. Washburn’s Allied Health Department is well-versed in this method of

securing clinical placements as many of our accredited healthcare programs involve clinical education experiences. The use of clinical sites in the Medical Dosimetry program will be very similar to that of Washburn’s existing Radiation Therapy program and we feel confident in our ability to secure the sites needed to serve our students.

**III. Justification**

The 2020 American Association of Medical Dosimetrists (AAMD) Medical Dosimetry Workforce Study indicated that there will be a steady increase in the demand for certified medical dosimetrists due to a surge in retirement rates and rising cancer incidence. Since 2017, medical dosimetrists are required to graduate from a JRCERT-accredited program to be eligible to take the national certification board exam. However, there are only a small number of accredited programs, and the number of graduates will not be enough to fill the projected job vacancies. Recently, JRCERT and AAMD reached out to existing JRCERT-accredited Radiation Therapy programs, including Washburn, to explain the urgent need for additional programs in medical dosimetry.

A new Medical Dosimetry Program will help alleviate the projected shortage of certified medical dosimetrists in the radiology oncology job market. The program would be organized similar to Washburn’s existing Radiation Therapy program, which has a long tradition of graduating high-quality radiation oncology professionals. This program would offer an additional graduate degree option for allied health professionals and would attract several radiation therapists from across the country.

**IV. Program Demand:** Select one or both of the following to address student demand:

**A. Survey of Student Interest**

Number of surveys administered: .....	<u>245</u>
Number of completed surveys returned: .....	<u>87</u>
Percentage of students interested in program: ...	<u>54</u>

Washburn’s Allied Health Department surveyed current students in the Radiation Therapy program along with program graduates (within the past five years). The intent of the survey was to determine student/graduate interest in obtaining a Medical Dosimetry degree, interest in returning to Washburn, and if clinical sites would be interested in affiliating with a Medical Dosimetry program. The survey included relevant questions asking students if they were considering becoming a Medical Dosimetrist in the near future (60% yes), how soon they would be interested in pursuing Medical Dosimetry (81% of those students would be interested in the next 1-5 years), if they would be interested in returning to Washburn to complete an online Medical Dosimetry program if available (93% responded absolutely), which type of degree they would find most beneficial (41% master’s degree), and whether or not their current employer and/or assigned clinical site would be interested in becoming a clinical affiliate for a Medical Dosimetry program (32% yes and 51% maybe).

**B. Market Analysis**

A Hanover Research Report concluded that demand for medical dosimetrists appears adequate, and Washburn should establish a Medical Dosimetry program if the investment is minor and if there is a strong internal pipeline of students. Creating a new Medical Dosimetry program does require an initial investment over the next 1.5 years without enrolled students because of the accreditation process for new Medical Dosimetry programs. This investment is minor considering the long-term revenue projections of the program. Washburn does have a strong internal pipeline of students through our well-established Radiation Therapy program. Radiation therapy graduates are the most common pipeline for Medical Dosimetry programs and student/graduate surveys support that Washburn will have a natural pipeline for this program, as 60% of Radiation Therapy graduates who responded were interested in becoming a medical dosimetrist in the near future.

There are currently no Medical Dosimetry programs in Kansas or the surrounding states, and Washburn will become the only accredited program in the area. Currently there are only six accredited Master’s Degree programs in the United States, located in Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Massachusetts, Florida, and Wisconsin. The program will be fully online and will also be able to attract students nationally, similar to Washburn’s Radiation Therapy program.

**V. Projected Enrollment for the Initial Three Years of the Program**

Year	Total Headcount Per Year		Total Sem Credit Hrs Per Year	
	Full- Time	Part- Time	Full- Time	Part- Time
Implementation (FY27)	10	0	440	0
Year 2 (FY28)	15	0	660	0
Year 3 (FY29)	20	0	880	0

Due to JRCERT’s initial accreditation application requirements, our first program students will enroll in FY 27 and the above table reflects that as the “Implementation” year.

**VI. Employment**

Medical Dosimetrists work primarily in Radiation Oncology clinics. They are responsible for creating radiation treatment plans that meet a prescribed tumor/target dose while limiting radiation dose and damage to surrounding anatomy. The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that the average salary for Medical Dosimetrists in 2023 was \$132,880 per year. To become certified in Medical Dosimetry, a person must pass a national certification exam, which requires graduation from a JRCERT-accredited program.

From the *2020 American Association of Medical Dosimetrists (AAMD) Workforce Study*: “In 2020, supply approximately equals demand, between 2021 and 2035, the undersupply will grow from 10 to nearly 50 Medical Dosimetrists less than the number of positions open per year. The model predicts the undersupply is expected to steadily increase with the continued increase in cancer incidence as well as the surge in retirement around 2028-2030 when all baby boomers will be over 65, leading to a possible surge in retirement rates. The cumulative effect will be a potential shortage of over 400 Medical Dosimetrists by 2035 given no changes in workload per Medical Dosimetrist or change in cancer incidence.”

**VII. Admission and Curriculum**

**A. Admission Criteria**

Admission requirements include the following:

1. Bachelor's degree or higher in a health or science field.
2. Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale)
3. Prerequisite Coursework:
  - o Human Biology (BI100 or equivalent)
  - o Human Anatomy & Physiology (BI250 & BI230 or equivalent), no lab required
  - o College Algebra (MA116 or equivalent) or higher
  - o Radiation Physics
  - o Medical Terminology (AL141 or equivalent)
  - o Introductory Writing (EN100 or equivalent)
  - o Communication (any course in verbal or public speaking)
  - o 8+ hours of documented on-site observation in Medical Dosimetry

\*Experience in Radiation Therapy is preferred but not required.



**B. Curriculum**

**Year 1: Summer**

**SCH = Semester Credit Hours**

Course #	Course Name	SCH
AL 630	Foundations of Radiation Oncology	3
AL 632	Cross-sectional Anatomy for Medical Dosimetry	3

**Year 1: Fall**

Course #	Course Name	SCH
AL 634	Oncology Principles I	3
AL 636	Radiation Oncology Treatment Planning I	4
AL 638	Radiation Physics	3
AL 640	Ethics & Professionalism in Medical Dosimetry	2
AL 660	Medical Dosimetry Clinical I	4

**Year 1: Spring**

Course #	Course Name	SCH
AL 644	Oncology Principles II	3
AL 646	Radiation Oncology Treatment Planning II	4
AL 648	Research Methodology for Medical Dosimetry	3
AL 650	Quality Improvement in Radiation Oncology	2
AL 665	Medical Dosimetry Clinical II	4

**Year 2: Summer**

Course #	Course Name	SCH
AL 670	Medical Dosimetry Clinical III	3
AL 675	Medical Dosimetry Capstone	3

**Total Number of Semester Credit Hours ..... 44**

**VIII. Core Faculty**

A program director with expertise in medical dosimetry will be hired to oversee this program.

**IX-X. Expenditure and Funding Sources**

The Washburn Board of Regents approved the Master of Science in Medical Dosimetry at its December 5, 2024 meeting. The Board reviewed the cost and funding structure of the program and fully supported moving forward with creating this important program. The new program will be fully funded by the University, and no state support will be used.

**XI. References**

Hanover Research. (2023). *Academic Program Assessment Post-Bacc in Medical Dosimetry*.

Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology & American Association of Medical Dosimetrists. (2022). *Letter to Washburn’s Radiation Therapy Program Director*.

Mills, M. (2020). Medical Dosimetrist Workforce Study 2020. *American Association of Medical Dosimetrists Annual Meeting*.

United States Bureau of Labor Statistics. (2024, August 29). *Occupational Outlook Handbook – Medical Dosimetrists*. <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/medical-dosimetrists.htm>

- 2. Act on Request to Change Qualified Admissions – KU Rusty Monhollon,  
VP, Academic Affairs  
Provost Bichelmeyer

**Summary**

*The University of Kansas is proposing changes to Qualified Admissions for freshman applicants under the age of 21. KU proposes to admit such students having a 24 or higher ACT score and a cumulative high school GPA of at least a 2.5, or students having a cumulative high school GPA of at least a 3.0, regardless of test score. KU also proposes to reinstate a February 1 deadline for freshman applicants under the age of 21 for the following fall semester. Such applicants would still be required to have at least a 2.0 GPA on any college coursework taken while in high school. Board staff recommends approval. If the changes in admissions requirements are approved, regulatory amendments are required to effect such changes.*

**Background**

In September of 2019, the Board approved changes to Qualified Admission criteria, removing the pre-college curriculum requirement for freshman applicants under the age of 21, and the option of ranking in the top one-third of the class, and adding the option for guaranteed admission with at least a 2.25 cumulative high school GPA for freshmen at Emporia State University, Fort Hays State University, Pittsburg State University, and Wichita State University, regardless of ACT score. For Kansas State University, the requirement is at least a 3.25 cumulative high school GPA regardless of ACT score. All five institutions will also admit freshmen under the age of 21 with an ACT score of at least 21. All the aforementioned options require a student to achieve at least a 2.0 GPA on any transferable college coursework taken while in high school. The only requirement change for the University of Kansas at that time was the removal of the required pre-college curriculum. KU maintained the requirements of a cumulative high school GPA of at least a 3.25 and ACT score of 21 or higher, or a cumulative high school GPA of at least a 3.0 and ACT score of 24 or higher, and required at least a 2.5 GPA on all transferable college credit taken while the applicant was in high school. The chart below reflects qualified admissions criteria for all state Universities, including KU’s current and proposed criteria.

**Qualified Admissions Matrix**

Admission is guaranteed for resident and non-resident freshmen applicants under the age of 21 if they meet either the GPA or ACT criteria outlined below.

	<b>Cumulative High School GPA</b>	<b>Cumulative College Credit Hours GPA</b>	<b>Minimum ACT composite score</b>
<b>Emporia State University</b>	2.25	2.00	21
<b>Fort Hays State University</b>	2.25	2.00	21
<b>Pittsburg State University</b>	2.25	2.00	21
<b>Wichita State University</b>	2.25	2.00	21
<b>Kansas State University</b>	3.25	2.00	21
<b>University of Kansas Current</b>	3.25	2.00	21*
<b>University of Kansas Proposed</b>	3.00	2.00	24**

*\*University of Kansas currently requires a 21 minimum ACT and a 2.0 high school GPA for guaranteed admissions.*

*\*\*University of Kansas is proposing a 24 minimum ACT and a 2.5 high school GPA for guaranteed admission.*

With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in the spring of 2020, ACT/SAT testing sites were shut down, and in-person testing appointments were canceled. Since many applicants were not able to take either entrance exam and, therefore, weren't able to meet the guaranteed admission requirements, KU exercised the option to refer those applications to a review committee for consideration. (This option was outlined in K.A.R. 88-29b-5 and 88-29b-7, which have since been replaced by K.A.R. 88-29d-5 and 88-29d-7.) The review committee admitted students with a minimum 3.4 cumulative high school GPA and a minimum 2.5 GPA on all transferable college credit the applicant completed while in high school, regardless of test score. In 2021, KU was approved for two different guaranteed options effective for freshmen applicants for Summer 2022 and later:

- 1) Minimum of 21 on the ACT and a minimum 2.0 high school GPA or
- 2) minimum 3.25 high school GPA<sup>1</sup> regardless of test score.

Another change was that both above options require a student to achieve at least a 2.0 GPA on any transferable college coursework taken while in high school. KU had also removed a February 1 deadline for these applicants.

### Proposal

KU is proposing the following guaranteed options for freshmen, with the caveat they **submit an application by or before February 1 for the following fall semester**:

- 1) minimum of 24 on the ACT and a minimum 2.5 high school GPA or
- 2) minimum 3.0 high school GPA<sup>1</sup> regardless of test score.

Both above options would continue to require a student to achieve at least a 2.0 GPA on any transferable college coursework taken while in high school.

### Timing

KU would like the above options to be effective as soon as possible. Should the Board approve these changes, Board staff will begin the process of updating the associated regulations, which typically requires nine to twelve months. Once that process is completed, the Board will need to act on the regulations. Further, per K.S.A. 76-717,

*Rules and regulations adopted pursuant to this subsection that are more rigorous than those set forth in subsection (a) shall not be effective prior to the first day of the fourth academic year following the year in which the rules and regulations are adopted.*

Paraphrasing subsection (a) of the statute, each resident graduating from an accredited high school (under the age of 21) must achieve one of the following:

- Completion of pre-college curriculum (or functional equivalent) with a minimum 2.0 high school GPA **OR**
- Minimum of 21 on ACT **OR**
- Rank in top one-third of high school class

KU's proposed admission requirements for a resident graduating from an accredited high school include an application deadline of February 1 and one of the following:

- Minimum of 24 on ACT and a minimum 2.5 high school GPA **OR**
- minimum 3.0 high school GPA (no pre-college curriculum) regardless of test score

The proposed requirements appear more rigorous than those set forth in subsection (a) of K.S.A. 76-717. **Given the levels of approval required and the waiting period required by state statute, the soonest the proposed**

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<sup>1</sup> Accredited high schools only

**requirements could go into effect would be for students applying for the Fall 2029 semester (Academic Year 2030).**

**Rationale**

KU has provided the following rationale to support the proposed changes.

- Most institutions in the Midwest with high or very high research activity utilize a 3.0 minimum GPA for admission.
- Expanding the GPA-based admission pathway to students with a cumulative high school GPA of 3.0 - 3.24<sup>1</sup> provides increased access for qualified high school students.
- GPA-based admission and merit scholarships have contributed to considerable enrollment growth at KU. Studies at KU and nationally continue to demonstrate that high school GPA is a far better predictor of college outcomes than standardized test scores.
- Students who do not meet qualified admission requirements will still go through a holistic committee review. These processes have been refined to identify students who are more likely to have positive retention and graduation outcomes.

**Recommendation**

Board staff recommends approval of KU's proposed changes to Qualified Admission requirements. If approved, Board staff will begin the regulatory change process.

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|---|---|
| 3. Receive Annual Report on Apply Kansas Application Campaign, Receive Report on Kansas Free Applications Days, and Act on Kansas Free Application Days for 2025-2026 Academic Year | Mistie Knox,<br>Associate Director,<br>Academic Affairs |
|---|---|

**Summary**

*In 2020, the Kansas Board of Regents assumed responsibility for the Apply Kansas Campaign with the objective of expanding the initiative statewide. Apply Kansas is part of the American College Application Campaign, housed within ACT’s Center for Equity in Learning. As the state’s application campaign, Apply Kansas aims to increase college application rates among high school seniors, with a focus on supporting those from underrepresented backgrounds. The initiative provides resources, support, and events to help students navigate the college application process. During these events, all applications for students' future plans are celebrated.*

*Kansas Free Application Days has been piloted over the past two years, allowing Kansas residents of all ages and income levels to submit general undergraduate admission applications to all Kansas public institutions for free. The events were held on November 7-9, 2023, and October 7-9, 2024. Private colleges were also invited to participate in the campaign. Aggregate data will be presented today to determine whether Kansas Free Application Days will remain a pilot program or become an established initiative.*

**Background**

Launched in 2015 by the Kansas Association of College Registrars and Admissions Officers (KACRAO), the Apply Kansas campaign is part of the broader American College Application Campaign. In 2020, the Kansas Board of Regents assumed leadership of the campaign, enhancing its reach and impact. Apply Kansas is now a Board Goal under the Family Pillar of the Building a Future strategic plan, which emphasizes the ongoing implementation and expansion of Apply Kansas initiatives. The initiative seeks to increase the number of students applying to college early in their senior year, with a particular focus on supporting students from low-income families, first-generation students, and those who might not otherwise pursue higher education.

During Apply Kansas events, students receive application assistance at their high school during the school day. These events are organized by the school’s Apply Kansas Site Coordinator and supported by higher education staff, school personnel, and community volunteers. All applications for students' future plans are celebrated to promote a culture of achievement and inspire confidence in their postsecondary goals. The Apply Kansas Steering Committee oversees the campaign's strategic direction and implementation. This committee includes regional representatives from Apply Kansas Site Coordinators, higher education admissions staff, and a KACRAO liaison. Convened by Board staff, the committee is responsible for coordinating statewide efforts, distributing resources, and evaluating the campaign’s progress and outcomes.

The Kansas Free Application Days initiative aligns with the "Building a Future" strategic plan and the goals of the Kansas Board of Regents. This initiative aims to support Kansas families by removing barriers that prevent students from pursuing post-secondary education, thereby increasing access to higher education, especially for underserved populations. The primary objective of the Kansas Free Application Days program is to boost college-going and FAFSA completion rates in Kansas. By eliminating application fees, the program helps residents take the first step towards continuing their education, ultimately increasing the number of students who complete their programs and enter the workforce with a degree or competitive skills.

Over the past two years, Kansas Free Application Days has been piloted, allowing residents of all ages and income levels to submit general undergraduate admission applications to all Kansas public institutions for free. The events were held on November 7-9, 2023, and October 7-9, 2024. Data on the applications received during the 2023 and 2024 free application days, the growth observed, and the Apply Free Days 2023 yield data based on aggregate collection will be reported. The Board approved the pilot proposal in July 2023, with the first event held from November 7-9, 2023. The initiative continued in 2024, with the event being held from October 7-9, 2024.

**Data Collection**

Data collection for the Kansas Free Application Days (AFD) will be conducted in two phases: a unit record collection through KHEDS and an aggregate collection. The unit record collection through KHEDS will include applications from AFD 2023 and enrollments, providing more precise information tied to student records. This data will be finalized in September 2025 and available in October 2025. The aggregate collection will capture AFD application activity from November 7-9, 2023, as well as aggregate application, admission, and enrollment data for the 2024 calendar year terms (SP24, SU24, FA24). Yield will be calculated for each sector, by term, as reported by the institutions. The aggregate collection is will be presented during the February Board meeting. Public institutions excluded from the aggregate data include Labette Community College, Dodge City Community College, and Kansas City Kansas Community College.

**Staff Recommendation**

The decision on whether the Kansas Free Application Days should continue as a pilot program or transition to an established opportunity is deferred to the Board. If the Board decides to continue with the three-day initiative for 2025, stakeholder feedback has been assessed, and Board staff recommends them for approval. October is designated College Application Month for Kansas, and it is recommended that the Kansas Free Application Days align with this month.

*B. Governance*

- 1. Act on Student Health Insurance Benefits and Premium Rates for Plan Year 2025-2026

Regent Ice  
 Jeff DeWitt  
 Chair, Student Insurance  
 Advisory Committee

**Summary**

*Under authorization granted by K.S.A. 75-4101, the Board of Regents has made available health insurance to each eligible student attending a state university, and to certain eligible students’ eligible dependents, since 2007. The plan is currently offered through MHECare and is underwritten by UnitedHealthcare – Student Resources (UHC SR). The Board’s Student Insurance Advisory Committee (SIAC), the Council of Business Officers, and the Council of Presidents have reviewed the alternatives provided for Plan Year (PY) 2025-2026 benefits and premiums.*

*After reviewing and assessing UHC SR’s PY 2025-2026 initial renewal proposal, that reflected no premium change for all Plan Options with a prescription drug benefit enhancement for Plan Options 2, 3 and 4, the SIAC requested revised renewal information reflecting a premium reduction as well as a premium reduction with a prescription drug coverage enhancement.*

*One of the revised renewal proposals reflected a 6% premium reduction with no benefit changes for all Plan Options. The SIAC unanimously voted to accept this proposal that reflected the maximum premium reduction.*

*The Council of Business Officers, the Council of Presidents, and Board staff support this recommendation. The Governance Committee is scheduled to review the recommendation on February 12th.*

**Background**

During the 2006 Session, the Kansas Legislature enacted K.S.A. 75-4101, authorizing the Board of Regents to enter into group health insurance contracts to provide voluntary health and accident insurance coverage for students attending state universities and such students’ dependents. Previously, student health insurance coverage was offered through the State of Kansas Health Care Commission.

In February 2007, the Board approved the recommendation of Board staff, the Council of Presidents (COPs) and the Council of Business Officers (COBO) to select UnitedHealthcare - Student Resources (UHC SR), by competitive bid, as the provider for the Board’s student health insurance plan.

In February 2012, the Board approved the recommendation of Board staff, COPs and COBO to move away from a stand-alone plan and enter a consortium contract with MHECare. The MHECare plan offered several advantages to students and to the Board’s plan including compliance with federal health care reform regulations, enhanced benefits, participation in a contingency arrangement for premiums, being part of a larger insurance group umbrella (which helps to stabilize rates and spread risk), and an improved target loss ratio. MHECare selected UHC SR as the underwriter through its own competitive bid process. MHECare re-bid the contract in 2020 and again selected UHC SR to provide the services. The current MHECare contract with UHC SR commenced in 2021, is for a 10-year term, and allows for termination with or without cause upon proper notice.

**Student Insurance Advisory Committee**

The Student Insurance Advisory Committee (SIAC) was created in 2007 by COBO to serve in an advisory capacity to COBO for the student health insurance plan. Each of the six state universities, as well as the University of Kansas Medical Center, has its own university advisory subcommittee and the chair of each of those subcommittees sits on the SIAC. Two student representatives, appointed by the Student Advisory Council, also sit on the SIAC. Students may serve on university advisory subcommittees as well. The Committee is chaired by a COBO member.



**Student Insurance Plan Background**

There are currently four different Plan Options for KBOR students: Option 2 is for students whose academic discipline requires them to have health insurance (e.g., students in pharmacy, veterinary medicine, nursing, dental hygiene, etc.); Option 3 is for graduate students who meet eligibility criteria and receive the university’s 75% per semester student premium contribution; Option 4 is for international students; and Option 1 is for all other students.

Options 2, 3 and 4 are in a single risk pool, as those students are incentivized to participate in the Plan. Option 1 is in a separate risk pool, making it self-supporting of claims’ costs for those participants’ experience. Beginning with Plan Year (PY) 22-23, dependent coverage for Option 1 was eliminated because the loss ratio historically had insufficient premiums paid to cover the claims experienced.

UHC SR provided the following membership, enrollment and loss ratio (ratio of claims paid to premiums collected) information, as of November 2024, for the various Plan Options:

<b>Annualized Membership (for all Plan Options combined)</b>				
	<b>PY 24-25</b>	<b>PY 24-25</b>	<b>PY 25-26</b>	<b>PY 24-25</b>
Students	5,635	6,112	5,609	5,510
Dependents	208	139	113	92

<b>Annualized Membership (for all Plan Options combined)</b>				
	<b>PY 24-25</b>	<b>PY 24-25</b>	<b>PY 25-26</b>	<b>PY 24-25</b>
Students	75.19%	57.54%	50.65%	18.30%
Dependents	513.75%	266.67%	395.49%	58.86%
Overall	92.75%	62.97%	58.46%	19.04%

The loss ratio data for PY 23-24 and PY 24-25 is incomplete because submission and payment of claims occurs for an additional eight to twelve months beyond the policy expiration date. The PY starts August 1<sup>st</sup> each year. UHC SR’s target loss ratio for the Plan is 84%.

**PY 2025-2026 Proposal**

The PY 25-26 proposal reflects a 6% decrease in premiums with no change to the benefit package or eligibility for any of the Plan Options. The SIAC unanimously voted to accept this renewal proposal.

**Student Only Annual Premium Information**

<b>Duplicate Existing Benefits</b>	<b>PY 24-25</b>	<b>PY 25-26</b>	<b>\$ and % Change</b>
Plan Option 1	\$5,431	\$5,105	-\$326.00 / -6.00%
Plan Options 2, 3 and 4	\$2,831	\$2,661	-\$170.00 / -6.00%

The SIAC recommendation was presented to COBO at its January 8, 2025, meeting, and to COPs at its January 15, 2025, meeting. COBO, COPs, and Board staff support this recommendation.



C. *Strategic Plan*

- |  |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Receive Annual Report on the Board’s Strategic Plan,<br>Building a Future | Blake Flanders,<br>President and CEO |
|--|--------------------------------------|

In June 2020, the Board adopted its new strategic plan, *Building a Future*. *Building a Future* aims to maximize the benefit of higher education for Kansas families, businesses and the economy. This month, the fifth annual report will be presented, covering the system’s progress through a review of key metrics and an overview of promising practices and initiatives.

D. *Other Matters*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Receive Update on Legislative Investment in Student<br>Success | Kansas State University<br>Pittsburg State University<br>University of Kansas |
|---|---|

**Summary**

*The System has benefitted from state appropriations for the Board of Regents’ student success initiatives, including additional state funding for student financial aid. The state universities will present updates on the implementation of the NISS recommendations and how the universities have used the state funding dedicated for need based aid.*

The National Institute for Student Success (NISS) at Georgia State University was engaged in FY 2022 to conduct a review of policies and practices at the Kansas state universities. Georgia State University had demonstrated success with improving student outcomes and formed the Institute to disseminate their proven practices to other institutions. The NISS review was framed to identify improvements for student retention and graduation rates at the state universities, as well as Washburn University and Cowley County Community College, which volunteered to participate in the third-party review.

Campus changes from the NISS review include more effective advising strategies, implementing alternative math pathways, common course placement standards and degree maps, as well as strategic financial aid awards. The Board has adopted new policies in support of the efforts to improve student success: review of academic programs at the state universities, adoption of multiple math pathways according to degree programs, use of corequisite math and English support for students needing additional assistance, implementation of a systemwide general education package across all 32 institutions, creating more opportunities for students to acquire internships or applied learning opportunities within their program, and articulation across the system for specified associate degree programs in addition to the 126 courses that are guaranteed to transfer among the schools. When students have a direct path to a credential, their costs are lower and their ability to join the workforce and earn livable wages is enhanced.

Fort Hays State University, Wichita State University, and Emporia State University gave their update on the legislative investment in student success at the January 15, 2025 Board Meeting.

2. Receive Report on Kansas Comprehensive Grant Program – System

Elaine Frisbie,  
VP, Finance & Administration

### Summary

*The Board of Regents administers the Kansas Comprehensive Grant Program (KCG), the state's primary scholarship supporting Kansas resident students who have financial need. Scholarships are available to undergraduate Kansas resident students attending any of the seven public universities and the 21 private independent non-profit institutions. The institutions must match their KCG allocations on a \$1 to \$1 basis, doubling the impact of the program to over \$70 million in FY 2024. The Board will receive an update on FY 2024 activity with the program.*

### Background

The Kansas Board of Regents administers the Kansas Comprehensive Grant Program (KCG), which is a state grant program created in 1998 by merging three separate grant programs to address the financial aid needs of Kansas students. Merging these programs emphasized the Legislature's support for assisting students with financial need attending any Kansas four-year institution. KCG is a decentralized program that is premised on administrative partnerships between the Board of Regents Office and participating institutions.

### Eligible Institutions

The 28 participating institutions are limited to the Kansas public and not-for-profit institutions with four-year degree programs. Institutions must be one of the state universities governed by the Board of Regents, a municipal university, or a not-for-profit independent institution of higher education which is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of College and Schools. The not-for-profit independent institutions must operate independently and not be controlled or administered by the State of Kansas, must maintain open enrollment and the main campus or principal place of operation must be in Kansas. In this context, open enrollment is defined as the policy of an institution of higher education which provides the opportunity of enrollment for any student who meets its academic and other reasonable enrollment requirements, without regard for race, gender, religion, creed, or national origin.

### Eligible Students

Students eligible for KCG are Kansas residents, enrolling full-time at an eligible institution, pursuing their first baccalaureate degree, with demonstrated financial need using the federal aid methodology. For renewal of the scholarship beyond the first year, the students must meet satisfactory academic progress using institutional standards. Students can be eligible for up to eight semesters of grant funding (ten, if enrolled in a designated five-year program). According to Fall Census data provided by the institutions to the Board of Regents in Fall 2023, 81.4 percent of the resident undergraduate headcount enrollments among KCG institutions were enrolled at the public universities and 18.6 percent were enrolled at the private non-profit institutions.

### Advisory Committee

As provided in KSA 74-32,124, the five-member KCG Advisory Committee is appointed by the Board, representing the sectors of institutions identified in the statute:

Andy Fogel – Director of Financial Aid at Washburn University  
 Robert Gamez – Director of Student Financial Assistance at Kansas State University  
 Brenda Hicks – Director of Financial Aid at Southwestern College  
 Matt Lindsey – President of the Kansas Independent College Association  
 Sheelu Surender – Executive Director of Financial Aid & Scholarships at Wichita State University

**Awards to Students**

K.S.A 74-32,122 outlines the maximum grant amount that can be awarded to an individual student for the academic year:

- State universities and Washburn University are capped at one-half of the average of tuition and fees for resident, undergraduate, full-time students at the state universities.
- Non-profit, private institutions are capped at the lesser amount of annual tuition and fees for non-profit institutions or half of the difference between the average annual tuition and fees at non-profit institutions and state universities for resident, undergraduate, full-time students.

The maximum award for students at the public institutions was designated as \$4,000 and the maximum award for students at the non-profit institutions was \$10,000 for AY 2024.

**Allocations to Institutions**

FY 2024 was the last year when funds were allocated to the three sectors (state universities, municipal university, and non-profit institutions) based on an award formula that included both statutory requirements established in 1999, and components established more recently. The institutions’ financial aid staff awards KCG to fund each student’s unmet need. In May 2023, the Board of Regents adjusted KCG sector allocations for FY 2024 to account for more recent Pell-eligible student enrollments, reallocating \$279,355 from the public universities to the non-profit institutions, resulting in the following allocations to the different sectors.

FY 2024	State			Total
	Universities	Washburn	Non-Profits	
Legal Base	\$4,195,215	\$179,015	\$6,200,839	\$10,575,069
Enhancement Funding	\$3,239,462	\$284,165	\$2,159,642	\$5,683,269
State Match Funding	\$13,145,438	\$1,190,992	\$4,663,570	\$19,000,000
<b>Subtotal - State Funds</b>	<b>\$20,580,115</b>	<b>\$1,654,172</b>	<b>\$13,024,051</b>	<b>\$35,258,338</b>
Institutional Match Funding	\$20,580,115	\$1,654,172	\$13,024,051	\$35,258,338
<b>KCG Total</b>	<b>\$41,160,230</b>	<b>\$3,308,344</b>	<b>\$26,048,102</b>	<b>\$70,516,676</b>
Sector % of State Funding	58.4%	4.7%	36.9%	100.0%
Sector % of Enrollment*	77.0%	7.1%	15.9%	100.0%

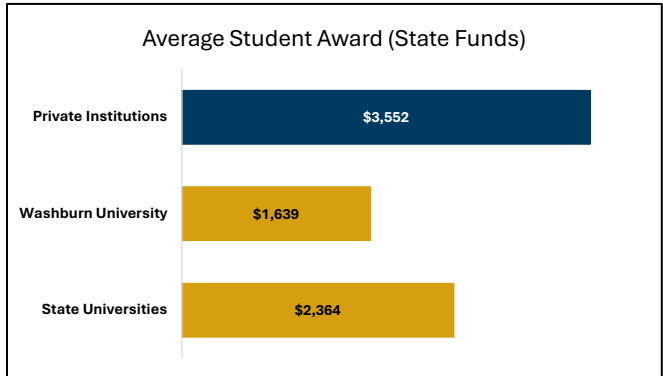
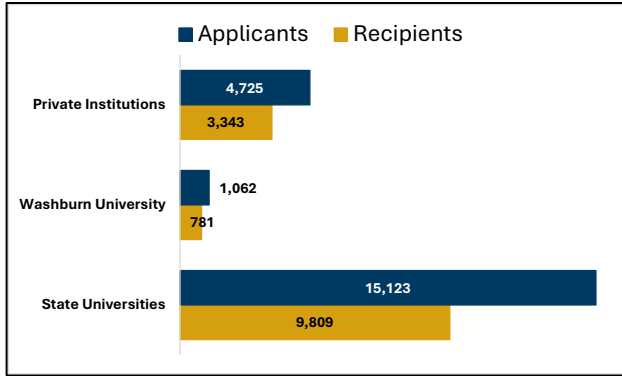
\*Fall 2023 Census, Share of Resident Student Headcount.

**FY 2024 KCG Outcomes**

According to the information submitted by the 28 participating institutions, the FY 2024 state funding resulted in awards totaling \$34.5 million. Detailed in the table below, that total award amount grew to nearly \$77 million when adding the institutions’ reported match funding. Except for \$179,337 at Pittsburg State University, the public universities awarded all FY 2024 state funding. At the non-profit institutions, \$1.1 million will carry over to FY 2025 for future KCG student awards.

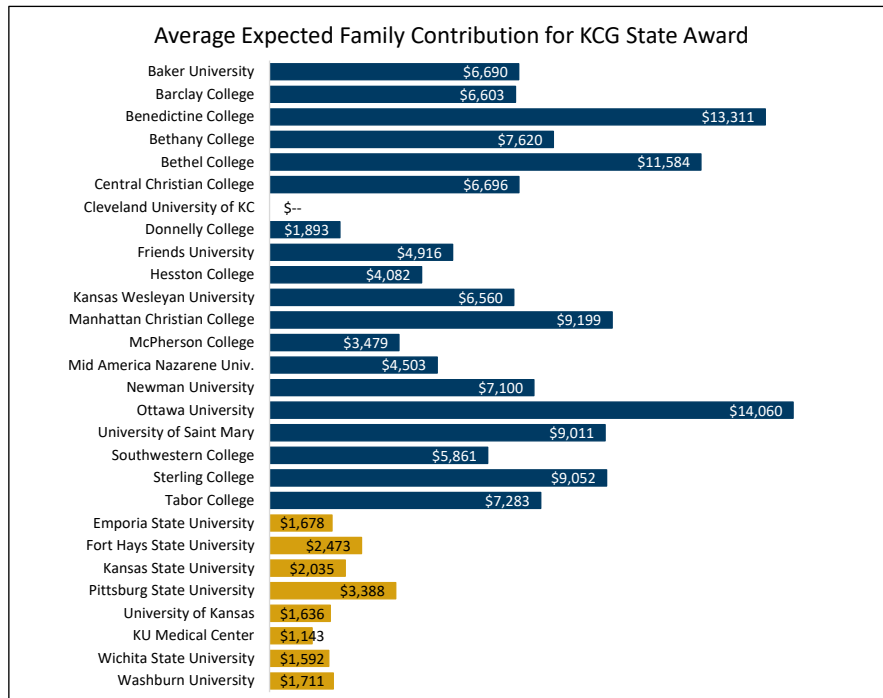
FY 2024 Actual Awards*	State			Total
	Universities	Washburn	Non-Profits	
State Funds	\$20,761,961	\$1,280,243	\$12,507,441	\$34,549,645
Institutional Match Funding	\$24,659,878	\$2,288,519	\$15,366,253	\$42,314,650
<b>KCG Total</b>	<b>\$45,421,839</b>	<b>\$3,568,762</b>	<b>\$27,873,694</b>	<b>\$76,864,295</b>
Sector % of Awards	59.1%	4.6%	36.3%	100.0%

\*Awards may be made with prior years' funding; 17 institutions exceeded the match amount, and five non-profit institutions did not meet their match requirement and will return \$754,087.



The state universities awarded 64.9 percent of their eligible applicants, Washburn University awarded to 73.5 percent, and the non-profit institutions to 70.8 percent. Average awards remained well below the maximum levels (\$4,000 at public universities and \$10,000 at non-profit institutions). The state universities awarded 33.4 less on average than the non-profit institutions and Washburn University awarded 53.9 percent less on average. While the public universities had 72.3 percent of total KCG applicants, they awarded 60.1 percent of the state-financed KCG grants.

KCG data provided by the institutions also reveal variations in awarded students’ financial need. Expected family contribution is a figure derived from the Federal Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which is changing to a Student Aid Index (SAI) for next year’s awards. EFC/SAI is how an institution uses family income to assess financial need. In 2023-2024, federal Pell eligibility was for an EFC of \$6,656 or lower. The public universities awarded KCG to students with very low EFC, while in most cases the private institutions, on average, provided KCG support to students with higher levels of expected family contribution:



3. Receive Legislative Update

Fred Patton,  
Government Affairs

**VII. Adjournment**

# AGENDA

**Academic Affairs Standing Committee**  
**Wednesday, February 12, 2025**  
**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 January 29, 2025 Meeting
  
- II. Board Consent Items** Rusty Monhollon
  - A. Clarification of Program Review Metrics
  
- III. Board Discussion Agenda Items** Mistie Knox
  - A. Receive Annual Report on Apply Kansas Application Campaign, Receive Report on Kansas Free Applications Day, and Act on Kansas Free Application Day for 2025-2026 Academic Year
  
- IV. Other Matters** Rusty Monhollon
  - A. First 15 Update Rusty Monhollon
  - B. Reduced Credit Baccalaureate Discussion Academic Affairs Staff
  - C. Academic Affairs Updates
  
- V. Announcements**  
Next BAASC Meeting – February 26, 2025 - Virtual
  
- VI. Adjournment**

# MINUTES

## Academic Affairs Standing Committee Wednesday, January 29, 2025

Chair Diana Mendoza called the January 29, 2025, Board Academic Affairs Standing Committee meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. The meeting was held via Zoom.

MEMBERS PRESENT:           Regent Diana Mendoza, Chair  
                                      Regent Neelima Parasker

### INTRODUCTIONS

Vice President for Academic Affairs Rusty Monhollon acknowledged Dr. Karla Wiscombe's retirement and thanked her for her service and leadership. Vice President Monhollon also announced that Dr. Jenn Bonds-Raacke will take her place as Director of Academic Affairs.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regent Mendoza moved that the minutes of the January 15, 2025, meeting be approved. Following the second of Regent Parasker, the motion carried unanimously.

### OTHER MATTERS

#### APPROVE AY 2025 PERFORMANCE REPORT RUBRIC

Director of Academic Affairs Sam Christy-Dangermond shared a summary of the AY 2025 Performance Report Rubric. The performance report consists of five components, each worth 20 points, totaling 100 possible points. These components include Math Pathways, corequisite support for the three gateway math courses, corequisite support for English Composition I, systemwide English and math course placement measures, and degree maps. Regent Mendoza moved to approve the academic year 2025 performance report rubric. Following the second of Regent Parasker, the motion carried unanimously.

#### APPROVE UNIVERSITY PROGRAMS ARTICULATED TO THE SYSTEMWIDE TRANSFER ASSOCIATE DEGREES

Director of Academic Affairs Karla Wiscombe shared a summary of all Board goals surrounding the topic of Systemwide Transfer Associate Degrees. The first goal, set for 2022-2023, was to identify at least sixty hours using the systemwide general education, pre-major, and early major courses that complete the requirements for the transfer associate degree at community colleges and transfer and apply toward satisfying baccalaureate degree course requirements at the six state universities. The next goal for 2023-2024 was to develop a statewide transfer associate degree in nursing to meet workforce demands in the state and facilitate on-time graduation for students. Finally, the goal for 2024-2025 is to improve the systemwide transfer of associate degrees by ensuring courses transfer as degree requirements. This brings us to the request for formal approval for the baccalaureate degrees, which include programs for Elementary Education, Business Administration Management and Operations, Computer Science, Pre-Bachelor of Science in Nursing, and Pre-Social Work. Regent Mendoza moved to approve these programs. Following the second of Regent Parasker, the motion carried unanimously.

#### REDUCED CREDIT BACHELOR'S DEGREE

Vice President for Academic Affairs Rusty Monhollon mentioned the interest in reduced-credit bachelor's degrees. For the Board to take action, state statute and policy changes would be necessary. BAASC has been assigned to gather more information and better understand these programs. To that end, Vice President Monhollon introduced Stephanie Kramer, Director of Accreditation Systems, and Zach Waymer, Government Affairs Officer with the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). They provided a presentation on the reduced-credit hour bachelor's

degree, covering an overview, background information, the application and review process, and available resources.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next BAASC meeting will be held in Topeka at the KBOR office on February 12.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Regent Parasker moved that the meeting be adjourned. Following the second of Regent Johnston, the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:58 a.m.

# AGENDA

**Fiscal Affairs and Audit Standing Committee  
Wednesday, February 12, 2025  
10:15 a.m.**

**I. Old Business**

- A. Approve minutes of January 15, 2025 committee meeting
- B. Follow up on issues raised during the January 28 teleconference call

**II. New Business**

- A. **FAA 25-04** Review State Universities' Annual Financial Reports, including Composite Financial Index and Current Year Budget Status Relative to Plan
- B. Review Board Agenda Items under Fiscal Affairs
- C. **FAA 25-09** Monitor Progress on State University Capital Renewal Initiative and Campus Restoration Act (standing item)
- D. **FAA 25-10** Review Audit Findings (standing item)

**III. Other Committee Items of Consideration**



# MINUTES

## Fiscal Affairs and Audit Standing Committee Wednesday, January 15, 2025

The January 15, 2025, meeting of the Fiscal Affairs and Audit Standing Committee was called to order by Chair Benson at 10:18 a.m. The meeting was held in the Board Office located in the Curtis State Office Building, 1000 S.W. Jackson, Suite 520, Topeka. *Proper notice was given according to law.*

MEMBERS PRESENT:           Regent Blake Benson, Chair  
  Regent Jon Rolph  
  Regent Wint Winter  
  Regent John Dicus

### **Approve minutes of December 18 Committee meeting**

Regent Rolph moved that the minutes of the December 18, 2024 meeting be approved. Following the second of Regent Winter, the motion carried.

### **Follow up on issues raised during the January 2nd teleconference call**

Vice President Elaine Frisbie noted that there were questions on the agenda call relating to WSU's stadium project, which will be addressed in a presentation by WSU later in the meeting.

### **FAA 25-03 Discuss Board Policy for Internal Audit and Review Internal Audit Plans Presentation of Internal Audit Plans:**

Jana Clark shared that the top priorities for KSU's Office of Internal Audit are strengthening internal controls, improving compliance with rules and regulations, and improving operations. She gave an overview of IIA standards and KSU's conformance to those standards, as well as a list of 2024 audit/project statuses. This list includes two projects that have been deferred to 2025. Two audits were canceled due to resource constraints, and 16 of 24 audits (67%) plus three additional investigations were completed. A quarterly follow-up was performed on 126 recommendations, of which 40 were closed (32%) in 2024. She then shared a list of planned audits/projects for 2025.

Regent Dicus asked why the two canceled audits were not moved to the next year. Ms. Clark responded that the risk and safety officer is implementing improvements related to the environmental health and safety audit and is being given time for full implementation before an audit is conducted. The student health and wellness audit is pending a house settlement that Athletics General Counsel is working on. Regent Dicus asked if she felt she had sufficient resources for these projects. Ms. Clark responded that resources have been used wisely, though there have been staffing challenges.

Dr. Tammy Norman began her presentation by sharing ESU's mission and vision for Internal Audit. She shared the status of required reporting and highlighted that management's risk response has exceeded expectations. She then shared a list of CY 2024 projects and their status, as well as the proposed projects for CY 2025. Two conflict of interest audits planned for CY 2024 are set to be complete by the end of January 2025. The admissions and financial aid audit have been moved to CY 2025 due to the hiring of a new financial aid director.

Regent Winter thanked Dr. Norman for her efforts and asked if she felt her resources were sufficient. She responded that she felt her resources were adequate. He then asked when the last time an external review had taken place. She responded that an external review had not yet taken place while she has been in her position. She added that she intends to do a QAR (quality assessment review) in 2026.

Baron Green, acting internal auditor for FHSU, shared that the resources available for internal audit were adequate and that the university is in the process of hiring a new internal auditor. Another area of focus has been ethics and compliance as well as risk assessment. He shared a list of projects for 2023-2024, highlighting that the University farm, rodeo, and shooting club require additional oversight. He added that no issues were noted for AY2023-24, although the audits did identify areas where internal controls could be improved. He also emphasized that security at football games has been increased due to alcohol sales and there were no incidents reported.

Regent Winter asked if there were any other universities operating with an interim internal auditor. Mr. Green responded that there were no others that he was aware of. Jana Clark added that the Kansas university auditor group meets quarterly, however the group keeps communication open between meetings. Regent Winter then asked if the possibility of an internal audit group had been considered. Jana Clark responded that having in-house auditors is more cost-effective. Chair Benson emphasized the importance of cross-training among existing staff.

Regent Dicus raised concerns to the Committee regarding resources being reported as adequate. He asked the Committee how the Board can assist with getting the universities the resources they need for auditing purposes. Vice President Frisbie suggested that the Board ask the internal auditors to benchmark themselves compared to their peer institutions. The auditors could present that data to Fiscal Affairs at a future meeting.

### **Board Agenda Items under Fiscal Affairs**

David Miller from WSU presented on Item 2, Cessna Stadium renovations. He began his presentation by highlighting the age and condition of Cessna Stadium. It was built in 1946 and has outlasted the typical lifespan of exposed steel structures. It has had over \$200,000 of safety-related repairs in the last eight years to the steel and concrete structure. Construction is currently in phase 1A and on schedule to be complete ahead of the 2025 KSHSAA State Track and Field Championship. Phase 2 is set to begin in Summer 2026. Phase 1A will cost \$11.8 million, funded through revenue bonds. Estimated cost for phase 1B is \$8.42 million. The university is requesting \$6.81 million due to the existing legislative authorization. Phase 2 will include the demolition of the existing West Cessna Stadium, seating, press boxes, suites, training facilities, restrooms, and concessions. The estimated cost for Phase 2 is \$53.9 million. The university is seeking \$60 million in legislative authorization to complete the project. The university intends to fund the project through the WSU Board of Trustees, local partnerships, donations, and naming rights. Chair Benson asked if there was a timeline for firm commitments on donations. Mr. Miller responded that there was no clear timeline, but the university would not move forward with construction without firm donation commitments. He also emphasized that general use funds will not be used for this project. Regent Rolph moved to recommend approval of the board consent agenda items. Following a second by Regent Dicus, the motion was unanimously approved.

Chair Benson then transitioned to items on the discussion agenda. Vice President Frisbie shared that Chief of Staff Kelly Oliver will present the request for item one, “Act on Non-Budgetary Legislative Proposal to Seek Bonding Authority for Stadium Renovation- WSU,” to the Board this afternoon. Regent Rolph moved to recommend item one for approval. Following a second by Regent Dicus, the motion was unanimously approved.

Dr. Cynthia Lane shared that the next item will provide a uniform, market-rate for the “Foundations in Structured Literacy” course. This course was developed by literacy faculty from the public universities and is now in the design process. Senate Bill 438 provides that this course be offered at low or no cost to Kansas educators. The Blueprint for Literacy has tuition funding and recommends that the Board establish a uniform market-rate tuition of \$300 per credit hour. Chair Benson asked for confirmation that the agenda materials are correct in estimating that 1,500 educators would be able to take advantage of the course. Dr. Lane responded that the number is dependent on data from KSDE and that any Kansas educator is eligible for the course. She is estimating that 5,500-6,500 educators will take the course. She also commended the universities’ education faculties for their efforts on this project. Regent Rolph moved to recommend the item for approval. Following a second by Regent Winter, the motion was unanimously approved.

**WSU Request to Issue Refunding Bonds**

David Miller from WSU shared that in July 2021, the university issued tax-exempt revenue bonds for a convergence science building. To better align the use of the building with the direction of the current administration, WSU is now requesting to replace a portion of the existing outstanding tax-exempt bonds with taxable bonds so that private companies may lease a portion of the building space. KDFA's financial advisor estimates this will add approximately \$138,000 to the university's annual debt service. Taxable debt will take the same term as the original debt, with final maturity in FY 2051. The Board of Trustees contributes to this debt service item in the amount of \$532,000 annually. Regent Rolph asked how the original use of the building would be affected by this request. Mr. Miller clarified that the building was originally intended for only academic research under President Golden. Jim MacMurray from KDFA emphasized that this request is for tax compliance purposes due to the change in circumstances. Regent Rolph moved to recommend approval of this request. Following a second by Regent Dicus, the motion was unanimously approved.

**FAA 25-09 Monitor Progress on State University Capital Renewal Initiative and Campus Restoration Act**

Vice President Frisbie shared that the Council of Business Officers held a Zoom meeting to discuss their plans for aggregating the \$180 million across the system.

**FAA 25-10 Review Audit Findings**

Vice President Frisbie shared that CLA, the independent auditing firm engaged by the State of Kansas, had findings for WSU. She also shared that the prior year's finding for FHSU has been resolved.

David Miller from WSU shared that the university had two findings in the state 2024 audit. The first finding involved the approval process within ERP system. They are working on changing the configuration and anticipate it being changed with the next few weeks. The second finding relates to a journal entry within the same system being approved by an individual who does not currently work in central finance. This individual previously worked in central finance and has the background to be given such authority. The issue was a lack of policy for this type of situation. The university is currently developing this policy and expects it to be completed within the next month. A third issue noted separately involves untimely reconciliations of purchasing cards and occasional lack of documentation. He explained that the university has a purchasing card policy that aligns with the state's policy and should be enforced. Regent Rolph asked if the state considers these issues resolved. Vice President Frisbie clarified that there will be a follow-up between the audit firm and the university in the next year to ensure the issues have been resolved.

**Adjournment**

Regent Benson adjourned the meeting at 11:51 a.m.

# AGENDA

**Governance Committee**  
**Wednesday, February 12, 2025**  
**9:00 a.m.**

- I. Approve: Minutes from January 15, 2025
- II. Act on Plan Year 2025-2026 Student Health Insurance Proposal
- III. Receive First Read of Request to Amend Board Policy Related to Faculty of the Year Awards
- IV. Annual campus safety and security report
  - University of Kansas
  - University of Kansas Medical Center
- V. Other matters

# MINUTES

## Governance Committee Wednesday, January 15, 2025

The Kansas Board of Regents Governance Committee met on Wednesday, January 15, 2025. Chair Ice called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Proper notice was given according to the law.

Members Present:	Carl Ice, Chair	Jon Rolph
	Blake Benson	Diana Mendoza

### MINUTES

Regent Rolph moved to approve the minutes of the Committee's December 18, 2024, meeting. Regent Benson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

### REQUEST FOR BOARD PRESIDENT AND CEO TO EXECUTE CONTRACT

Associate General Counsel Gage Rohlf presented a request by Board staff to authorize the Board President to execute a contract with Wichita State University for instructional design services related to the Blueprint for Literacy program. The Foundations in Structured Literacy course has been developed by literacy experts from each of the state universities and Washburn university. WSU will develop the course content for delivery to in-service teachers by the institutions.

Regent Rolph and Regent Benson inquired why WSU was chosen and whether input was sought from other institutions. Dr. Cynthia Lane, Director of Literacy, reported that there are ongoing meetings with the institutions' literacy experts. WSU was the only institution that indicated it could perform the scope of work within the required timeframe.

Regent Rolph moved to grant President Flanders authority to execute the contract. Regent Mendoza seconded the motion. The motion carried.

### PROPOSED CHANGES TO BOARD POLICY ON FACULTY OF THE YEAR AWARD

Chair Ice stated that the Board faculty of the year award is meaningful. However, he noted some difficulties in the process last year. For example, one university was unable to establish its criteria for the award.

Chair Ice also explained that a request has been made to separate the non-tenured faculty into two groups for award purposes: tenure-track faculty and non-tenure-track faculty, which would result in three faculty groups being eligible for the award. In addition, Chair Ice solicited the Committee's thoughts on adding another award for staff recognition. Chair Ice indicated this could be a separate policy. He stated that a first reading of policy changes would be presented to the Committee at the February meeting.

Regent Mendoza asked why one of the schools was unable to establish criteria last year. Regent Ice said the reason he heard most often was that the faculty senate could not agree on criteria.

### ANNUAL CAMPUS SAFETY AND SECURITY REPORT (WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY)

Stacia Boden, Wichita State University General Counsel, introduced Guy Schroeder, Chief of Police; Cory Herl, University Police Captain; and Courtney McHenry, Associate Vice President, Civil Rights.

Captain Herl discussed WSU police staffing and Clery Act reporting processes. He reported that the university's Clery Act data was in line with prior years and with data for similarly sized institutions.

Captain Herl then provided an update on new trainings and security measures. For example, the university conducted 45 active shooter training sessions, implemented a campus-wide electronic lockdown system, and implemented a license plate recognition system. He noted that the federal Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency conducted a three-day assessment on Koch Arena, and the university has implemented suggestions such as tripling its camera coverage and instituting a new event protocol. Captain Herl also discussed the ways in which his office facilitated communications with students, faculty, and staff, such as speaking at orientations; and information sharing with entities outside campus, including heat maps and statistics.

Associate Vice President McHenry provided an overview of his nine-member staff, including new positions added. He highlighted two new student programming assistant roles added through WSU's applied learning program. Associate Vice President McHenry then discussed WSU's work to implement the recently enacted federal Stop Campus Hazing Act.

Next, Associate Vice President McHenry discussed Title IX and civil rights compliance. He highlighted Title IX and civil rights training events held every year, and noted that training for staff is conducted as-needed on changes in the law. He noted that the Title IX regulations are in flux, and that WSU is working diligently to keep its Title IX and equal employment opportunity policies updated. He reported that he is proud of the University's case-processing timelines. Finally, Associate Vice President McHenry described his office's work with other institutions, such as Kansas State University and Wichita Unified School District 259. In response to a question from Regent Rolph, Associate Vice President McHenry explained the appeal process available to complainants in Title IX cases. Lastly, Associate Vice President McHenry discussed his office's work surrounding the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

#### OTHER MATTERS

General Counsel John Yeary reported that CBIZ Benefits & Insurance Services, Inc., was awarded a contract to serve as a compensation consultant. General Counsel Yeary and Director of Finance and Administration Becky Pottebaum will attend a kick-off meeting with CBIZ. CBIZ anticipates an eight-week timeline to complete its work, finishing in March.

Chair Ice said that the work will be needed in March to work within the Board's timeline on CEO compensation. He said CBIZ will provide additional data for market salaries and for compensation structures. The consultant's work will put the Committee in a position to make its final compensation recommendations on the regular cycle.

#### ADJOURNMENT

At 9:36 a.m., Chair Ice adjourned the meeting.

# AGENDA

**System Council of Presidents  
Wednesday, February 12, 2025  
10:30 am**

- I. Approve minutes of the January 15, 2025 meeting
- II. Report from System Council of Chief Academic Officers: Dr. Mickey McCloud
- III. Receive First 15 Update: Rusty Monhollon, Vice President, Academic Affairs
- IV. Receive System Legislative Update: Kelly Oliver, Chief of Staff
- V. Other matters



# MINUTES

## System Council of Presidents Wednesday, January 15, 2025

At 10:32 a.m., President Seth Carter called the System Council of Presidents meeting to order at the Curtis State Office Building (CSOB), 100 SW Jackson, Suite 530, Topeka, KS 66612, in the indicated meeting room. Addresses for offsite meetings can be obtained by contacting the Kansas Board of Regents office at 785-430-4240.

MEMBERS PRESENT: President Seth Carter, Colby College  
President James Genandt, Manhattan Tech  
President Dan Shipp, Pittsburg State University, Chair  
President Tisa Mason, Fort Hays State University  
President Rick Muma, Wichita State University  
President Richard Linton, Kansas State University

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

President Linton moved that the minutes of the December 18, 2024, meeting be approved. Following the second of President Genandt, the motion carried.

### REPORT FROM SYSTEM COUNCIL OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICERS, DR. MICKEY MCCLOUD

- New program under consideration by Washburn University – MS in Dosimetry
- Reviewed new 2025 performance agreement forms and rubrics. Looking at the ways to complete these and how to look at the aggregates.
- More discussion of Complete College America launch, celebration and forthcoming training.
- Pending items are not yet ready for council approval.

### SYSTEM LEGISLATIVE UPDATE FROM KELLY OLIVER, CHIEF OF STAFF

- Session opened Monday, budget bill introduced in the House already this week and by mid-February moves from to Senate.
- End of this month and beginning next month institutions have already been scheduled to give their testimonies.

### ADJOURNMENT

President Muma moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:38 a.m., seconded by President Shipp.

# AGENDA

**Council of Presidents  
Wednesday, February 12, 2025  
10:30 or adjournment of SCOPS**

- I. Approve minutes of the January 15, 2025 meeting
- II. Report from Council of Chief Academic Officers: Dr. Susan Bon, J.D., Ph.D.
  - a. Pending items for approval from Council of Chief Academic Officers (Attachment 1)
- III. Report from Council of Student Affairs Officers: Dr. Karl Stumo, Ed.D.
- IV. Report from Council of Belonging & Community Engagement Officers: Deatrea Rose
- V. Report from Council of Government Relations Officers: Dr. Shawn Naccarato, M.P.A, J.D., PhD.
- VI. Report from Kansas Board of Regents (KBOR) Council for Research and Economic Development (CRED): Dr. Shawn Naccarato, M.P.A, J.D., PhD.
- VII. Report from Council of Chief Business Officers: Doug Ball
  - a. Receive Update on Information Technology: Angela Neria, Chief Information Officer, Pittsburg State University
- VIII. Other matters

# MINUTES

## Council of Presidents Wednesday, January 15, 2025

At 10:39 a.m., President Dan Shipp called the Council of Presidents meeting to order at the Curtis State Office Building (CSOB), 100 SW Jackson, Suite 530, Topeka, KS 66612, in the indicated meeting room. Addresses for offsite meetings can be obtained by contacting the Kansas Board of Regents office at 785-430-4240.

MEMBERS PRESENT: President Dan Shipp, Pittsburg State University, Chair  
 President Ken Hush, Emporia State University  
 President Tisa Mason, Fort Hays State University  
 President Rick Muma, Wichita State University  
 President Richard Linton, Kansas State University

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

President Muma moved that the minutes of the December 18, 2024, meeting be approved. Following the second of President Linton, the motion carried.

### REPORT FROM COUNCIL OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICERS (COCAO)

Dr. Susan Bon, Pittsburg State University Provost and Executive Vice President gave the COCAO report.

- Degree program proposal: FIRST Reading - BS in Data Science from University of Kansas (KU)
- KU also proposed request for four new minor degree programs:
  - Data Science
  - Pre Health-Professions
  - Forensic Sciences
  - Statistics
- There were four requests for approval to change names of Degree Programs
  - *PSM in Applied Science to PSM in Environmental Assessment and move to Environmental Studies Program – KU*
  - *Department of Clinical Child Psychology Program to Department of Clinical Child Psychology – KU*
  - *BA Exercise Science to BS Exercise Science – WSU*
  - *ME (Master of Education) Exercise Science to MS Exercise Science – WSU*

All degree proposals and name changes above passed unanimously.

- Employee Tuition Proposal: *Council of Faculty Senate Presidents, Norman Philipp shared the proposal*
  - Motion to "Commend and thank the Faculty Senate Presidents for their efforts on the Tuition Proposal. Conceptually, we endorse the Tuition Proposal pending further exploration into the fiscal and mechanical details and financial implications." Motion passed unanimously.

### REPORT FROM COUNCIL OF STUDENT AFFAIRS OFFICERS (COSAO)

Dr. Karl Stumo, Pittsburg State University Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, provided a report to the Council of Presidents.

- Weather Closure
  - Discussion of closure and staff work expectations
  - Variables related to supporting students, staff, essential staff
- Spring Enrollment
  - No spring surprises at this time – overall stable.
  - Monitoring housing numbers for fall
- SGA student conference in Hays

- Leadership programming conference at Ft. Hays State
- Student Fees / Athletic Fees
  - Partnering with students in discussing student fees for the coming year.
  - General position from student leadership to limit fees however there are always needs for funding.
  - Some institutional fees have not been increased for a number of years thus some pinch points.
- NISS Playbook
  - Committee structure – decentralized oversight and analysis. Review playbook goals and achievements.
  - Strong collaboration with IR colleagues.
  - Strong collaboration and overlap with many academic units.
- Academic Advising
  - Review academic advising structure, oversight, and review of outcomes
  - Review performance agreements
- Meeting attendance rules
  - Council meeting is not necessarily open – but the council is welcome to invite SAC members to select meetings.

### **REPORT FROM COUNCIL OF INCLUSION & BELONGING OFFICERS (CIBO)**

Deatrea Rose, Pittsburg State University Associate Vice President for Inclusion and Belonging, provided an update to the Council.

The Inclusion Officers met on Thursday, January 9<sup>th</sup> for their monthly meeting. Notable items to mention are:

- As we open our campuses up to students, we are excited to start with offering community service opportunities to students by all our regent campuses as we celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day.
- Kansas State University: The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. ceremony will take place the week of January 27, ALL are invited to participate! Dr. Chavonda Jacobs-Young serves as the Under Secretary for Research, Education and Economics (REE) and the USDA's Chief Scientist- from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Dr. Jacobs-Young will serve as the keynote speaker for the 2025 event.
- Emporia state reported that on Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>, they will be hosting their annual Diversity Leadership Summit which brings 200 high school students on campus.
- The Diversity Leadership Summit is a one-day conference for historically marginalized high school students. The Emporia State University faculty & staff encourage students to pursue higher education and help them realize their full potential to be successful leaders of the future. This free conference consists of speakers, workshops, meals, and opportunities for current high school seniors to win Emporia State University scholarships. They welcome any and all to attend.

### **REPORT FROM COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS OFFICERS (COGRO)**

Dr. Shawn Naccarato, Pittsburg State University Vice President of Research and Economic Development provided the report from the Council of Government Relations Officers.

- Provided updates on beginning of 2024 legislative session, new legislative budget process, anticipated legislation and shared COGRO legislative advocacy strategy recommendations.

### **REPORT FROM COUNCIL OF RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (CRED)**

Dr. Shawn Naccarato, Pittsburg State University Vice President of Research and Economic Development provided the report from the Council for Research and Economic Development (CRED).

- Provided update on launch, initial work, and spring semester strategic planning approach for Council on Research and Economic Development.

### **REPORT FROM COUNCIL OF CHIEF BUSINESS OFFICERS (COBO)**

Doug Ball, Pittsburg State University Vice President for Administration & Finance, provided the following report to the Council of Presidents.

- KCRA Follow-Up Work Session: Planning for completion of six-year plans for use of funds
- Upcoming IT Infrastructure/Cyber Planning Meeting- CIO's & Purchasing Officers: Planning for session to encourage collaboration as funds are spent
- Student Insurance Advisory Committee Recommendations for Plan Year 2025-2026: Approved recommendation for 6% decrease – President Shipp called for a motion to approve, President Muma first to approve, President Mason provided a second. Motion passed.

**OTHER MATTERS**

Dr. Flanders *Literacy* conversation: urged this group to give attention to this program at each campus and not just leave it the Deans of Education to ensure progress. Make sure timelines are being met. It needs to be taught in both the theoretical manner and hands on experience.

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Shipp called for the meeting of the Council of Presidents to be adjourned at 11:16 a.m.

# AGENDA

**System Council of Chief Academic Officers  
Wednesday, February 12, 2025  
8:30 – 9:00 a.m.**

The System Council of Chief Academic Officers (SCOCAO) will meet virtually via Zoom. An in-person option will be available at the Curtis State Office Building at 1000 SW Jackson, Suite 530, Topeka, Kansas, 66612.

- I. Call to Order** Mickey McCloud
  - A. Roll Call and Introductions
  - B. Approve Minutes from January 15, 2025
  
- II. Systemwide Updates**
  - A. First 15 Update Rusty Monhollon
  - B. Receive Annual Report on Apply Kansas Application Campaign, Receive Report on Kansas Free Applications Day, and Act on Kansas Free Application Day for 2025-2026 Academic Year Mistie Knox
  
- III. Other Matters**
  - A. Academic Affairs Update Academic Affairs Staff
  
- IV. Announcements**
  - A. Next SCOCAO Meeting – March 12, 2025
  
- V. Adjournment**

# MINUTES

## System Council of Chief Academic Officers Wednesday, January 15, 2025

The January 15, 2025, meeting of the System Council of Chief Academic Officers was called to order by Co-chair Mickey McCloud at 8:31 a.m. The meeting was held virtually through Zoom with an in-person option held in Suite 530 located in the Curtis State Office Building, 1000 S.W. Jackson, Topeka, KS 66612.

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Brandon Galm, Cloud County CC	Jesse Mendez, KSU	Monica Lounsbery, WSU
Mickey McCloud, JCCC	Jason Sharp, Labette CC	Jennifer Seymour, WSU Tech
Brent Thomas, ESU	Susan Bon, PSU	Rusty Monhollon, KBOR ( <i>ex officio</i> )
Jill Arensdorf, FHSU	Luke Dowell, Seward CC	

### INTRODUCTIONS

Co-chair Mickey McCloud introduced and welcomed Monica Lounsbery, the new provost for WSU.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Brent Thomas moved that the minutes of the December 18, 2024, meeting be approved. Following the second of Luke Dowell, the motion carried unanimously.

### OTHER MATTERS

#### NEW PROGRAM PROPOSAL FOR MS IN MEDICAL DOSIMETRY

Beth O'Neill, filling in for John Fritch from Washburn University, shared the program proposal that will be presented during the BAASC meeting for approval. Medical Dosimetry is part of the radiation oncology team that manages radiation treatments for cancer patients. This program will be unique to Kansas, unavailable in surrounding states, and addresses a national shortage.

#### AY 2025 PERFORMANCE REPORT & RUBRIC

Director of Academic Affairs Sam Christy-Dangermond shared the AY 2025 Performance Report template and rubric, which was approved by BAASC last year as the scoring component for the performance report. Director Christy-Dangermond reviewed each component of the performance report and explained the points for each.

#### COMPLETE COLLEGE AMERICA LAUNCH

Vice President of Academic Affairs Rusty Monhollon reminded everyone that KBOR will host an event on February 11 at Washburn University to celebrate and kick off the new partnership with the Complete College America Alliance. The agenda and registration information are available on the website.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Director Christy-Dangermond reminded faculty that an English professional development session for faculty will be held on January 31 at 2:00. The registration link is on the website.

Co-chair Mickey McCloud shared reminders for upcoming dates. Updates to the Systemwide General Education Master Course Lists are due to Director Christy-Dangermond by January 17. Dual Credit reports are due to Associate Director for Academic Affairs Mistie Knox by January 31. The next SCOCOA meeting is scheduled for February 12.



**ADJOURNMENT**

Susan Bon moved that the meeting be adjourned. Following the second of Jesse Mendez, the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:09 a.m.

# AGENDA

**Council of Chief Academic Officers  
Wednesday, February 12, 2025  
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.  
or upon adjournment of SCOCAO**

The Council of Chief Academic Officers (COCAO) will meet virtually via Zoom. An in-person option will be available at the Curtis State Office Building at 1000 SW Jackson, Suite 530, Topeka, Kansas, 66612.

- I. Call to Order** Susan Bon, Chair
  - A. Roll Call & Introductions
  - B. Approve Minutes from January 15, 2025
  
- II. Council of Faculty Senate Presidents Update** Norman Philipp, PSU
  
- III. First Reading**
  - A. BS in Nutrition Barbara Bichelmeyer, KU
  
- IV. Second Reading**
  - A. BS in Data Science Barbara Bichelmeyer, KU
  
- V. Other Matters**
  - A. Request to change name of BS in Workforce Development to BBA in Human Resource Development Susan Bon, PSU
  - B. Faculty & Staff Tuition Proposal Follow-up Norman Philipp, CoFSP
  - C. Faculty of the Year Award Policy Update Sam Christy-Dangermond, KBOR, & Norman Philipp, CoFSP
  
  - D. Discuss Opportunities (new degree programs, partnerships, strategic initiatives, etc.) that Universities are Considering or Planning to Pursue in the Future COCAO Members
  
- VI. Announcements**
  - Next COCAO Meeting – March 12, 2025 – Virtual Meeting
  
- VII. Adjournment**

# MINUTES

## Council of Chief Academic Officers Wednesday, January 15, 2025

The January 15, 2025, meeting of Council of Chief Academic Officers was called to order by Chair Susan Bon at 9:05 a.m. The meeting was held virtually through Zoom with an in-person option held in Suite 530 located in the Curtis State Office Building, 1000 S.W. Jackson, Topeka, KS 66612.

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jesse Mendez, KSU	Robert Klein, KUMC	Rusty Monhollon, KBOR ( <i>ex officio</i> )
Brent Thomas, ESU	Susan Bon, PSU	
Jill Arensdorf, FHSU	Monica Lounsbery, WSU	

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jill Arensdorf moved that the minutes of the December 18, 2024, meeting be approved. Following the second of Provost Brent Thomas, the motion carried unanimously.

### COUNCIL OF FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENTS UPDATE

Council of Faculty Senate Presidents Chair Norman Philipp provided an update. The council has been working on revisions to policy for the Faculty of the Year awards. Some updates include adding a third award that will include full-time non-tenure track faculty, and the discussion of duties has been extended to include areas of library, clinical, and extension. The revisions will hopefully be finalized at their meeting today and can be presented at the February COCAO meeting.

### FIRST READING

#### BS IN DATA SCIENCE – KU

Jen Roberts, filling in for Provost Barbara Bichelmeyer, presented the first reading for the BS in Data Science. Dr. William Duncan shared information and answered questions about the presented program.

### OTHER MATTERS

#### REQUESTS FOR MINORS IN DATA SCIENCE, PRE-HEALTH PROFESSIONS, FORENSIC SCIENCE, AND STATISTICS – KU

Jen Roberts presented four requests for minors for KU, including data science, pre-health professions, forensic science, and statistics. William Duncan, Stuart Day, and Mat Johnson shared information and answered questions for each program. Jill Arensdorf moved to approve the four minors as presented. Following the second of Jesse Mendez, the motion carried unanimously.

#### REQUEST TO CHANGE NAME OF PSM IN APPLIED SCIENCE AND DEPARTMENT OF CLINICAL CHILD PSYCHOLOGY

Jen Roberts presented two name change requests for KU. The first is to change PSM in Applied Science to PSM in Environmental Assessment and move to the Environmental Studies Program. The second is to change the Department of Clinical Child Psychology Program to the Department of Clinical Child Psychology. Brent Thomas moved to approve the two name changes to these degree programs as presented. Following the second of Jesse Mendez, the motion carried unanimously.

**REQUEST TO CHANGE NAME OF BA EXERCISE SCIENCE AND ME EXERCISE SCIENCE**

Monica Lounsbery presented two name change requests for WSU. The first is to change BA Exercise Science to BS Exercise Science, and the second is to change ME Exercise Science to MS Exercise Science. Brent Thomas moved to approve the two name changes. Following the second of Jesse Mendez, the motion carried unanimously.

**FACULTY TUITION PROPOSAL**

Council of Faculty Senate President Chair Norman Philipp presented a unified tuition assistance program proposal. This proposal aims to extend faculty tuition assistance programs across Kansas Board of Regents institutions. Susan Bon moved to recommend this proposal go to the next committee for further clarification and discussion. Brent Thomas shared his support for this concept but recommended that further details be worked out and finalized before moving to the next level of approval, and this proposal be tabled until more information can be provided. Vice President of Academic Affairs Rusty Monhollon asked if any cost estimates have been done yet. Professor Philipp stated that there has not been a cost analysis yet. He is still waiting on data from the universities on how many faculty and staff currently utilize these programs. Vice President Monhollon recommended having an estimate prior to presenting to the business officers. Jill Arensdorf shared that she was uncomfortable supporting the presented proposal without knowing the financial impact. Monica Lounsbery also expressed interest in the proposal pending further information. Susan Bon withdrew her original motion, and Brent Thomas withdrew his amendment. Monica Lounsbery moved to endorse, in concept, the proposal and request further exploration into the fiscal and mechanical implications of the program. Susan Bon seconded the motion. Brent Thomas offered an amendment to commend and thank the Council of Faculty Senate Presidents for their work on this important initiative. Susan Bon restated the present motion with the amendment, which is to commend and thank the Council of Faculty Senate Presidents and to conceptually endorse the tuition proposal that was shared today pending further exploration into fiscal and mechanical details and financial implications. Brent Thomas seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Brent Thomas moved that the meeting be adjourned. Following the second of Jesse Mendez, the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:01 a.m.



## CURRENT FISCAL YEAR MEETING DATES

### Fiscal Year 2025

#### Board of Regents Meeting Dates

July 29-31, 2024  
 September 18-19, 2024  
 October 16-17, 2024 Campus Visit Only (WSU)  
 November 20, 2024  
 Nov. 21-22, 2024 Campus Visit (KSU)  
 December 18-19, 2024  
 January 15-16, 2025  
 February 12-13, 2025  
 March 12-13, 2025  
 April 16, 2025  
 April 17, 2025 Campus Visit (PSU)  
 May 14-15, 2025  
 June 11-12, 2025

#### Agenda Materials Due to Board Office

August 28, 2024 at **NOON**  
  
 October 30, 2024 at **NOON**  
 November 25, 2024 at **NOON**  
 December 24, 2024 at **NOON**  
 January 22, 2025 at **NOON**  
 February 19, 2025 at **NOON**  
  
 March 26, 2024 at **NOON**  
  
 April 23, 2025 at **NOON**  
 May 21, 2025 at **NOON**

## MEETING DATES FOR FY 2026

September 17-18, 2025  
 November 19, 2025  
 December 17-18, 2025  
 January 14-15, 2026  
 February 11-12, 2026  
 March 11-12 2026  
 April 15, 2026  
 May 20-21, 2026  
 June 17-18, 2026



## COMMITTEES (2024-2025)

**Carl Ice, Chair**  
**Jon Rolph, Vice Chair**

### Standing Committees

Academic Affairs  
 Diana Mendoza – Chair  
 Alysia Johnston  
 Neelima Parasker  
 Kathy Wolfe-Moore

Fiscal Affairs and Audit  
 Blake Benson – Chair  
 John Dicus  
 Jon Rolph  
 Wint Winter

Governance  
 Carl Ice – Chair  
 Blake Benson  
 Diana Mendoza  
 Jon Rolph

Regents Retirement Plan  
 Carl Ice – Chair

### Board Representatives and Liaisons

Education Commission of the States	Diana Mendoza
Postsecondary Technical Education Authority	Mark Hess
	Keith Humphrey
	David Reist
Midwest Higher Education Compact (MHEC)	Cindy Hoover
	Wint Winter
Washburn University Board of Regents	Blake Flanders
Transfer and Articulation Advisory Council	John Dicus
Governor’s Education Council	Alysia Johnston
Literacy Advisory Committee	Diana Mendoza
	Diana Mendoza