

# **JANUARY 15, 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	John Dicus	Carl Ice
Alysia Johnston	Diana Mendoza	Neelima Parasker
Jon Rolph	Wint Winter	

## **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, January 15, 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 <u>Livestream</u>
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 <u>Livestream</u>
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 <u>Livestream</u>
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 <u>Livestream</u>
Adjournment -	Roundtable <i>Board of Regents, President Flanders, and Council of Student Affairs Officers</i>	Kathy Rupp Room
7:30 pm	Dinner <i>Board of Regents, President Flanders, and State University CEOs</i>	Chez Yasu 2701 SW 17 <sup>th</sup> Street

# 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, January 15, 2025

- I. Call To Order** Regent Ice, Chair
  
- II. Approval of Minutes** p. 4  
  - December 18, 2024 meeting
  
- 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 Accept Property from University Foundation – KSU Chad Bristow, Director, Facilities p. 16
  
    - 2. 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 p. 17
  
    - 3. Act on Request to Raze the Olathe Pavilion and to Allocate FY 2025 Building Demolition Fund – KUMC p. 25
  
    - 4. Act on Request to Amend FY 2025 Capital Improvement Project Plan and Approve Program Statement for the Beef Cattle Research Center – KSU p. 26

- B. *Technical Education Authority*
  - 1. Act on Requests for Degree and/or Certificate Program: Technical Certificate B and AAS in Barbering – Hutchinson Community College April White, VP, Workforce Development p. 27
  - 2. Act on Construction Technology Articulated Credit with Kansas Department of Education p. 29

**VI. Consideration of Discussion Agenda**

- A. *Academic Affairs*
  - 1. Receive Information on the Higher Learning Commission's Guidelines for Reduced-Credit Bachelor's Programs Regent Mendoza, Rusty Monhollon, VP, Academic Affairs p. 32
- B. *Fiscal Affairs & Audit*
  - 1. Act on Non-Budgetary Legislative Proposal to Seek Bonding Authority for Stadium Renovation – WSU Regent Benson, Kelly Oliver, Chief of Staff p. 35
  - 2. Act on Request to Approve Market-Based Tuition for the Foundations in Structured Literacy Course in Academic Years 2025 and 2026 – System Cynthia Lane, Director, Literacy p. 37
- C. *Other Matters*
  - 1. Receive Update on Legislative Investment in University Programs Fort Hays State University, Wichita State University, Emporia State University, Kansas State University, Pittsburg State University, University of Kansas p. 39
  - 2. Receive Update on Legislative Investment in Student Success Fort Hays State University, Wichita State University, Emporia State University, Kansas State University, Pittsburg State University, University of Kansas p.41
  - 3. Receive Legislative Update Fred Patton, Government Affairs p.41
  - 4. Act on Request to Name a Facility – WSU President Muma p.41
  - 5. Act on Request to Name a Facility – KSU President Linton p.41

**VII. Adjournment**

# MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

**I. Call To Order**

Regent Ice, Chair

**II. Approval of Minutes**

**KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS  
MINUTES  
December 18, 2024**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Carl Ice at 1:33 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 November 20, 2024 meeting. Regent Winter seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**INTRODUCTIONS**

Emporia State University President Ken Hush introduced Azwad Arif, ESU’s student body president.

**GENERAL REPORTS**

**REPORT FROM CHAIR**

Chair Ice recognized all the students who graduated from Kansas colleges and universities this month. Several Regents had the opportunity the past weekend to participate in fall commencement ceremonies at state universities. Chair Ice said that the Regents are very happy to do this and to celebrate the students’ achievements. He congratulated all the system’s graduates and wished them all the best.

Chair Ice next explained that the Regents visit each state university on a two-year cycle. He thanked Kansas State University President Richard Linton and KSU for hosting a campus visit after last month’s Board meeting. Chair Ice said the Regents appreciated the opportunity to learn more about the many initiatives underway at KSU.

Chair Ice concluded by stating that the Regents are looking forward to having breakfast tomorrow with the Students’ Advisory Committee. He said it is important to the Regents to hear from student leaders and learn about the issues they are facing and their ideas.

**REPORT FROM PRESIDENT AND CEO**

Blake Flanders, Board President and CEO, thanked Pittsburg State University for hosting a recent government relations officers’ retreat. He recognized the government relations officers’ work as being critical to the system.

President Flanders also reported that he met with Kansas Chamber of Commerce representatives this week. The group discussed the need to solve the workforce shortage. President Flanders said that education past high school could be part of the solution. He noted that collaboration with business is part of the Board's strategic plan.

#### REPORT FROM COUNCIL OF FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENTS

Pittsburg State University Professor Norman Philipp, Chair of the Council of Faculty Senate Presidents, thanked Kansas State University for hosting the Council's meeting last month. Chair Philipp reported that the Council continues its work to update the Regents faculty award criteria and to include full-time non-tenured faculty in the award. The Council also continued its discussions on artificial intelligence in higher education. Activity is occurring on all the state university campuses, and there is a possible tie-in with Complete College America.

The Council engaged in a lunchtime discussion on the Board's First 15 initiative. Chair Philipp said the Council endeavors to inform faculty on the campuses about Board discussions. Chair Ice thanked Chair Philipp for his efforts around communicating Board initiatives.

#### REPORT FROM STUDENTS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Pittsburg State University Student Government Association President Hannah Eckstein, Chair of the Students' Advisory Committee, said that students are currently completing their fall semesters. She reported that the Committee is excited for breakfast with the Regents on Thursday. The Association will be prepared to discuss their goals and the topics they have been considering. Chair Eckstein said the Committee is enthusiastic about the upcoming Higher Education Day at the statehouse in February.

Chair Eckstein thanked the Regents for attending graduation ceremonies and wished them happy holidays.

#### STANDING COMMITTEE AND OTHER REPORTS

##### ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Regent Mendoza, Chair of the Board Academic Affairs Standing Committee, reported that BAASC met virtually on December 4 and again this morning.

Among the two meetings, the Committee approved four items that are on today's Board agenda. At the December 4 meeting, BAASC approved the University of Kansas' request to amend its academic calendar. The Committee also approved six new systemwide transfer courses. At this morning's meeting, BAASC approved granting a certificate of approval with degree-granting authority to Rocky Vista University, a private for-profit institution. The Committee also approved two new programs to be offered by the University of Kansas.

In addition to those action items, at the December 4 meeting the Committee received the following reports: the Transfer and Articulation Council (TAAC) Quality Assurance Report; the Private Postsecondary Report; and the Qualified Admissions Report.

At this morning's meeting BAASC received several updates. Rusty Monhollon, Vice President of Academic Affairs, briefed the Committee on the Board's First 15 Initiative. A workgroup has been formed, and at their first meeting, they identified potential general education courses that could count towards the 15 credit hours high school students can take at no cost to them. The workgroup will meet frequently in 2025 to develop final recommendations for President Flanders.

Dr. Jenn Bonds-Raacke, Associate Director of Academic Affairs, updated BAASC on the Math Pathways and English Initiatives. The focus for the spring semester will shift to institutions designing corequisite support sections and gateway math courses as needed. KBOR-sponsored professional development sessions have equipped institutions to move forward independently, but KBOR staff will remain actively engaged in providing support.



Sam Christy-Dangermond, Director of Academic Affairs, updated the Committee on the Academic Year 2025 Performance Reports, which are due by July 1, 2025. The Committee discussed the components of this year's performance reports.

Finally, Vice President Monhollon briefed the Committee on the Complete College America Launch scheduled for February 11 at Washburn University. In addition to memorializing the Board's relationship with CCA, the day will include workshops led by CCA content experts on current KBOR initiatives.

Regent Dicus inquired if the Board may consider whether private institutions' programs are duplicative of existing public programs when considering request for certificates of authority to operate in the state. President Flanders responded that review of program content for private institutions is limited to quality issues.

#### FISCAL AFFAIRS AND AUDIT

Regent Benson Reported that the Board Fiscal Affairs and Audit Standing Committee met this morning. The Committee approved food and dining rate increases requested by the state universities. He thanked the universities for keeping the increases as low as possible. The Committee also approved all Fiscal Affairs items on the Board's consent agenda and the distributions of state funding to the universities on the discussion agenda.

The Committee received updates from five of the two-year colleges on the institutions' Fiscal Year 2023 audit findings and their progress on resolving the identified issues. Cate Neeley from the University of Kansas and Jaime Dalton from Pittsburg State University presented KU and PSU's audit plans. Elaine Frisbie, Vice President for Finance and Administration, provided an overview of state support for university operations, including a review of past and present funding models.

#### GOVERNANCE

Board Governance Committee Chair Carl Ice reported that the Committee met this morning. The Committee received an update on the state university enterprise risk management reports due to the Committee each January 1 under recently adopted Board Policy. The Committee also received an annual campus safety and security report from Emporia State University.

#### RETIREMENT PLAN

Board Retirement Plan Committee Chair Carl Ice reported that the Committee met on December 9 to discuss a proposal to lower fees paid by participants. Voya Financial, one of the two companies with which participants may have their accounts, proposes to lower its annual fee to 0.06 percent of plan assets. The current fee is 0.08 percent, a 25-percent reduction. The Committee recommended that the Board approve the proposal, which is on this afternoon's Board agenda.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

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

*Academic Affairs*

**ACT ON REQUEST TO CHANGE ACADEMIC CALENDAR – KU**

The University of Kansas received approval to change its Fall 2025 calendar as follows:

<b>Fall Semester 2025</b>	<b>Existing</b>	<b>New</b>
First Day of Classes	8/25/2025	8/18/2025
Last Day of Classes	12/11/2025	12/4/2025
Stop Day	12/12/2025	12/5/2025
First Day of Finals	12/15/2025	12/8/2025
Last Day of Finals	12/19/2025	12/12/2025

**ACT ON REQUEST FOR A NEW CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL WITH DEGREE GRANTING AUTHORITY FOR ROCKY VISTA UNIVERSITY**

Pursuant to the Private and Out-of-State Postsecondary Educational Institution Act, the Board granted a certificate of approval with degree granting authority to Rocky Vista University.

**ACT ON MODIFICATION OF PROGRAM REVIEW METRICS**

The Board approved the following changes to its Academic Year 2025 – Academic Year 2028 program review metrics, as approved by the Board Academic Affairs Standing Committee:

- Exempting interdisciplinary programs without a formal departmental or administrative structure from minimum requirements for the number of majors and graduates.
- Reducing from 20 to 12 students the minimum enrollment for master’s programs and allowing programs that offer both master’s and doctoral degrees to be reviewed as a single program.
- Establishing institution-specific thresholds based on Carnegie classifications to account for differences in size and mission.
- Excluding from the five-year post-baccalaureate wage metric students who immediately pursue graduate studies upon completion of a bachelor’s degree.

*Fiscal Affairs and Audit*

**ACT ON REQUEST TO ALLOCATE EPSCoR APPROPRIATIONS**

As recommended by the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) Program Review Committee, the Board awarded \$247,724.29 in requested Fiscal Year 2025 state matching funds as follows:

- Dr. Doug Wright, Professor and Principal Investigator for the Kansas IDeA Network of Biomedical Research Excellence (K-INBRE) at the University of Kansas Medical Center.

- \$97,725.29 to support bridging grant proposals to increase their competitiveness for NIH funding. This award provides a leverage ratio of 44.9:1 for the state monies (federal: state).
- Dr. Heather Desaire, Professor of Chemistry at the University of Kansas. \$75,000 to support a National Institutes of Health Center of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE) dedicated to addressing women’s health and rural issues, which have not traditionally been the primary focus of data science studies. These funds will specifically be used to engage and train graduate students in data science and health-related research. This award provides a leverage ratio of 32.9:1 for the state monies (federal: state).
  - Dr. Andrew K. Godwin, Professor and Division Director of Genomic Diagnostics at the University of Kansas Medical Center and Deputy Director of the University of Kansas Cancer Center. \$75,000 to support the Kansas Institute for Precision Medicine. This institute is a National Institutes of Health Center of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE) that aims to align appropriate treatment therapies with patients based on the molecular composition of their disease. These funds will help address a funding gap created by a reduction of their federal award and enable them to support additional junior faculty. This award provides a leverage ratio of 31.2:1 for state funds (federal: state).

ACT ON REQUEST TO AUTHORIZE AMENDMENT TO WSU GROUND LEASE TO WSIA AND WSIA GROUND SUBLEASE TO MWCB, LLC – WSU

Wichita State University received approval to amend a ground lease with the Wichita State Innovation Alliance, Inc, and a sublease to MWCB, LLC. Approval was granted to increase the lease and sublease square footage by approximately 17,829 square feet and to correct a scrivener’s error in the sublease by clarifying the lease rate consistent with the parties’ intent.

ACT ON REQUEST TO TERMINATE GROUND LEASE FOR K-AIRES FACILITY – KSU-SALINA

The Board authorized the Board Chair to execute necessary documents terminating a ground lease the Board entered on behalf of KSU-Salina for construction of the K-AIRES facility with the Salina Airport Authority.

AMEND FY 2025 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PLAN FOR UTILITY TUNNEL REPAIR PROJECT – PSU

Pittsburg State University received approval to amend the FY 2025 Capital Improvement Project Plan for its utility tunnel repair project to include additional project costs. The estimated costs have increased from the previously approved \$6 million to \$9,124,750. The new figure includes a 15% contingency recommended by the project’s engineering firm.

Technical Education Authority

ACT ON REQUESTS FOR DEGREE AND CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

The Board approved the following requests to offer degree and certificate programs:

- Barton Community College: Medical Laboratory Assistant – Technical Certificate A at 28 credit hours;
- Washburn University Institute of Technology: Associate Degree in Nursing – Associate of Applied Science degree at 65 credit hours;
- Wichita State University Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology: Electrical Technology – Technical Certificate B at 37 credit hours and an Associate of Applied Science degree at 60 credit hours; and

- Wichita State University Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology: Mental Health Technician - Technical Certificate B at 39 credit hours and an Associate of Applied Science degree at 60 credit hours.

ACT ON EXCEL IN CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE) FEES

The Board approved the following Excel in CTE fees:

- Barton Community College: Medical Laboratory Assistant total \$684. Fees include background check and immunization tracking for \$105, and textbooks for \$579.
- Wichita State University Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology: Mental Health Technician total \$20. Fees include the Management of Aggressive Behavior (MOAB) textbook for \$20.

ACT ON PROMISE ACT PROGRAMS

The Board approved the following programs for Kansas Promise Scholarship Act eligibility:

- Barton County Community College: Medical Laboratory Assistant (51.0802);
- Washburn University Institute of Technology: Associate Degree Nurse (51.3801);
- Wichita State University Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology: Electrical Technology (46.0302); and
- Wichita State University Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology: Mental Health Technician (51.1502).

Retirement Plans

ACT ON REDUCTION TO VOYA ADMINISTRATIVE FEE

The Board approved Voya's offer to reduce the recordkeeping administrative fees for the Board's active Mandatory and Voluntary 403(b) plan contracts with Voya from 0.08 percent to 0.06 percent.

ACT ON REQUEST TO APPROVE CONTRACT FOR RETIREMENT PLAN LEGAL SERVICES

The Board authorized the Board President and CEO to enter into a contract with Ice Miller, LLC, to provide legal services on retirement plan matters. The contract was procured through the state's negotiated procurement process by a Retirement Plan Committee subcommittee. Consistent with the RPC's charter, the RPC empowered the subcommittee to procure the contract and to recommend the engagement to the Board.

**CONSIDERATION OF DISCUSSION AGENDA****Academic Affairs****ACT ON REQUEST TO APPROVE NEW SYSTEMWIDE TRANSFER COURSES**

Dr. Karla Wiscombe, Director of Academic Affairs, explained that the Board's Transfer and Articulation Council (TAAC) comprises ten members from the state universities and ten from the two-year institutions. The Council is tasked with overseeing and implementing the Board's transfer and articulation policy. The Council has recommended six new courses for systemwide transfer:

- CHM2010      ORGANIC CHEMISTRY I AND LAB
- CHM2020      ORGANIC CHEMISTRY II AND LAB
- CSC1020      PROGRAMMING FUNDAMENTALS
- CSC1030      OBJECT-ORIENTED PROGRAMMING
- MAT2020      CALCULUS II
- MAT2030      DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

Regent Johnston moved to approve the courses, and Regent Parasker seconded the motion. The motion carried.

[Presentation on file with official minutes]

**ACT ON FY 2026 HOUSING AND FOOD SERVICE RATE ADJUSTMENT PROPOSALS SUBMITTED BY STATE UNIVERSITIES**

Elaine Frisbie, Vice President for Finance and Administration, presented the second reading of state universities' Fiscal Year 2026 housing and food service rate proposals.

Regent Benson recounted that the Board heard a first reading of the proposals at its November meeting. He explained that the Board Fiscal Affairs and Audit Standing Committee discussed the proposals with each of the universities in November. The Committee understands the price pressures the universities face—for example, food costs are up 30 percent. The Committee recommended approval, finding the proposals to be adequate and responsible.

Vice President Frisbie noted that five of the six state universities require first-year students to live on campus, with some exceptions. Additionally, four of the state universities contract for food service on campus. Board policy requires that those auxiliary units be financially self-sufficient.

Regent Rolph moved to approve the proposals. Regent Dicus seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**ACT ON DISTRIBUTION OF FY 2025 APPROPRIATION FOR IT INFRASTRUCTURE AND CYBERSECURITY – SYSTEM**

Elaine Frisbie, Vice President for Finance and Administration, reported that the 2024 Legislature appropriated \$7.5 million to the Board of Regents for information technology and cybersecurity upgrades in FY 2025 at the public universities. \$3,66,700 of that appropriation is yet to be distributed.

Vice President Frisbie said that university information technology and business officers worked to identify projects that address the highest risks. Because the state appropriation is not enough to fully fund those projects, institutions will be spending their own resources to complete them. Vice President Frisbie noted that the proposed allocation of the remaining state funds is not consistent across institutions because of their differing situations.

Regent Benson added that the Board Fiscal Affairs and Audit Standing Committee was encouraged by the universities’ collaboration and desire to leverage the purchasing power of the whole system in discussing the distributions.

Regent Parasker asked how the projects funded would safeguard the system. Vice President Frisbie said that cyber security will be an element of the upcoming enterprise risk management reports. Chancellor Girod added that the institutions are all working to meet the state-mandated security goals.

Regent Benson moved to approve the proposed distributions. Regent Rolph seconded the motion. The following distributions were approved:

<b>FY 2025</b>	
University of Kansas	\$679,863
KU Medical Center	\$429,682
Kansas State University	\$681,837
Wichita State University	\$501,958
Emporia State University	\$288,422
Pittsburg State University	\$305,584
Fort Hays State University	\$421,553
Washburn University	\$297,800
Board of Regents	\$60,001
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,666,700</b>

RECEIVE REPORT ON UNIVERSITIES’ FACILITIES CONDITION AND SPACE UTILIZATION, AND PROJECTED MAINTENANCE ASSESSMENT EXPENDITURES – SYSTEM

Chad Bristow, Director of Facilities, presented the 2024 State University Facilities Report, covering: projects funded by the Educational Building Fund in FY 2024 and other state sources; maintenance assessment projections; a building demolition summary; estimated replacement and renewal costs; building inventory; and space inventory and utilization.

Fiscal Year 2024 is the second official funding year of the Board’s facilities capital renewal initiative. Under the initiative, the Board aims to invest 2% of the facilities replacement value each year to prevent the maintenance backlog from growing. The Educational Building Fund, funded by a one-mill statewide property tax levy, yields approximately \$50 million annually, covering approximately one-third of what is necessary to keep up with maintenance needs. Additional funding from the state includes appropriations requiring a system match, and the recently enacted Campus Restoration Act, which also requires a match.

Director Bristow highlighted several areas of the 2024 report. For FY 2024, the system’s facilities’ estimated replacement cost is \$8.31 billion. The annual maintenance assessment—1/2% of this figure—is \$41.57 million. For 2024, the system received a \$20 million appropriation from the state for capital renewal with a \$1:\$1 match requirement.

Director Bristow noted that \$20.5 million in Building Demolition Fund expenditures resulted in 27 facilities razed or planned to be razed. This will result in a 626,000-square-foot footprint reduction and will eliminate \$95 million in deferred maintenance. There are 40 additional facilities that could be razed, with a potential one million-square-foot footprint reduction and \$250 million maintenance avoidance.

Director Bristow said the facilities renewal cost, the cost to bring all facilities up to a “B+” facilities condition index letter grade, is now estimated at \$1.57 billion. This figure is an increase over the previous two years’ figures of \$1.3 billion and \$1.2 billion. There are 489 mission-critical facilities, which have an average grade of C.

Director Bristow also provided an overview of the universities’ space inventories, their maintenance needs, and space utilization efficiency.

Regent Parasker asked if a strategy is in place to monitor energy consumption. Director Bristow said that the five-year capital plan includes several energy efficiency and digital control projects and feasibility studies.

Regent Parasker asked if there was a comparison of pre- and post-COVID classroom space utilization figures. Director Bristow said that analysis of older data would be required to produce a good comparison. However, he said the hours of classroom usage weekly has improved.

Regent Parasker asked if the universities have considered leveraging their laboratory space as a revenue source by making it available to entrepreneurs or small businesses. President Muma said some Wichita State University labs are used that way. He said the university is considering getting rid of all traditional lab space. Chancellor Girod said the University of Kansas is moving away from dedicated space.

Regent Winter asked if Director Bristow could estimate the long-term maintenance and utility savings—by 2030, for example. He stressed the importance of having a monetary justification for the facilities spending. Director Bristow said data in this area needs to be developed.

Director Bristow thanked everyone in the system who is assisting in executing the facilities renewal initiative. The Regents thanked Director Bristow for his work and praised the data he presented. President Flanders said the data is better now than ever. Facility maintenance is a problem with all state university systems and other state systems are interested in what the Kansas system is doing.

[Report and presentation filed with official minutes]

**ACT ON ALLOCATION OF FY 2026 EDUCATIONAL BUILDING FUND APPROPRIATION – SYSTEM**

Chad Bristow, Director of Facilities, presented the proposed allocation of the FY 2026 Educational Building Fund Appropriation for rehabilitation and repair projects to mission-critical facilities. The distribution amounts to the universities are based on a standard formula developed in 2007 that is largely based upon the age, complexity, and square footage of each university’s mission-critical buildings as a proportion to the systemwide total, with a minor adjustment factor for the complexity of given facilities. Regent Benson said that the Board Fiscal Affairs and Audit Standing Committee supports the proposal.

Regent Rolph moved to approve the allocation. Regent Benson seconded the motion. The motion carried and the following allocation was approved:

**Allocation of Educational Building Fund for Rehabilitation and Repair Projects  
For EBF-Eligible Buildings Only  
FY 2026 - \$58,500,000**

	<b>% of Total</b>	<b>Allocation</b>
University of Kansas	26.87	\$15,719,000
University of Kansas Medical Center	11.25	6,581,000
Kansas State University	29.90	17,492,000
Wichita State University	10.98	6,423,000
Emporia State University	6.04	3,533,000
Pittsburg State University	7.38	4,318,000
Fort Hays State University	7.58	4,434,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>\$58,500,000</b>

ACT ON ALLOCATION OF FY 2026 CAMPUS RESTORATION ACT FUND – SYSTEM

Chad Bristow, Director of Facilities, said that the Campus Restoration Act, enacted by the 2024 Legislature, supports the Board’s facilities renewal initiative. State university expenditures require a \$1:\$1 match, except expenditures to demolish obsolete facilities. Allocation in the same manner as Educational Building Fund monies is proposed.

Regent Rolph moved to approve the proposed allocation. Regent Dicus seconded the motion. The motion carried, and the following allocation was approved:

**Allocation of Kansas Campus Restoration Act Fund  
For Mission Critical Buildings and Infrastructure Only  
FY 2026 - \$30,000,000**

	% of Total	Allocation
University of Kansas	26.87	\$8,061,000
University of Kansas Medical Center	11.25	3,375,000
Kansas State University	29.90	8,970,000
Wichita State University	10.98	3,294,000
Emporia State University	6.04	1,812,000
Pittsburg State University	7.38	2,214,000
Fort Hays State University	7.58	2,274,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>\$30,000,000</b>

BREAK

Chair Ice called for a break at 2:44 p.m. The meeting resumed at 3:01 p.m.

RECEIVE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Fred Patton, the Board’s Government Affairs Consultant, provided two updates. First, the Kansas House and Senate met to elect their leadership on December 12. Committee assignments are beginning to be announced. Patton reviewed composition changes to House and Senate committees with higher education oversight roles.

Second, Patton provided an update on the budget process. The Governor and Legislature are both working on their budgets. Patton anticipates the Legislature’s initial take on a state budget will look like last year’s final version, and that any enhancements will need to be sought from committees.

Patton also said the system council of government relations officers team is coming together and hopes for a successful partnership. The group meets once a week during the legislative session. In the past, it has also met the week of each Board meeting.

ACT ON THE NON-BUDGETARY LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

Kelly Oliver, Chief of Staff, presented the non-budgetary legislative proposals for a second reading. A first reading occurred at the Board’s November meeting. The proposals cover:

1. Standardizing the interest rates on student financial aid repayment funds to a uniform five percent, as current rates vary.
2. A technical amendment to the adult learner grant program’s agreement requirement that shifts the agreement to one between the student and the office instead of between the student and the institution.
3. A KU request for bonding authority to fund student housing projects.



4. A KUMC request for additional bonding authority for the construction of the Cancer Center building.
5. A KSU request to sell property in Omaha, Nebraska, which includes a veterinary clinic.
6. A KSU request to sell the Unger Complex and associated acreage in Riley County.
7. A KSU request for bonding authority to support the Ag Innovation initiative, which has a total project cost of \$210 million. The initiative has raised most of the funds, and the request is for \$23 million to finalize the project.

Regent Rolph moved to approve the proposals. Regent Benson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

#### RECEIVE BLUEPRINT FOR LITERACY PLAN ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE IN READING

Dr. Cynthia Lane, Director of Literacy, presented a second reading of the Blueprint for Literacy Plan on the establishment of Centers of Excellence in Literacy. The Plan has three elements: required content; shared expertise between the universities; and responsiveness to needs unique to each center's catchment area.

Since the first reading in November, the Plan's budget model was updated. The budget model provides for a spring allocation for each center. Through Fiscal Year 2026, \$8.6 million of the \$10 million in Blueprint for Literacy funds will be allocated to stand up the centers. Director Lane opined that the annual \$10 million Blueprint for Literacy funding would fall short, forecasting that the cost for the centers alone would be \$12 million in Fiscal Year 2026 and \$12.5 million in Fiscal Year 2027.

In addition to the Plan's budget model, the qualifications to be a center employee were updated. President Flanders asked how to best ensure faculty have appropriate credentials. Director Lane replied that universities will report to the Director of Literacy. A process will need to be put in place to confirm faculty know how to apply and are skilled at educating educators in the application of Structured Literacy.

Director Lane thanked the universities for their work on the Blueprint, and, in particular, on the centers. She also thanked the faculty known as the "Literacy 7" who have been working on course development.

In response to a question from Regent Winter, Director Lane's said the biggest positive surprise since beginning work on the Blueprint has been the level of university engagement and desire to do the work.

Regent Rolph stated that the Blueprint is a Board initiative on which the Board has partnered with the Legislature. He has heard feedback that higher education is already doing what the Blueprint requires. However, Regent Rolph perceived a breakdown somewhere between teachers receiving postsecondary instruction and working in the classroom. He encouraged the state university CEOs to remain engaged and asked them what they are doing differently to carry out the initiative. Regent Mendoza, who serves on the Blueprint's Literacy Advisory Committee, echoed Regent Rolph's comments, asking each to reflect on their own roles and what they can do to contribute to the success of this initiative. Director Lane commented that the science of reading has changed, and while it is being taught to future teachers, that instruction needs to go deeper. She also said that the business community should find this issue important as well, noting that deficiencies in adult literacy is a \$2.2 trillion drain on the national economy.

Regent Johnston said it is important to have the regional centers. She also noted many businesses are concerned about employee literacy—for example, employees need to be able to effectively read manuals. She was hopeful the centers could provide support in that area. Director Lane said she is working with the Board's adult education staff on this.

**ADJOURN**

Chair Ice adjourned the meeting at 3:28 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*

C. *Report from the President & CEO*

D. *Report from Council of Faculty Senate Presidents*

E. *Report from Students' Advisory Committee*

Regent Ice, Chair

Blake Flanders, President & CEO

Norman Phillip, PSU

Hannah Eckstein, PSU

### IV. Standing Committee Reports

A. *Academic Affairs*

B. *Fiscal Affairs & Audit*

C. *Governance*

Regent Mendoza

Regent Benson

Regent Ice, Chair

### V. Approval of Consent Agenda

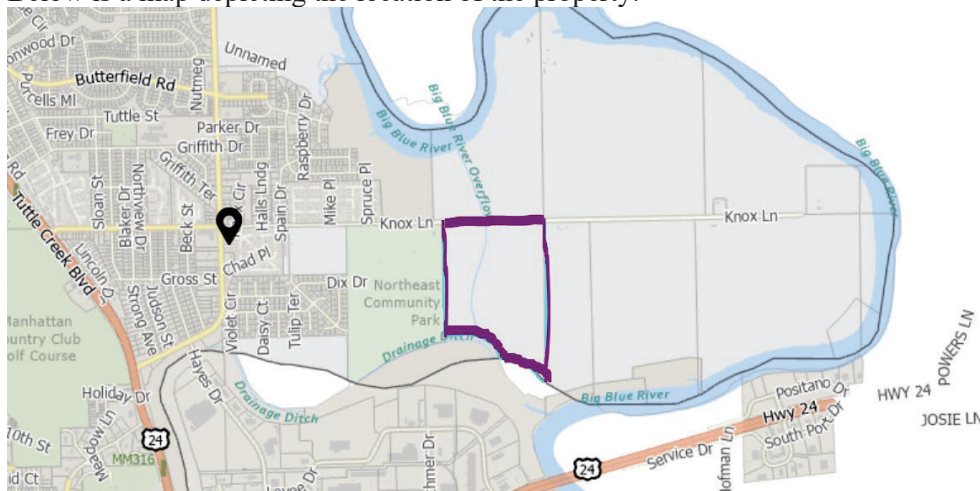
A. *Fiscal Affairs & Audit*

#### 1. Act on Request to Accept Property from University Foundation – KSU

**Chad Bristow,  
Director, Facilities**

In December 2015, the Board of Regents approved a ten-year lease purchase agreement for Kansas State University with the KSU Foundation for an 85-acre tract of land known as Knox Lane on the east side of Manhattan. The purchase was requested by the College of Agriculture for use by the Department of Animal Sciences and Industry. The land is primarily used to provide corn silage for cattle operations at the university's dairy and beef research facilities. This helps minimize feed costs for those operations. An environmental assessment of the property indicated no environmental concerns. The total lease cost of \$825,000 covered the Foundation's 2015 purchase and has been paid from the Animal Science and Industry restricted fees fund. It was the intention in 2015 that the Foundation would gift the property to the University upon expiration of the lease and the Foundation was reimbursed for the acquisition and holding costs. KSU requests approval to accept ownership of the tract of land in February 2025.

Below is a map depicting the location of the property.



**2. 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**

**Summary**

*In September 2022, the Board approved Wichita State University’s request to amend its capital improvement plan and the corresponding program statement, for the construction and equipping of the Hub for Advanced Manufacturing (HAMR) building for the National Institute for Aviation Research. In May 2023, the Board approved adjusting the project scope and budget to increase the building square footage from a single story, 85,000 gross square foot (gsf) building to a two-story 150,000 gsf building to accommodate additional programming and office space. Following pricing validation during design development the Board approved a project cost adjustment resulting from increased market costs for construction. The Board was advised of the University’s intent to seek revenue bonds, with debt service to be paid from NIAR funds with a pledge of generally available unencumbered funds of the University. The 2024 Legislature authorized the issuance of the debt.*

*The University Stadium project, to replace Cessna Stadium, was first submitted to the Board of Regents at its September 2022 meeting. The capital improvement plan was subsequently amended at the Board’s June 2023 meeting to increase the total project budget. At that time, the Board also approved the program statement, which added a phased approach for completing the project. The Board was advised of the University’s intent to seek revenue bonds, with debt service to be paid by the Board of Trustees of Wichita State University (the “BOT”) from county property tax revenue. The Board approved WSU’s Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025 budgets for the property tax revenue, as proposed by the WSU Board of Trustees, which included contribution to the University Stadium Project debt service, in September 2023 and September 2024. The bond will include a pledge of generally available unencumbered funds of the University. The 2023 Legislature authorized issuance of the debt.*

**Background**

Wichita State University requests that the Board of Regents adopt a resolution to approve the issuance of revenue bonds in support of the NIAR Technology & Innovation Building (now known as the NIAR Hub for Advanced Manufacturing and Research) (HAMR), and the University Stadium project. Both projects are consistent with the University’s master campus plan. The University is now requesting the Board’s authority to move forward with the issuance of the revenue bonds, which the Board signifies by adopting a Resolution that becomes part of the bond transcript.

In September 2022, the Board approved Wichita State University’s request to amend its capital improvement plan, and the corresponding program statement, for the construction and equipping of the HAMR building. In May 2023, the Board approved adjusting the project scope and budget to increase the building square footage from a single story, 85,000 gross square foot(gsf) building to a two-story 150,000 gsf building to accommodate additional programming and office space. Following pricing validation during design development, in December 2023 the Board approved a project cost adjustment resulting from increased market costs for construction. The Board was advised of the University’s intent to seek revenue bonds, with debt service to be paid from NIAR funds and will include a pledge of generally available unencumbered funds of the University.

The University Stadium project, to replace Cessna Stadium, was first submitted to the Board of Regents at its September 2022 meeting. The capital improvement plan was subsequently amended at the Board’s June 2023 meeting to increase the total project budget. At that time, the Board also approved the program statement, which added a phased approach for completing the project. The Board was advised of the University’s intent to seek revenue bonds, with debt service to be paid by the Board of Trustees of Wichita State University (the “BOT”)

from Sedgwick County property tax revenue, which would include a pledge of generally available unencumbered funds of the University. In September 2023 and September 2024, the Board approved WSU's Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025 budgets for the property tax revenue, as proposed by the BOT, which included contribution to the University Stadium Project debt service. Of the amount expected to be bond-financed, \$11.04 million in revenue bonds were issued on behalf of the BOT on December 21, 2023, with the debt service paid by a county-wide property tax levied for the benefit of the University and administered by the BOT. University funds were not pledged.

The Kansas Development Finance Authority (K DFA), created by the 1987 Kansas Legislature, K.S.A. 74-8901, *et seq.*, has authority to issue bonds on behalf of the State for projects authorized by the Legislature. K.S.A. Supp. 74-8905(b) provides, in part, that:

The authority may issue bonds for activities and projects of state agencies as requested by the secretary of administration. Research facilities of state educational institutions shall be subject to the provisions of this subsection (b). No bonds may be issued pursuant to this act for any activity or project of a state agency unless the activity or project either has been approved by an appropriation or other act of the legislature or has been approved by the state finance council acting on this matter which is hereby characterized as a matter of legislative delegation and subject to the guidelines prescribed in subsection (c) of K.S.A. 75-3711c, and amendments thereto.

Authority to initiate and complete a capital improvement project and to issue revenue bonds for the construction and equipping of the HAMR building on the campus of Wichita State University was granted by the 2024 Legislature in House Bill 2551, Section 53(a), and published at Chapter 110, Section 53(a) of the 2024 Session Laws of Kansas:

In addition to the other purposes for which expenditures may be made by Wichita state university from the moneys appropriated from the state general fund or from any special revenue fund or funds for fiscal year 2024 or fiscal year 2025, as authorized by this or other appropriation act of the 2023 or 2024 regular session of the legislature, expenditures may be made by Wichita state university from moneys appropriated from the state general fund or from any special revenue fund or funds for fiscal year 2024 or fiscal year 2025 to provide for the issuance of bonds by the Kansas development finance authority in accordance with K.S.A. 74-8905, and amendments thereto, for a capital improvement project for the construction and equipment of the NIAR technology and innovation building on the innovation campus of Wichita state university: *Provided*, That such capital improvement project is hereby approved for Wichita state university for the purposes of K.S.A. 74-8905(b), and amendments thereto, and the authorization of the issuance of bonds by the Kansas development finance authority in accordance with that statute: *Provided further*, That Wichita state university may make expenditures from the moneys received from the issuance of any such bonds for such capital improvement project: *Provided, however*, That expenditures from the moneys received from the issuance of any such bonds for such capital improvement project shall not exceed \$20,000,000 plus all amounts required for costs of bond issuance, costs of interest on the bonds issued for such capital improvement project during the construction of such project, credit enhancement costs and any required reserves for the payment of principal and interest on the bonds: *And provided further*, That all moneys received from the issuance of any such bonds shall be deposited and accounted for as prescribed by applicable bond covenants: *And provided further*, That debt service for any such bonds for such capital improvement project shall be financed by appropriations from any appropriate special revenue fund or funds: *And provided further*, That any such bonds and interest thereon shall be an obligation only of the Kansas development finance authority, shall not constitute a debt of the state of Kansas within

the meaning of section 6 or 7 of article 11 of the constitution of the state of Kansas and shall not pledge the full faith and credit or the taxing power of the state of Kansas: *And provided further*, That Wichita state university shall make provisions for the maintenance of the building.

Pursuant to this authorization, and after consulting with KDFA, the University proposes to issue revenue bonds 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 bonds will be secured by a pledge of generally available unencumbered funds of the University. The debt will be serviced from NIAR funds. The term of the bonds will not exceed 30 years.

Authority to initiate and complete a capital improvement project and to issue revenue bonds for the renovation and equipping of the University Stadium on the campus of Wichita State University was granted by the 2023 Legislature in House Bill 2184, Section 162(e), and published at Chapter 82, Section 162(e) of the 2023 Session Laws of Kansas:

In addition to the other purposes for which expenditures may be made by Wichita state university from the moneys appropriated from the state general fund or from any special revenue fund or funds for fiscal year 2024 or fiscal year 2025, as authorized by this or other appropriation act of the 2023 or 2024 regular session of the legislature, expenditures may be made by Wichita state university from moneys appropriated from the state general fund or from any special revenue fund or funds for fiscal year 2024 or fiscal year 2025 to provide for the issuance of bonds by the Kansas development finance authority in accordance with K.S.A. 74-8905, and amendments thereto, for a capital improvement project for the renovation and equipment of the university stadium on the campus of Wichita state university: *Provided*, That such capital improvement project is hereby approved for Wichita state university for the purposes of K.S.A. 74-8905(b), and amendments thereto, and the authorization of the issuance of bonds by the Kansas development finance authority in accordance with that statute: *Provided further*, That Wichita state university may make expenditures from the moneys received from the issuance of any such bonds for such capital improvement project: *Provided, however*, That expenditures from the moneys received from the issuance of any such bonds for such capital improvement project shall not exceed \$17,850,000 plus all amounts required for costs of bond issuance, costs of interest on the bonds issued for such capital improvement project during the renovation of such project, credit enhancement costs and any required reserves for the payment of principal and interest on the bonds: *And provided further*, That all moneys received from the issuance of any such bonds shall be deposited and accounted for as prescribed by applicable bond covenants: *And provided further*, That debt service for any such bonds for such capital improvement project shall be financed by appropriations from any appropriate special revenue fund or funds: *And provided further*, That any such bonds and interest thereon shall be an obligation only of the Kansas development finance authority, shall not constitute a debt of the state of Kansas within the meaning of section 6 or 7 of article 11 of the constitution of the state of Kansas and shall not pledge the full faith and credit or the taxing power of the state of Kansas: *And provided further*, That Wichita state university shall make provisions for the maintenance of the stadium.

This request represents the second issuance of revenue bonds in support of the University Stadium project, with KDFA issuing its Series 2023J Bonds on December 21, 2023, for \$11.04 million. As authorized by the Board on November 15, 2023, those bonds were issued on behalf of the BOT, rather than the University. The BOT receives

the proceeds of a one and one-half mill special ad valorem tax levy levied on all taxable property in Sedgwick County (the “Special Tax Levy”), and the Series 2023J Bonds were secured by a pledge of revenues produced by the Special Tax Levy. The University is not obligated to pay any debt service on the Series 2023J Bonds.

Pursuant to the statutory authorization, and after consulting with KDFA, the University proposes to issue revenue bonds in an aggregate principal amount sufficient to finance expenditures for costs of the University Stadium project not to exceed \$6.81 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 resolution, however, will approve the issuance of bonds for the full amount of the University’s statutory authorization). These bonds will fund the project through completion of Phase 1A and the majority of Phase 1B.

The bonds will be secured by a pledge of generally available unencumbered funds of the University. The debt is expected to be serviced by the BOT. The BOT has agreed to pledge a portion of the proceeds of the Special Tax Levy to service debt related to Phase 1A and Phase 1B of the Project. K.S.A. 76-3a16 requires the Board of Regents to approve expenditures by the BOT from the Special Tax Levy. The term of the bonds will not exceed 30 years.

In Item VI.B.1 of this month’s Board agenda, the University requests approval to seek legislative authorization to cause additional bonds to be issued in early FY 2026 to fund the completion of Phase 1B and Phase 2.

### **Executive Summary**

The HAMR building is part of Wichita State University’s National Institute for Aviation Research (NIAR). NIAR’s HAMR will be a 167,500 square-foot state-of-the-art research and training facility for emerging technology, advanced materials, digital twin, advanced machining, and automation. The two-story research facility will be located on an undeveloped 4.77-acre parcel on the Innovation campus. Project costs total \$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 forecast demand over the next two decades in the aviation industry supports an estimated 43,000 new aircraft deliveries and a services market value greater than \$9 trillion. The HAMR building seeks to assist the aviation industry in meeting this projected need by focusing on projects that create industry resiliency, address supply chain shortages, and increase production velocity. The American aerospace and defense industry is a vital component of the U.S. economy, not solely for the role that industry plays in national security, transportation, and technological innovation, but also because its influence spans many sectors and every state country-wide. Comprising six research labs (robotics and automation, emerging tech and digital manufacturing, composites, advanced machining and prototyping, and additive manufacturing) in combination with related student and faculty support spaces, this facility is organized with flexibly-designed high-bay research labs surrounding a central core of support spaces. This new NIAR building will provide an opportunity for students to engage in smart manufacturing, applied research, and training opportunities through a comprehensive center that promotes the safety, research, manufacturing, and design elements of today’s aviation industry. Additionally, NIAR labs will work with certification agencies to prove compliance and help with design issues that directly benefit the safety of aircraft pilots, crewmembers, and passengers. A standard design-bid-build project delivery method is being used for this project with completion anticipated in Fall 2025.

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. Phasing has been developed around maintaining the spectator seating and other infrastructure required for the Wichita State Track and Field teams as well as the annual KSHS Track and Field Championship. Demolition of the east stands of Cessna Stadium was handled outside the scope of this project as a separate small capital project. Construction for Phase 1A began in summer 2024 and

includes the improvements on the east side of the existing track (bleacher seating, new free-standing field lights, pavilion building with restrooms/ticketing area/concessions, and plaza). Phase 1B, scheduled to start in summer 2025, widens the existing grass field to accommodate a regulation-sized soccer field and reconfigures the 8-lane track around the widened field. Phase 2A, the demolition of the existing west Cessna Stadium structure, can begin as early as June 2026. A new west stadium structure will be built as Phase 2B. The new west stadium would include a single level of press boxes and suites, offices/locker rooms/team room areas for a future soccer team, as well as restrooms, concessions, and storage rooms. Phase 2B also incorporates a pedestrian plaza between Koch Arena and the new stadium. The anticipated total project cost for all phases is approximately \$78 million. A Construction Management at Risk alternative project delivery method is being used for Phase 1A/1B and is planned for Phase 2 (under a separate contract).

For FY 2024, the University's debt burden ratio was 3.53%, debt coverage ratio was 2.60, and viability reserve ratio was 0.832. For the debt burden ratio, 7% is considered the upper threshold.

### **Tax Compliance**

To the extent that the Bonds are sold on a tax-exempt basis, the University will enter into a Tax Compliance Agreement with the Authority to comply with the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), and the applicable regulations and rulings issued by the U.S. Treasury Department (the "Regulations"), impose certain limitations on the uses and investment of the Bond proceeds and of certain other money relating to the Bonds and set forth the conditions under which the interest on the Bonds will be excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes.

### **Administrative Costs**

In conjunction with the issuance of the proposed bonds, since KDFA has and will incur expenses in relation to the issuance of the proposed bonds and subsequent administration of the Bond Resolution and Pledge of Revenues Agreement, it will be necessary for the University to execute an Administrative Service Fee Agreement to provide for reimbursement of those expenses, as well as other documents and certificates necessary to accomplish the purposes set forth in the Resolution and the issuance and delivery of the bonds.

### **Conclusion**

Wichita State University requests that the Board adopt the Resolution (set out in full below). This Resolution would authorize the WSU President to execute, on behalf of the University, the Pledge of Revenues Agreement, Tax Compliance Agreement, and Administrative Service Fee Agreement in such forms as are approved by the General Counsel to the University, and authorizes the Board Chair, and President, and CEO of the Board to execute on behalf of the Board any other documents and certificates necessary to accomplish the purpose of the Resolution and the issuance of the bonds.



Gilmore & Bell

December 13, 2024 Draft

**RESOLUTION**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS APPROVING THE ISSUANCE BY THE KANSAS DEVELOPMENT FINANCE AUTHORITY OF ITS REVENUE BONDS TO PROVIDE ALL OR A PORTION OF THE FUNDS NECESSARY TO (1) UNDERTAKE A CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPPING OF THE NIAR TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION BUILDING ON THE INNOVATION CAMPUS OF WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY AND (2) UNDERTAKE A CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT FOR THE RENOVATION AND EQUIPPING OF THE UNIVERSITY STADIUM ON THE CAMPUS OF WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A PLEDGE OF REVENUES AGREEMENT BETWEEN WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY AND THE KANSAS DEVELOPMENT FINANCE AUTHORITY THAT CONTAINS CERTAIN COVENANTS AND PROVISIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE PLEDGE OF CERTAIN FUNDS OF WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY THAT WILL PROVIDE FOR THE PAYMENT OF SUCH BONDS; AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF VARIOUS OTHER DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF, SECURITY AND PAYMENT OF SUCH BONDS.**

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**WHEREAS**, the Kansas Board of Regents (the "Board") is vested under the Constitution and laws of the State of Kansas with supervision and control over Wichita State University (the "University"), and is authorized under such laws to adopt this Resolution and perform, execute and carry out, or cause to be performed, executed and carried out, the powers, duties and obligations of the Board under this Resolution in connection with the improvement and expansion of certain facilities located on the campus of the University and the University's operation thereof; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board and the University have heretofore determined that it is advisable to (i) undertake a capital improvement project for the construction and equipping of the NIAR Technology & Innovation Building on the innovation campus of the University (now known as the NIAR Hub for Advanced Manufacturing and Research) (the "NIAR Project") and (ii) undertake a capital improvement project for the renovation and equipping of the university stadium on the campus of the University (the "Stadium Project" and, together with the NIAR Project, the "Projects"); and

**WHEREAS**, Chapter 110, Section 53(a) of the 2024 Session Laws of Kansas authorizes the Kansas Development Finance Authority (the "Authority"), on behalf of the University, to issue its revenue bonds in an aggregate principal amount sufficient to finance costs of the NIAR Project in an amount not to exceed \$20,000,000, plus all amounts required to finance costs of issuance, costs of interest on such revenue bonds during the construction of the NIAR Project, credit enhancement costs and any required reserves for the payment of principal and interest on such revenue bonds; and

**WHEREAS**, Chapter 82, Section 162(e) of the 2023 Session Laws of Kansas authorizes the Authority, on behalf of the University, to issue its revenue bonds in an aggregate principal amount sufficient to finance costs of the Stadium Project in an amount not to exceed \$17,850,000, plus all amounts required to finance costs

of issuance, costs of interest on such revenue bonds during the renovation of the Stadium Project, credit enhancement costs and any required reserves for the payment of principal and interest on such revenue bonds; and

**WHEREAS**, the University has requested that revenue bonds secured by a pledge of generally available unencumbered funds of the University be issued by the Authority pursuant to K.S.A. 74-8901 *et seq.* on behalf of the University to finance all or a portion of the costs of the Projects (the "Bonds"); and

**WHEREAS**, the University intends to make provisions for the maintenance of the Projects and the payment of debt service on the Bonds; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board, upon recommendation of the University, hereby finds and determines that it is advisable that the Bonds be issued by the Authority on behalf of the University, such bonds to be secured by the pledge of generally available unencumbered funds of the University; and

**WHEREAS**, prior to the issuance of the Bonds, the Authority will receive from the Secretary of Administration a request to issue bonds for the purpose of financing the Projects and paying related interest, costs and reserves on behalf of the University; and

**WHEREAS**, in conjunction with the issuance of the Bonds, the University will be required to execute a Pledge of Revenues Agreement between the University and the Authority (the "Pledge Agreement"), which contains certain covenants and provisions with respect to the pledge of generally available unencumbered funds of the University; and

**WHEREAS**, it is recognized that the Authority has and will incur additional expenses in relation to the issuance of the Bonds and subsequent administration and enforcement of the Pledge Agreement, and the University desires to reimburse the Authority for said additional expenses through the execution of an Administrative Service Fee Agreement (the "Administrative Agreement").

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS, AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION 1.** The Board hereby approves the issuance of the Bonds by the Authority on behalf of the University in an aggregate principal amount sufficient to (i) finance costs of the NIAR Project in an amount not to exceed \$20,000,000, and (ii) finance costs of the Stadium Project in an amount not to exceed \$17,850,000 plus all amounts required to finance costs of issuance, costs of interest on the Bonds during construction and renovation of the Projects, credit enhancement costs and any required reserves for the payment of principal and interest on the Bonds. The Bonds may be issued jointly with other revenue bonds for the University and shall be issued substantially in the form and with the repayment terms and provisions contained in the information presented to the Board by the Authority and the University.

**SECTION 2.** The Board hereby authorizes the President of the University to execute on behalf of the University the Pledge Agreement, the Administrative Agreement and such other documents and certificates necessary to accomplish the purposes set forth in this Resolution and the issuance of the Bonds, in such forms as are approved by the General Counsel to the University. The Board hereby further authorizes and instructs the Chair and President and CEO of the Board to execute on behalf of the Board such documents and certificates necessary to accomplish the purposes set forth in this Resolution and the issuance of the Bonds, in such forms as are approved by the General Counsel to the Board.

**SECTION 3.** This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its adoption.

**CERTIFICATE**

We, the undersigned Chair and President and CEO of the Kansas Board of Regents, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was lawfully adopted by the Board at its meeting held on January \_\_\_\_, 2025.

**KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS**

(SEAL)

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Carl Ice, Chair

**ATTEST:**

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Blake Flanders, Ph.D., President and CEO

### **3. Act on Request to Raze the Olathe Pavilion and to Allocate FY 2025 Building Demolition Fund – KUMC**

The University of Kansas Medical Center requests approval to raze the Olathe Pavilion building in accordance with the planning goals identified in the KUMC 2024-2050 Campus Master Plan approved by the Board at the September 2024 meeting. Olathe Pavilion is three story building on the south side of the KUMC campus in Kansas City, Kansas with an underground level and 53,971 gross square feet, built in 1957. It is primarily used as an administration building with some smaller dry research labs and an outpatient methadone clinic that is operated by The University of Kansas Health System's (UKHS) Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences department.

The Olathe Pavilion building has extremely outdated and failing mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and fire alarm infrastructure. When the building was originally built, building codes did not require the installation of a fire sprinkler system which now presents a risk hazard at KUMC. Over the past few years KUMC has worked to maintain the aging infrastructure. But Olathe Pavilion is past its useful life and not a good candidate for the significant investment that would be required to return it to good working order. KUMC has a plan to relocate all current occupants of the space to KUMC buildings other than the UKHS methadone clinic, which UKHS will relocate to a health system facility rather than another KUMC building.

As Olathe Pavilion serves as a primary entry to campus, an exterior entry will need to be created at the south end of the Delp F Pavilion. Utility relocations will also need to be done to an adjacent building as steam and electrical utilities are fed to the Student Center and Children's Development Unit (CDU) buildings from the basement tunnel of Olathe Pavilion. Communication fiber will also need to be relocated before Olathe Pavilion is demolished due to the fiber line exiting out of the basement to many other buildings on campus.

The Olathe Pavilion building currently has an estimated deferred maintenance backlog of over \$19.2 million. It also has a Facility Condition Index (FCI) of 0.67, or a letter grade of F. Olathe Pavilion has no listed historical status or designations. The estimated demolition costs, utility relocates, and exterior entry are \$6.9 million (including design costs).

The University requests Board approval to raze the Olathe Pavilion building using the \$2,239,284 in state appropriated demolition funds that remain for FY 2025. Additional costs over those funded by state demolition funds will be paid from KUMC deferred maintenance or other KUMC funding sources.

#### **4. 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 requests approval to amend the fiscal year 2025 capital improvement project plan and accept the program statement for the construction of the Beef Cattle Research Center (BCRC) facilities. The Beef Cattle Research Center project will be the new name for KSU's currently approved Feedlot project. The project scope includes the replacement of the existing feedlot at 3115 College Avenue, which is no longer in use. KSU's new BCRC will comprise a teaching and research feed lot, metabolism research barn and a feed mill designed for small pens and high replication developmental work north of the Manhattan main campus, and will include the following features:

- 1,200 animal capacity;
- 120 pens (ten animals/pen);
- Feed and drovers' alley;
- Metabolism research barn; and
- Feed mill and steam flaking facility.

The new Beef Cattle Research Center will be executed as a two-phase project: construction of the feed lot and metabolism barn with an estimated total project cost of \$11,105,000, and then the new feed mill with an estimated total project cost of \$4,896,000. The entire \$16,001,000 project is to be financed totally with private money from philanthropic and industry partner gifts and is anticipated to be complete in 2028. The project will be located on state property and completed by KSU Foundation for the University as authorized by K.S.A. 76-757.

The estimated utility and operating costs, at full capacity (1,200 head of cattle), are anticipated to be approximately \$185,000 annually. The College of Agriculture will cover these expenses. A long-term capital renewal fund is established through the KSU Foundation to account for the replacement of systems and components as they age out and require replacement.

B. Technical Education Authority

1. Act on Requests for Degree and/or Certificate Program: Technical Certificate B and AAS in Barbering – Hutchinson 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 Hutchinson Community College to offer a Technical Certificate B (38 credit hours) and an Associate of Applied Science (62 credit hours) in Barbering.*

*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.*

Background

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:

Hutchinson Community College (HCC) requests approval of the following program:

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

The U.S. Department of Education’s Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP Code) 12.0402 describes a Barbering/Barbers program as one that prepares individuals to shave and trim facial/neck hair and beards, cut and dress hair, fit hairpieces, give facial and scalp massages, apply cosmetic treatments, and to prepare for licensure as professional barbers at various levels. The curriculum includes instruction in facial shaving; beard and mustache shaping and trimming; shampooing; hair cutting; hair styles and styling art; facial treatments and massage; chemical applications; hair and scalp anatomy and physiology; hairpiece and toupee fitting; equipment operation; health and safety; customer service; and shop business practices.

Cross walking the proposed CIP Code 12.0402 (Barbering/Barbers) to occupations resulted in a match to one Standard Occupation Classification code (SOC): 39-5011 Barbers, which is defined as an occupation in which one would provide barbering services, such as cutting, trimming, shampooing, and styling hair; trimming beards; or giving shaves.

HCC was approached by the Kansas Board of Barbering (KBOB) in 2016 to discuss how HCC may offer a Barbering program to meet the increased demand in the state. Since that time, HCC has been working to lay the groundwork to begin offering Barbering. Facility plans for a Barbering clinic floor were approved by KBOB in 2022, and facility renovations are being finalized currently. The current curriculum requirements from KBOB have been revisited and the curriculum remains current. HCC has applied for school licensure in November 2024, and that licensure is anticipated to run January 2025 – January 2026. In addition to the 38-credit-hour certificate and the 62-credit-hour Associate of Applied Science, HCC will offer the ability for licensed Cosmetologists to stack their existing licensure with an additional 14 credit hours of training to acquire a Barber License.

The proposed program consists of a 38-credit-hour Technical Certificate, and a 62-credit-hour Associate of Applied Science. The program will be accredited by the Kansas Board of Barbering, and students will be prepared to sit for the Kansas Barber License. HCC anticipates enrollment of 10 students the first year, and 20 full-time and 20 part-time students in years two and three.

The Kansas Department of Labor Long-term Occupation Projections 2022-2032 data is small cell suppressed for Barbers. HCC collaborated with employers to specifically identify data regarding anticipated hiring needs in letters of support, and estimated hiring needs are between 30 to 205 additional barbers in the next five years. The typical education needed for occupation entry is a postsecondary non-degree award.

Lightcast job posting analytics show between October 2023 through October 2024, 114 total postings (45 unique postings) were advertised statewide. The annual median advertised salary was \$65,400. 82% of postings do not indicate a minimum education for entry in the occupation.

HCC explained that the proposed program is included in the FY24-FY26 Perkins Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment, with the O\*NET projections indicating 730 job openings per year in the state.

Six letters of industry support for the proposed program were received from Diamon Dutz, Rebel Cuts, Great Clips Corporate, Shear Energy, Sport Clips, and Black Dahlia. Supports and commitments for the program include mentorships; interviewing program graduates; recommending equipment, tools and supplies; assisting with curriculum development; and advisory committee membership.

Currently, no institutions offer a similar program based on CIP code and/or program title.

The college plans to begin the proposed program in January 2025 and estimates the initial cost of the proposed program at \$124,028 total, including \$55,478 for new, full-time faculty; \$11,000 for facility modifications; \$3,850 for marketing, recruiting, and professional development; and \$53,700 for equipment, instructional supplies and materials, tools, and technology. Jillene Cunningham, Department Co-Chair for Agriculture, Business, Computers and Technology, will assume responsibility for the program.

The proposed program was subject to the 10-day comment period from November 14, 2024, to November 28, 2024, during which no comments were received.

**2. Act on Construction Technology Articulated Credit with Kansas Department of Education**

**Summary**

*One of the foundational strategic priorities of the Postsecondary Technical Education Authority (TEA) has been to enhance technical education in the state through the alignment of specific technical programs to ensure the needs of business and industry are consistently met.*

*Program Alignment has four primary objectives: provide direct business and industry input regarding required and preferred technical skills needed as well as program exit points matching employment opportunities for graduates; identify nationally recognized third-party industry-recognized certifications; identify common and support courses within a program; and decrease the variability in program length.*

*The TEA and Kansas Board of Regents (KBOR) approved Program Alignment process model was developed through cooperative efforts of community and technical college representatives, authority members, and KBOR staff. Providing aligned articulated course credit between secondary and postsecondary technical education programs across Kansas is an extension of the model.*

**Background**

One of the strategic priorities of the Postsecondary Technical Education Authority (TEA) is to enhance technical education in our state by the alignment of specific technical programs. This project is driven by the needs of business and industry in the state. Program Alignment consists of five phases:

- Phase I: Research and industry engagement.
- Phase II: Faculty engagement and aligning curriculum with certifications.
- Phase III: Approval of program structure and curriculum.
- Phase IV: Implementation.
- Phase V: Standards revision.

Kansas statute §74-32,402(10) states that the TEA shall “coordinate the development of a seamless system for the delivery of technical education between the secondary-school level and the postsecondary-school level.” In addition, the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Act (Perkins V) outlines that state leadership activities may use funding to establish statewide articulation agreements aligned to approved programs of study. In accordance with both the state and federal statutes, a Perkins Reserve Grant was developed for statewide articulated credit to fall under Phase V of the program realignment process.

**Phase V: Standards Revision – Construction Technology (46.0201)**

The Construction Technology programs at the postsecondary level were last realigned in 2023. With the current program alignment, competencies identified within the common courses represent opportunities for articulation with the Kansas Department of Education (KSDE).

In the fall of 2023, a Perkins Reserve Grant was established to provide a \$2,500 stipend each for up to two postsecondary faculty representatives to create a crosswalk of articulated credit options from KSDE pathway courses to Kansas Board of Regents (KBOR) common courses in aligned programs. The end goal of this grant project was to transform this articulated credit crosswalk into a statewide articulation map for secondary coursework to postsecondary coursework for Construction Technology.

Preferred candidates for the grant were Construction Technology faculty representatives having experience with the postsecondary program alignment process as well as secondary-level pathway/course reviews. Joseph Dobbs from Fort Hays Tech – Northwest was selected for this project. Mr. Dobbs has a background working in the construction industry, is a NCCER-certified curriculum instructor, was a reviewer for the current KSDE Construction &



Design Pathway courses, is an instructor for both secondary and postsecondary credit, and has students participate in the SkillsUSA Kansas carpentry competitions.

Construction Technology program faculty and administrators from sixteen institutions, KSDE staff, and KBOR staff met virtually on October 15, 2024, to review the articulated course credit crosswalk proposal initially developed by Mr. Dobbs. The proposed crosswalk was based on comparisons of KSDE pathway course competencies to KBOR common course competencies, NCCER standards for certification, and pre-existing caveats included in KSDE Statewide Articulation Agreements with individual two-year colleges. The articulated credit crosswalk proposal then followed the standard program alignment process for a 10-day faculty comment period.

The proposed articulated credit crosswalk was issued for presidential comment from November 4, 2024, to November 19, 2024. Early in the comment period, it was brought to the attention of Board staff that the proposed crosswalk did not include an essential Drafting & Print Reading course option from the KSDE Construction and Design Pathway. Updates were made and the attached proposed articulated credit crosswalk was re-issued for a combined faculty and presidential comment period from November 8, 2024, to November 22, 2024. No comments requesting modifications to the proposed Construction Technology articulated credit crosswalk were received.

Construction Technology Articulated Credit - KSDE to KBOR Alignment Crosswalk		
Recommended that students earn a B or higher for any of the courses listed.		
Students must meet listed articulated benchmarks for NCCER Core or complete NCCER Core Certification in high school.		

Introductory Craft Skills		
High School Course	KSDE Course Code	College Common Course
Introduction to Skilled Trades	38001	Introductory Craft Skills (2-3 Credits)
AND		
General Carpentry I	17002	

Construction Basics		
High School Course	KSDE Course Code	College Common Course
Production Print Reading I	21108	Construction Basics (2-3 Credits)
OR		
Drafting/Print Reading	21102	
AND		
Introduction to Skilled Trades	38001	
General Carpentry I	17002	

KSDE Benchmarks: Qualification Requirements for NCCER Core Certification*	
<a href="#">21108/Production Print Reading I</a>	BENCHMARK 1: Competencies 1.1 - 1.10
<a href="#">21102/Drafting and Print Reading</a>	BENCHMARK 1: IDENTIFICATION AND KNOWLEDGE - Competencies 1.1 - 1.9
	BENCHMARK 2: DEMONSTRATION - Competencies 2.1 - 2.7
<a href="#">38001/Introduction to Skilled Trades</a>	BENCHMARK 1: BASIC SAFETY - Competencies 1.1 - 1.7
	BENCHMARK 2: HAND AND POWER TOOLS - Competencies 2.1 - 2.4
	BENCHMARK 3: PRINT READING - Competencies 3.1 - 3.3
	BENCHMARK 4: COMMUNICATION AND EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS - Competencies 4.1 - 4.5
<a href="#">17002/General Carpentry I</a>	BENCHMARK 0: Competency 0.1
	BENCHMARK 1: ORIENTATION AND WORK BASED SKILLS - Competencies 1.1 - 1.7
	BENCHMARK 2: SAFETY IN CONSTRUCTION - Competencies 2.1 - 2.5
	BENCHMARK 3: FOUNDATIONAL KNOWLEDGE - Competencies 3.1 - 3.6
	BENCHMARK 4: HAND AND POWER TOOLS - Competencies 4.1 - 4.3

NOTES:
<b>To receive postsecondary credit for Construction Technology courses, the student must:</b>
1. Complete the KSDE approved high school Career Cluster Pathway (CCP) program with a minimum of a 3.0 cumulative high school GPA. Student must earn a B or higher for any of the KSDE/high school courses listed.
2. Attain completer status through successful completion of high school CCP sequence of courses. (A completer is a student who has earned a minimum of three secondary level credits in a single CTE pathway, with at least two of those credits being a combination of technical and application-level courses. The student must also earn or complete at least one or more of the following aligned to the Pathway/Program: Industry-recognized certification or passing score on a third-party, end-of-pathway assessment; Excel in CTE Qualifying Recognized Credential; Nine + college hours leading to completion of a certificate or postsecondary program; or High-quality work-based learning career preparation experience [KSDE, Kansas Career Cluster Guidance Handbook 2024-2025, p.50] .)
3. Provide a certified letter or official transcript from high school verifying the completion of the designated CCP to the postsecondary institution's Office of the Registrar.
4. Submit a CCP Credit Award Request Form signed by an authorized high school official verifying completion of the KSDE approved CCP to the postsecondary institution's Office of the Registrar.
5. *Submit documentation of meeting KSDE Benchmark requirements. In the absence of documentation (e.g., NCCER Testing Record), students may be subject to a placement performance test conducted by the postsecondary institution. This test shall be at no cost to the student and only used when the student is unable to provide the preferred documentation. The purpose for this alternate method is for high schools that do not have access to the NCCER program.
6. Meet all of the postsecondary institution's admissions criteria and program prerequisites.
7. Successfully complete the next postsecondary course in the sequence.
8. Complete a minimum of 12 credit hours of postsecondary institution's undergraduate coursework as a full-time direct from high school student in good standing with at least a 2.0 GPA.

# DISCUSSION AGENDA

## VI. Consideration of Discussion Agenda

### A. Academic Affairs

#### 1. Receive Information on the Higher Learning Commission's Guidelines for Reduced-Credit Bachelor's Programs

Regent Mendoza  
**Rusty Monhollon,**  
VP, Academic Affairs

### Summary

*Several chief academic officers have indicated their institutions are considering offering a “reduced-credit” baccalaureate degree. Any such program would have to be approved by both the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) and the Kansas Board of Regents. The Board would also have to amend its current policies before it could consider approval of a reduced-credit bachelor’s degree. This issue paper provides background information on reduced-credit bachelor degrees for the Board’s information.*

This past September, the HLC issued guidelines and an application process for the colleges and universities it accredits to offer “reduced-credit bachelor degree programs,” known colloquially as three-year bachelor’s degrees. The HLC issued these materials in response to growing interest in these programs.

According to HLC President Barbara Gellman-Danley, the commission recognized “the desire among our institutions to meet students’ needs with more flexible degree options.” The goal, she stated, “is to ensure that reduced-credit degrees will have as much rigor and quality as traditional degrees.”

The HLC defines a reduced-credit degree program as one in which the required credit hours are less than the traditional 120 credit hours specified in HLC’s Assumed Practices. An institution must justify offering a program with a reduced number of hours.

The HLC will review applications to offer a reduced-credit bachelor’s degree through its regular “substantive change” process to ensure the degrees comply with the HLC’s Criteria for Accreditation. That process usually takes about eight months. Before submitting the application to HLC, an institution must obtain any necessary state approvals.

Among the factors the HLC will consider in determining whether to approve new programs include:

- Rigor and quality of the program.
- Resources to support student success.
- Evidence that the program will further an institution’s mission and serve its student populations.
- Evidence that the institution evaluated the implications of the reduced-credit degree format (regarding matters such as transfer, licensure, employment, etc.) and has strategies to mitigate against any possible limitations.
- Plans for communicating with prospective and current students to ensure transparency as to all aspects of the program.
- Plans for reviewing and assessing student learning outcomes.

It's important to distinguish between "three-year degree programs" and "reduced-credit degree programs." Three-year degree programs provide a course structure and plan for students to complete a bachelor's degree in three years without reducing the typical 120 credit hours. For a three-year degree, students typically take courses over the summer and use credits earned through early college—dual credit or Advanced Placement, for example—to expedite degree completion. A reduced-credit degree program lowers the credit hour requirement, usually from 120 to 90.

The three-year bachelor's degree is offered in various countries and some states in the U.S. Many universities in the United Kingdom offer three-year bachelor's degree programs, particularly in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland. Australia, Canada, and India also provide three-year options in some fields. In Sweden and Finland, many bachelor's programs are designed to be completed in three years, particularly within the Bologna Process framework, which promotes standardized higher education across Europe. The three-year model is prevalent, depending on the country, in the humanities, the social and natural sciences, arts, business, and commerce.

Several states in the U.S. offer three-year bachelor's degrees (not reduced-credit degrees), including California, Texas, Florida, New York, and Michigan. To my knowledge, only the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) has approved reduced-credit degrees. Last summer, it approved seven degrees, ranging from 90 to 96 credit hours, for delivery at Brigham Young University-Pathway Worldwide in the fall of 2024.

There are both perceived advantages and disadvantages of a reduced-credit bachelor's degree. As there is little data or track record on these degrees, proponents and opponents express what they believe will be the likely impact of reduced-credit baccalaureates.

### **Perceived Advantages**

- Potential for Cost Savings: By cutting the length of study, students can reduce their tuition, fees, and associated living costs. It also would allow them to enter the job market sooner. This financial benefit is particularly appealing to students burdened by student loans, as starting their careers earlier can lead to enhanced earning potential and a quicker return on their investment in education.
- Efficiency of the Program: Students are often required to take a more focused set of courses, which can lead to a deeper understanding of their chosen field. This approach may benefit quickly evolving industries, such as technology or business. Graduates may find themselves better prepared to meet the demands of their field due to their intensive study periods.
- Meeting Workforce Needs: Many reduced-credit degree programs being considered align with fields currently experiencing employee shortages. These fields often draw students into the workforce before completing their degrees. A reduced-credit degree could have the benefit of getting people with postsecondary credentials into the workforce more quickly.

### **Perceived Disadvantages**

- Reduced Opportunity for Extracurricular Activities: A reduced-credit degree may limit students' exposure to extracurricular opportunities, which many employers consider essential for professional growth and networking.
- Lack of Depth or Breadth of Knowledge: A reduced credit degree may not have the depth or breadth of knowledge of a traditional bachelor's degree. In disciplines that require extensive hands-on training or lab work, a shorter program may not provide the skills or knowledge students need for employment and professional development.
- Employer Perceptions: It is unclear how broadly employers will accept the reduced-credit degree as a worthwhile credential. Without clarity, students holding a reduced credit degree may be disadvantaged in a competitive job market, where perceptions of educational credentials can influence hiring decisions.

Reduced-credit and three-year baccalaureate degrees will likely become more widespread across the United States in the coming years. Before Kansas public institutions of higher education could offer one, the Board would need to amend its policies defining the bachelor's degree.

Board policy (Chapter III. A. 9. b.) defines a baccalaureate degree as one “[r]equiring the equivalent of at least four academic years of full-time postsecondary study consisting of courses totaling 120 semester credit hours in the liberal arts, sciences or professional fields.” The degree is further defined by “incorporating in its program design a minimum of 45 semester credit hours in upper division courses. Institutions are not permitted to make programmatic exceptions.” Finally, the degree requires a “distinct specialization, i.e., a ‘major,’ which should entail approximately the equivalent of one academic year of work in the main subject plus one academic year in related subjects, or two academic years in closely related subjects within a liberal arts interdisciplinary program.”

B. Fiscal Affairs & Audit

Regent Benson

1. Act on Non-Budgetary Legislative Proposal to Seek Bonding Authority for Stadium Renovation – WSU

Kelly Oliver,  
Chief of Staff

Summary

*Wichita State University requests Board approval to seek authorization from the 2025 Legislature to issue up to \$60.0 million in revenue bonds. The bonds would be used to finance completion of the University Stadium project, which is the replacement for Cessna Stadium.*

**Background**

Wichita State University requests approval to seek authorization from the 2025 Legislature to issue revenue bonds to finance completion of the University Stadium project, which is the replacement for Cessna Stadium.

Item V.A.2 on the Board’s agenda this month is a request to adopt a resolution to authorize issuance of \$6.81 million in revenue bonds in support of completing Phase 1A and the majority of Phase 1B of the University Stadium project. Those bonds are scheduled to be sold in March of 2025, with the debt service paid by the Board of Trustees of Wichita State University (the “BOT”). The university also issued \$11.04 million on December 21, 2023, with Series 2023J revenue bonds in support of the project, with the debt service also paid by the BOT.

To fund the remaining portion of Phase 1B and Phase 2 of the project, up to \$60.0 million in revenue bonds may be required. The university continues to actively fundraise in support of the project, which could reduce the amount of the bond issuance, as well as development of final design documents for Phase 2. The university intends to limit the bonding to only the actual amount required to complete the project.

**Impact on Other State Agencies**

No fiscal impact on other state agencies.

**Fiscal and Administrative Impact**

Funding sources include a combination of funds from the BOT, partnerships with local government, fundraising, and university resources to cover any remaining funding needs. For FY 2024, the University’s debt burden ratio was 3.53%, debt coverage ratio was 2.60, and viability reserve ratio was 0.832. For the debt burden ratio, 7% is considered the upper threshold.

The Higher Learning Commission uses the Composite Financial Index (CFI) as an indicator of an institution’s financial health. Four ratios are weighted and combined to arrive at the CFI. Each of those ratios communicate different aspects of financial condition and readers are advised to consider the information within the larger context of the institution’s trajectory (five years of data at a minimum) and the institution’s strategic initiatives and investments which may affect ratios, but which may improve the financial condition over the longer term.

Several metrics that are used in the CFI calculations are provided below for Wichita State University.

	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Debt Burden Ratio*	3.15%	2.64%	3.72%	3.66%	3.53%
Debt Coverage Ratio	3.24	2.84	4.05	3.06	2.60
Viability Reserve Ratio^	1.470	1.060	0.921	0.849	0.832

\* The upper threshold for this ratio is considered 7%.

^ A ratio of 1.00 indicates sufficient net assets are available to satisfy debt obligations.

The debt burden ratio includes component units but does not include Foundation expenses:

$$\text{Total Debt Service} / \text{Total Expenditures}$$

The debt service coverage ratio includes all long-term debt obligations of the university and reflects the income available to service debt service payments:

$$\frac{(\text{Net Operating Income} + \text{Net Nonoperating Income} + \text{Interest Expense} + \text{Depreciation})}{\text{Total Principal and Interest Payments}}$$

The viability reserve ratio measures the availability of expendable net assets to cover debt should the institution need to settle its obligations as of the balance sheet date. The ratio indicates the amount of debt that could be repaid just from reserves. Minimal financial health for the ratio is 1.25, meaning that reserves exceed total obligations by one quarter. The maximum value credited when calculating the CFI is 4.2, meaning reserves exceed total obligations by a factor of just over four.

$$\frac{\text{Expendable Net Position (excluding net position restricted for capital investments)}}{\text{Long Term Debt}}$$

Wichita State University now requests the Board authorize the University to seek legislative bonding authority to finish the next phase of the stadium project, with appropriation language as drafted below.

### Draft Language

In addition to the other purposes for which expenditures may be made by Wichita State University from the moneys appropriated from the state general fund or from any special revenue fund or funds for fiscal year 2026 or fiscal year 2027 as authorized by this or other appropriation act of the 2025 regular session or by any appropriation act of the 2026 regular session of the legislature, expenditures may be made by Wichita State University from moneys appropriated from the state general fund or from any special revenue fund or funds for fiscal year 2026 or fiscal year 2027, to provide for the issuance of bonds by the Kansas development finance authority in accordance with K.S.A. 74-8905, and amendments thereto, for a capital improvement project for the renovation and equipment of the university stadium on the campus of Wichita state university: *Provided*, That such capital improvement project is hereby approved for Wichita State University for the purposes of subsection (b) of K.S.A. 74-8905 and amendments thereto, and the authorization of the issuance of bonds by the Kansas development finance authority in accordance with that statute: *Provided further*, That Wichita state university may make expenditures from the moneys received from the issuance of any such bonds for such capital improvement project: *Provided, however*, That expenditures from the moneys received from the issuance of any such bonds for such capital improvement project shall not exceed \$60,000,000 plus all amounts required for costs of bond issuance, costs of interest on the bonds issued for such capital improvement project during the renovation of such project and for a period of not more than one year following completion of such project, credit enhancement costs and any required reserves for the payment of principal and interest on the bonds: *And provided further*, That all moneys received from the issuance of any such bonds shall be deposited and accounted for as prescribed by applicable bond covenants: *And provided further*, That debt service for any such bonds for such capital improvement project shall be financed by appropriations from any appropriate special revenue fund or funds: *And provided further*, That any such bonds and interest thereon shall be an obligation only of the Kansas development finance authority, shall not constitute a debt of the state of Kansas within the meaning of section 6 or 7 of article 11 of the constitution of the state of Kansas and shall not pledge the full faith and credit or the taxing power of the state of Kansas: *And provided further*, That Wichita state university shall make provisions for the maintenance of the stadium and related equipment and infrastructure.

**2. Act on Proposed Uniform Market-Based Tuition for the Foundations in Structured Literacy Course at the State Universities in Academic Years 2025 and 2026**

**Cynthia Lane,  
Director of Literacy**

**Summary**

*2024 Senate Bill 438 established the Blueprint for Literacy. The legislation directs the Board of Regents and the State Board of Education to collaborate on an effort to re-train teachers who are in-service and create new curriculum for the training of pre-service teachers. The legislation provides that the two bodies shall “jointly approve micro-credential requirements for in-service teachers or certification requirements for pre-service teachers at state educational institutions in the science of reading and structured literacy; develop and make accessible professional development programs and micro-credential courses for all in-service early childhood teachers, general education teachers, and special education teachers at low or no cost to such teachers.”*

*The Deans of the Colleges of Education and the Board’s Director of Literacy have developed a uniform market-based tuition rate to be assessed across all state universities for the Board of Regents to consider. Teachers who enroll in the course will have tuition paid for by the Literacy Blueprint state appropriation to the Board of Regents.*

**Background**

In February of 2024, the Kansas Board of Regents adopted the Blueprint for Literacy as part of its 2024 legislative agenda and budget request. Subsequently, the Kansas Legislature passed the Blueprint in 2024 SB 438, which was signed into law by the Governor on April 25, 2024. The Blueprint will utilize developments in the Science of Reading to ensure that all teachers are equipped with and practiced in proven methods of literacy instruction. This will be achieved through new applied learning courses that are being implemented across the state’s public higher education system to incorporate the Science of Reading into teacher education.

By 2030, teachers licensed to teach in elementary grades must have a seal of literacy for licensure by the State Department of Education. The Kansas State Board of Education has approved several options for teachers to earn their credential, including “Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling” (LETRS<sup>®</sup>), “Aims Pathway to Proficient Reading,” and “Keys to Literacy.” Teachers also have the option to earn the credential with a successful result on a standardized test. Another option will be the Foundations in Science of Reading course to be delivered by the public universities, with the added benefit of providing applied learning opportunities.

From the Kansas State Department of Education’s reported LETRS<sup>®</sup> completion and enrollment data, the number of elementary educators yet to complete their literacy training is 15,456. Assuming the 8,899 teachers currently enrolled in the LETRS<sup>®</sup> course will earn their credential, 6,557 educators are candidates for the Foundations in Science of Reading course outlined below.

**Foundations in Science of Reading: Equip Educators in Structured Literacy**

The Foundations in Science of Reading: Equip Educators in Structured Literacy will be a professional learning course designed for fully licensed in-service educators to prepare educators with knowledge of the Science of Reading. The course will also provide instruction in how to apply the essential principles of Structured Literacy—principles that are beneficial for all students and necessary for struggling readers.

To develop the course for in-service educators in the Science of Reading and Structured Literacy, the state universities and Washburn University assigned seven literacy faculty, highly recognized as experts in the field of literacy. This type of systemwide collaboration on course development will provide Kansas educators with the knowledge and skills necessary to apply Structured Literacy in their classroom. The collaboration to develop this course will serve as a model for further course development and collaborations.



The course has been designed and will be fully aligned with the International Dyslexia Association (IDA) Knowledge and Practice Standards and the Kansas Elementary Education PreK-6 Educator Preparation Program Standards and has undergone a third-party IDA standards alignment review.

1. The course will be offered in both in-person or hybrid formats, with interactive features. Students will be paired with coaches and given opportunities for practical application of the material.
2. The course is designed as two three-credit-hour courses, or six hours of graduate credit hours.
3. Market-based tuition rates are recommended across the state universities. Washburn's rate will be approved by its governing board.
  - a. Market-based tuition would be paid on a one-time basis, by KBOR on behalf of qualified Kansas in-service educators. The tuition payment is subject to annual appropriations by the Legislature.
  - b. A one-time stipend of \$500 is recommended to be paid to Kansas in-service educators who successfully complete the course. The stipend is also subject to annual appropriations.

### **Proposed Market-Based Tuition Rate**

2024 Senate Bill 438 provides that the Board of Regents and State Board of Education will *“develop and make accessible professional development programs and micro-credential courses for all in-service early childhood teachers, general education teachers, and special education teachers at low or no cost to such teachers.”* The Office of Literacy, working with the Deans of the Colleges of Education, has developed the proposed market-based tuition rate for the Foundations course at \$300 per credit hour, subject to approval by the Board of Regents. The FY 2025 Blueprint budget has \$10.0 million total, with \$2.7 million dedicated to paying the proposed tuition (1,500 educators X \$300 per credit hour X six credit hours).

### **Staff Recommendation**

Staff recommends the Board of Regents establish a market-based tuition rate of \$300 per graduate credit hour, to be paid by the Blueprint for Literacy state appropriation in Fiscal Years 2025 and 2026.

C. Other Matters

1. Receive Update on Legislative Investment in University Programs

Fort Hays State University,  
Wichita State University,  
Emporia State University,  
Kansas State University  
Pittsburg State University  
University of Kansas

Summary

*The Kansas Legislature has made additional state investments at the state universities. The Board will hear an update from each institution on a select initiative, highlighting the impact the state funding is having on meeting the needs of the state’s talent pipeline, generating research, and generating economic benefit to Kansans.*

**Fort Hays State University, Western Kansas Nursing Program Expansion**

To expand Fort Hays State University’s nursing program, \$15.4 million was appropriated: \$15.0 million for expansion of Stroup Hall (on a one-time basis) and \$400,000 for recurring instructional expenses. The Kansas State Board of Nursing approved the program’s student expansion in June 2023 to move from 65 to 90 students admitted per year to the Fort Hays State University BSN nursing program. To admit that many students requires additional classroom and laboratory space for multiple sections of skills lab, health assessment lab, and high-fidelity simulation lab experiences. Faculty will be added to support increased instructional needs and expanded simulation experiences.

**Wichita State University, Aviation Research**

The National Institute for Aviation Research was established in 1985. The Legislature has consistently supported Wichita State’s support of the aviation industry with annual appropriations for aviation research, infrastructure and the technology transfer facility. WSU has leveraged the state support with external funding – nearly tripling its total research and development activity from \$128.8 million (FY 2019) to \$366.8 million (FY 2023). WSU is now #1 among U.S. universities for industry-funded aeronautical research and development expenditures, #4 for aeronautical research and development expenditures, and #8 for industry-funded engineering research and development expenditures (*Higher Education Research & Development Survey, National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics*).

**Emporia State University, Science and Math Recruitment of Teachers (SMaRT Kansas 21)**

Emporia State University has received \$510,000 in recurring state support that will allow ESU to address the state’s substantial shortage of science and math teachers. ESU will award students in the Bachelor of Science in Education degree program academic scholarships, financial support, and practical experiences. Students are receiving scholarships and stipends during their semesters apprenticing in local K-12 classrooms. Additionally, ESU is using the SMaRT Kansas 21 funds to provide BSE math and science students with paid practical experiences that will prove useful after they graduate. Among the potential paid positions for students are peer mentors, teaching assistants, tutors, ambassadors, and researchers.

**Kansas State University, K-State College of Veterinary Medicine**

Kansas State University was established in 1863 under K.S.A. 76-401 to 76-446. The College of Veterinary Medicine was established in 1905, when the curriculum leading to the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree was established. The Legislature has provided enhanced State General Fund appropriations to the College since FY 2013 targeted to research faculty, support of their research activity and for facilities renovation. The College has also been successful in increasing the number of graduate students in the joint DVM/PhD, DVM/MPH and DVM/MS programs. Kansas State is third in the number of DVM students who are dual enrolled in graduate programs.

**Pittsburg State University, National Institute for Materials Advancement’s (NIMA) Prove-Out Facility**

Pittsburg State University’s Tyler Research Center is home to the National Institute for Materials Advancement (NIMA). Internationally recognized scientists work with faculty and students from the College of Technology and the Polymer Chemistry Initiative, along with state and federal agencies, to find ways to use sustainable materials to create products that can be commercialized — products like a new battery made from coffee grounds, a new golf ball made from soybean waste, and a type of non-flammable foam made from castor oil. A \$4.0 million state appropriation was provided by the Legislature to match federal funding for construction of the new prove-out facility for entrepreneurs and businesses to assist in moving conceptual products from proof-of-concept to pilot-scale within the research center.

**University of Kansas, Kansas Geological Survey**

Established in 1889, the Kansas Geological Survey (KGS) is a major research unit within the University that has a special focus on economic development, water quality and quantity, natural hazards, and digital technology development. The work performed by the scientists and staff of KGS is fundamental to the agriculture and oil and gas industries, as well as public officials on water and natural resource issues. The 2023 Legislature provided additional funding for KGS to enhance their staff salaries, purchase needed equipment, and upgrade their laboratory.

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|--|---|
| <p><b>2. Receive Update on Legislative Investment in Student Success</b></p> | <p><b>Fort Hays State University,<br/>Wichita State University,<br/>Emporia State University,<br/>Kansas State University<br/>Pittsburg State University<br/>University of Kansas</b></p> |
|--|---|

**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.

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|--|---|
| <p><b>3. Receive Legislative Update</b></p>              | <p><b>Fred Patton,<br/>Government Affairs</b></p> |
| <p><b>4. Act on Request to Name a Facility – WSU</b></p> | <p><b>President Muma</b></p>                      |
| <p><b>5. Act on Request to Name a Facility – KSU</b></p> | <p><b>President Linton</b></p>                    |

**VII. Adjournment**

# AGENDA

**Academic Affairs Standing Committee**  
**Wednesday, January 15, 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 December 18, 2024 Meeting
  
- II. Board Consent Items**  
No items
  
- III. Board Discussion Agenda Items**
  - A. New Program Proposal for MS in Medical Dosimetry John Fritch, Washburn University
  - B. Changes to KU Qualified Admissions Barbara Bichelmeyer, KU
  
- IV. Other Matters**
  - A. AY 2025 Performance Report & Rubric Sam Christy-Dangermond
  - B. Academic Affairs Updates Academic Affairs Staff
  
- V. Announcements**  
Next BAASC Meeting – January 29, 2025 – Virtual
  
- VI. Adjournment**

# MINUTES

## Academic Affairs Standing Committee December 18, 2024

The December 18, 2024, meeting of the Board Academic Affairs Standing Committee was called to order by Chair Mendoza at 11:00 a.m. The meeting was held in the Kathy Rupp Conference Room located in the Curtis State Office Building, 1000 S.W. Jackson, Suite 520, Topeka.

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

Chair Mendoza requested the agenda be modified to include two programs from the University of Kansas under Board Consent Items. Regent Johnston moved to approve the modification. Following a second by Regent Parasker, the motion carried unanimously.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regent Parasker moved that the minutes of the December 4, 2024 meeting be approved. Following the second of Regent Johnston, the motion carried unanimously.

### BOARD CONSENT ITEMS

#### ROCKY VISTA UNIVERSITY DEGREE-GRANTING AUTHORITY

Director of Academic Affairs Crystal Puderbaugh followed up on concerns raised about the potential shortage of clinical placements. KBOR contacted WSU and KU Medical Center, who confirmed there were significant challenges in securing clinical placements. She added that these concerns are separate from Rocky Vista University’s request for program approval. Program needs or clinical placement availability are not part of the statute or regulation requirements for licensing out-of-state programs to operate in Kansas. Upon review, Rocky Vista University meets the minimum requirements established under K.S.A. 74-32,169 and K.A.R. 88-28-2; therefore, issuing a certificate of approval is recommended. Regent Johnston asked the provosts for their input, to which they responded by echoing concerns regarding a shortage of clinical placements and potential implications for program accreditation. Regent Johnston asked Vice President Monhollon if there were opportunities to advocate for statutory change. Vice President Monhollon responded that he would consult with President Flanders and Chief of Staff Oliver regarding this matter. Chair Mendoza assured the provosts that their concerns are being heard. She then moved to approve Rocky Vista University’s degree-granting authority. Following a second by Regent Parasker, the motion carried unanimously.

#### UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS – BA AND BGS IN HEALTH AND SOCIETY AND PSM IN ENVIRONMENTAL GEOLOGY

Provost Bichelmeyer shared that KU’s Department of Sociology proposing a BA/BGS in Health & Society, an interdisciplinary program. The degree focuses on the understanding of the social context of health. Graduates will be ready for employment or further training in health services research, healthcare management administration, public health, and health policy. The degree is designed to be completed in 120 credit hours. Regarding the PSM in Environmental Geology, Provost Bichelmeyer shared that KU’s department of Geology is proposing to elevate the concentration in Environmental Geology to a major. This change would allow greater career advancement for its graduates. Regent Parasker asked Provost Bichelmeyer if there was a push from employers to identify a specific program. Marcia Schulmeister, KU faculty, responded that this degree reaches non-traditional adult learners seeking employment opportunities in Environmental Geology. It is not directly employer-driven, although many environmental companies offer to cover tuition for this program. She added that one of the program’s goals is to create more licensed geologists. The program helps students obtain the credentials needed to sit for the licensure

exam. Chair Mendoza moved to approve the BA and BGS in Health and Society and PSM in Environmental Geology. Following a second from Regent Johnston, the motion carried unanimously.

## **OTHER MATTERS**

### **FIRST 15 INITIATIVE**

Vice President for Academic Affairs Rusty Monhollon shared that the expansion of dual and concurrent enrollment to more Kansas high school students was a top priority for the Board. The First 15 initiative aimed to offer 15 credit hours at no cost to high school students. The Board believes this initiative will help the college-going rate and serve underrepresented populations. He gave an overview of the working group's charge, timeline, and approach when determining courses. The working group opted to use the Systemwide General Education Buckets for selecting courses, noting they did not include the natural and physical sciences bucket. This decision was due to finding instructors with the proper qualifications and administrative concerns due to the credit hours assigned to labs. He emphasized KBOR's intention to develop and implement this initiative collaboratively and that this initiative is not a mandate or directive. If an institution is unable to offer the First 15, the Board may allow another provider into that service area to offer those courses. Regent Johnston asked if this initiative would do away with Concurrent Enrollment Partnership agreements. Vice President Monhollon responded that it would not replace these agreements. Regent Mendoza expressed her appreciation for the committee and its efforts to expand access to these courses for Kansas students.

### **MATH PATHWAYS AND ENGLISH INITIATIVES**

Associate Director of Academic Affairs Jennifer Bonds-Raacke gave an update on the initiatives' timelines, KBOR-sponsored fall professional development activities, and next steps. She highlighted the high level of participation from all 32 institutions and expressed gratitude for the many external speakers who presented at the professional development sessions. She added that the next steps include the final professional development session in January for math faculty, spring task force meetings, an Executive Implementation Team meeting on March 28, a professional development & FAQ website, and peer support opportunities. She added that the placement measures for English gateway courses were recently approved, and professional development sessions are underway. The English sessions will conclude by April 4. Regent Parasker asked if the goals for the initiatives have been identified. Associate Director Bonds-Raacke responded that they had been guided by the Board-approved policy and that they have been encouraged by national experts to use SMART goals in their assessment. Vice President Monhollon added the work has been laid out in each institution's performance agreement. Regent Johnston added that statistics support the claim that student success rates are better without the obstacle of prerequisite developmental courses.

### **ACADEMIC YEAR 2025 PERFORMANCE REPORT**

Director of Academic Affairs Sam Christy-Dangermond began by outlining the project-based model with five components comprising 20 percent of the new funding for each year. The project-based model will provide institutions with an incentive to move to the practices outlined. She then shared the performance projects timeline, highlighting that the performance agreements were signed by presidents in the Fall of 2023. Gateway Math Courses by program and multiple measures for gateway courses were selected in the Spring/Summer of 2024. A soft launch of Systemwide Course Placement, Gateway Math Courses, Corequisite Support for Math & English, and updated Degree Maps will be implemented in Fall 2025. Full implementation of the projects and updated Degree Maps are expected in Fall 2026. She then shared an example of a Degree Map, with a superscript that communicates to the student which Systemwide General Education requirement each class fulfills. She clarified that courses without a superscript are not part of the Systemwide General Education curriculum. She also noted that institutions are expected to include the Systemwide General Education coding on the Degree Maps due on July 1, 2025.

**COMPLETE COLLEGE AMERICA (CCA) LAUNCH**

Vice President Monhollon shared that Kansas recently became the 48<sup>th</sup> state to join the CCA alliance. CCA is dedicated to helping students complete college, promoting corequisite models, and providing degree maps. A formal launch will take place on February 11, 2025, including a workshop on various CCA-related topics.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Upon Chair Mendoza's recommendation and the committee's consensus, the next BAASC meeting scheduled for January 2 was canceled. The next meeting will be held on January 15.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Regent Johnston moved to adjourn the meeting. Following a second by Regent Parasker, the meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.



# AGENDA

**Fiscal Affairs and Audit Standing Committee  
Wednesday, January 15, 2025  
10:15 am**

## **I. Old Business**

- A. Approve minutes of December 18 Committee meeting
- B. Follow up on issues raised during the January 2nd teleconference call

## **II. New Business**

- A. **FAA 25-03** Discuss Board Policy for Internal Audit and Review Internal Audit Plans *Presentation of Internal Audit Plans:*  
*Jana Clark, KSU; Tammy Norman, ESU; Wesley Wintch, FHSU*
- B. Board Agenda Items under Fiscal Affairs
- C. WSU Request to Issue Refunding Bonds
- D. **FAA 25-09** Monitor Progress on State University Capital Renewal Initiative and Campus Restoration Act (standing item)
- E. **FAA 25-10** Review Audit Findings (standing item)  
[State of Kansas Fiscal Year 2024 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report](#)

## **III. Other Committee Items of Consideration**

Next meeting dates:

- January 28 – 12:15pm, [Agenda Planning Conference Call](#)
- February 12 – 10:15 am [Committee Meeting](#), Board Office, Topeka
  
- February 25 – 12:15pm, [Agenda Planning Conference Call](#)
- March 12– 10:15 am [Committee Meeting](#), Board Office, Topeka
  
- April 1 – 12:15pm, [Agenda Planning Conference Call](#)
- April 16 – 10:15 am [Committee Meeting](#), Pittsburg State University
  
- April 29 – 12:15pm, [Agenda Planning Conference Call](#)
- May 14 – 10:15 am [Committee Meeting](#), Board Office, Topeka
  
- May 27 – 12:15pm, [Agenda Planning Conference Call](#)
- June 11 – 10:15 am [Committee Meeting](#), Board Office, Topeka

# MINUTES

## Fiscal Affairs and Audit Standing Committee Wednesday, December 18, 2024

The December 18, 2024, meeting of the Fiscal Affairs and Audit Standing Committee was called to order by Chair Benson at 10:15 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

### Approval of Minutes

Regent Rolph moved that the minutes of the November 20th meeting be approved. Following Regent Winter's second, the motion carried.

### Follow up on Questions Raised During Agenda Call

The committee had no follow-up questions to discuss from the agenda call.

### New Business

Chair Benson asked if there were any Consent Agenda items on the afternoon's full meeting agenda that any of the Committee members would like to discuss. Hearing none, a motion was made by Regent Dicus to approve the Consent Agenda, following the second by Regent Rolph the motion carried.

Vice President Frisbie reviewed the proposed housing and food service rate proposals submitted by the state universities, stating that the tables had been updated to display the information accurately. Regent Rolph motioned to approve the recommended approval of the proposed housing and food service rate proposals. It was seconded by Regent Winter, and the motion passed.

Vice President Frisbie then presented on the distribution of the FY 2025 appropriation for IT and cybersecurity. She reminded the Committee that they have allocated about half of the \$7.5 million this year, and this is a request to distribute the remainder. Angela Neria, Pittsburg State University, gave examples of collaborative sourcing that works for all the campuses. She responded that they have put together a bulk contract that several of the institutions are taking advantage of and that the others already have something in place. Angela also stated that working closely with the purchasing officers is very important.

Regent Winter asked in what area they identified savings or quality improvements because of the collaboration. Angela responded that they have a KBOR-wide contract with Adobe, and that all the universities share the same internet service provider, which allows them to leverage cost and bid out as a large group for internet services across the state. They also collaborate on their learning management system using Canvas and use the same Zoom contract. Regent Winter asked if there had been a time when there had been an opportunity to save money, but that suggestion was not followed, and if there is a future opportunity to collaborate and save money. Angela responded that has not happened unless a product had already been purchased or was not needed by the institution, but to utilize the funding, they will have to take different paths and collaborate where they can. Regent Winter moved to recommend approval. Regent Rolph seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Chair Benson explained there will be a report on the universities' facilities condition and space utilization, which will be given at the Board meeting.

Vice President Frisbie reported on the request to allocate the Educational Building Fund appropriation for FY 2026, estimating that \$58.5 million is available to be allocated across the system. After no discussion, Regent Rolph moved to recommend approval. It was seconded by Regent Dicus, and the motion passed.

Vice President Frisbie next reported on the request for allocation of FY 2026 Campus Restoration Act Fund, stating it is a new program to launch in Fiscal Year 2026. A \$32.7 million transfer for six years is coming to the agency beginning in FY 2026. \$2.7 million will provide \$100,000 for each coordinated institution, and \$30 million is dedicated to the state universities. The goal is for each university to come back with a plan for leveraging the funds. If they are used for capital renewal, they have a one-to-one match requirement; if they are used for demolition, it does not have a one-to-one match. After no discussion, Regent Dicus moved to recommend approval. Regent Rolph seconded, and the motion passed.

### **Receive Updates from Community and Technical Colleges on FY 2023 Audit Findings**

Next, the committee received updates from several community and technical colleges on FY 2023 Audit Findings. Marcus Garstecki, Barton Community College President; Michael Johnson, Trustee; Myrna Perkins, Chief Accreditation Officer/Director of Financial Aid; and Mark Dean, Vice President of Administration, presented first. Mr. Dean stated that in FY 2023, they did have audit findings, but none were from state programs. They typically have their plan of correction in place before the auditors leave and the audit is presented to the institution.

Next, Interim President Sara Sutton and CFO Missy Scott from Fort Scott Community College presented on their FY 2023 audit findings. Ms. Scott reviewed their corrective action plan, which their Board of Trustees has approved. They have started holding monthly finance committee meetings and have been working diligently to improve internal controls. They have hired a new financial aid director and assistant director and are providing training for them. They have also hired new employees in the business office and are cross-training. Chair Benson asked if they anticipate with the FY 2024 audit that the findings that were identified will be remedied. Ms. Scott responded that she thinks they will see some of the same results because the changes were not made until May of FY 2024. President Sutton stated she feels confident with the current leadership to continue with the action plan for better outcomes in future audits. Regent Rolph asked how involved the Board of Trustees have been in the process, and President Sutton stated that since she started in May, there have been monthly finance meetings that were not happening before. In those meetings, they have been addressing the issues in coordination with the Board of Trustees.

President Eric Burks and CFO Dianna Baumann from Fort Hays North Central Tech presented next. President Burks reported their FY 2024 audit has been finalized and that they were now identified as a low-risk auditee with no material or significant deficiencies and internal controls with financial statements and federal awards.

Next, President Ryan Ruda and CFO Karla Armstrong from Garden City Community College presented. President Ruda stated that they had a finding that has been resolved and was not tied to a dollar amount but to having stronger oversight processes and additional staff being hired.

Madalen Day, CFO of Seward County Community College, presented next. She stated that the material weakness from FY 2023 was taken care of immediately after being brought to their attention.

Vice President Frisbie stated that the FY 2024 audits are starting to come in and should all be in the first quarter of 2025. Chair Benson noted that they will revisit the results and see how the FY 2024 audits went.

### **Discuss Board Policy for Internal Audit and Review Internal Audit Plans**

Cate Neeley, University of Kansas Chief Audit Executive, presented the 2024 Annual Report and 2025 Internal Audit Plan. She stated that they have updated the Audit Charter to add the required elements for the standards that will go into effect in 2025. Ms. Neeley mentioned that there are a couple of projects this year that will examine financial control validations, cash handling, and the effectiveness of internal control processes. Once they have

the report early next year, they will look at what the findings are and work with leadership to identify what audit work they can do in support of it. Ms. Neeley pointed out that they have some transition reviews on their plan to provide assurance and assessment of units that are undergoing a leadership transition. She also stated that they have hours dedicated to federally sponsored research that's a high-risk and highly regulated area, as well as safety and health. They are due for an external quality review in the Fall of 2025. To conclude, she reviewed projects they have completed or have in progress.

Jamie Dalton, Executive Director, Internal Audit and Strategic Planning at Pittsburg State University, presented next. PSU has updated the Audit Charter to add the required elements for the standards that will go into effect in 2025. Ms. Dalton reported that in FY 2024, they did not have a formal audit plan due to her position being vacant. Jamie stated that the affiliated corporations review was completed as mandated, as well as the Bryant Student Health Center and Nursing Department financial statements for KSBN, and that the Crossland College of Technology is in progress. She went over the focus of their FY 2025 audit plan, including affiliated corporations review, Crossland College of Technology, leadership changes, repair and replacement planning, police and public safety, nursing financial statements for KSBN, and Kansas Center for Career & Tech Ed.

### **Review State Support for State Universities' Operations**

Vice President Frisbie presented on state support for public institutions of higher education. KBOR was appropriated just over \$1.3 billion from the State General Fund by the 2024 Legislature for FY 2025. This is the baseline for the FY 2026 budget. To the base, \$13.7 million was added for the salary pay plan, \$4.8 million for employee health benefits, and \$254.7 million was removed as one-time projects. In September, the Board voted to request an additional \$280 million, \$61 million of which is for continuing projects and \$220 million for new items in the budget, setting the stage for FY 2026. Vice President Frisbie reviewed that each university receives their own state operating appropriations, and the amount is not typically adjusted according to a formula or to recognize the effect of inflation, except for employee pay plans or recognized fringe benefit changes.

Washburn University is one of three municipal universities in the country and receives an operating line item through KBOR that was \$14 million in FY 2023 and FY 2024 and increased to \$14.27 million in FY 2025 and the FY 2026 base budget. Vice President Frisbie also mentioned that KBOR is a member of SHEEO, and they have a community of practice that is underway this year in which Kansas is participating. It is an opportunity for KBOR to examine how funding models could be applied.

### **Monitor Progress on State University Capital Renewal Initiative Campus Restoration Act**

Chair Benson stated this would be covered during the afternoon Board meeting.

### **Review Audit Findings**

There were no other audit findings to discuss.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:58 am.

# AGENDA

**Governance Committee**  
**January 15, 2025**  
**9:00 a.m.**

- I. Approve: Minutes from December 18, 2024
- II. Consider request for Board President and CEO to execute Board contract
  - Blueprint for Literacy – instructional design of literacy courses (Wichita State University)
- III. Discuss proposed changes to Board Policy on Faculty of the Year Award
- IV. Annual campus safety and security report
  - Wichita State University
- V. Other Matters

# MINUTES

## Governance Committee December 18, 2024

The Kansas Board of Regents Governance Committee met on Wednesday, December 18, 2024. 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 November 20, 2024, meeting. Regent Benson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

### UPDATE ON ENTERPRISE RISK MANAGEMENT REPORTS

John Yeary, General Counsel, explained that the Board adopted two new policy provisions in September that created new state university reporting requirements: an IT security policy and an enterprise risk management policy. The enterprise risk management policy provides that reports are due to the Governance Committee by January 1.

General Counsel Yeary has discussed the requirement with university business officers and general counsels. The universities are choosing to submit written reports that will identify risks and the processes and personnel designated to meet the risks. General Counsel Yeary will distribute the reports to the Committee.

Chair Ice inquired about the goal for the reports. General Counsel Yeary said the reports are to ensure policy compliance.

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

Steven Lovett, Emporia State University General Counsel, provided the report. General Counsel Lovett said that ESU has expanded its rape aggression defense and active shooter trainings, as well as its emergency notice system. He recounted security-related events since his last report, noting that there were few items.

With respect to updates to ESU security systems, General Counsel Lovett said closed-circuit software with artificial intelligence capability is reviewed with ESU's information technology department. Many ESU buildings are still keyed, but many now have card swipe access. ESU is working to reassess panic button access for sensitive areas. The University's fire system communications have all migrated to primarily use ESU's network, with cellular networks as secondary. The system undergoes internal testing rotations. In addition, ESU has begun having a person on-site at the Memorial Union after hours.

As to new measures, General Counsel Lovett said ESU has re-established its emergency notification team. In addition, it has assembled a six-member executive threat assessment team. The group's purpose is to review anything on campus that could manifest an institutional risk. It insures measures and people are in place to address those risks. The group centralizes the process and creates a collective consciousness about risk. Further, ESU has a campus-wide record retention policy; has implemented recommendations from its property casualty insurer; has evaluated OSHA safety requirements; and has conducted a self-study and campus-wide risk forums.

The University has also held table top exercises in several areas. It has endeavored to include more people in more trainings. For example, University personnel have participated in a hazmat tabletop exercise and a county-wide violent assailant tabletop exercise; sport and special event management training; and storm-spotter and National Weather Service Training. General Counsel Lovett then reviewed a selection of training opportunities made available to staff and students on security-related topics.

Regarding Title IX, the University has conducted three significant trainings since the last report, two for new students and one for all university employees. The University only recently received this year's first request for a formal complaint process. General Counsel Lovett shared flow charts diagraming the University's informal and formal complaint resolution process. The process has been overhauled as a result of a previous agreement with the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights.

Chair Ice thanked General Counsel Lovett for his report.

#### ADJOURNMENT

At 9:34 a.m., Chair Ice adjourned the meeting.

# AGENDA

**System Council of Presidents  
Wednesday, January 15, 2025  
10:30 am**

- I. Approve minutes of the November 20, 2024 meeting
- II. Report from System Council of Chief Academic Officers: Dr. Mickey McCloud
  - Pending items for approval from System Council of Chief Academic Officers (Attachment 1)
- III. Receive System Legislative Update: Kelly Oliver, Chief of Staff
- IV. Other matters



# MINUTES

## System Council of Presidents December 18, 2024

AT 10:31 a.m., President Seth Carter called the System Council of Presidents meeting to order at the Curtis State Office Building (CSOB), 1000 SW Jackson, Suite 530, Topeka, KS 66612, in the indicated meeting room.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

- President Seth Carter, Colby College
- President James Genandt, Manhattan Tech
- President Dan Shipp, Pittsburg State University, Chair
- Chancellor Doug Girod, University of Kansas
- 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 Mason moved that the minutes of the November 20, 2024, meeting be approved. Following the second of President Linton, the motion carried.

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

- SCOCAO approved to implement revised reverse transfer procedures using a unified digital platform to facilitate transcript exchanges, aiming for improved outcomes in reverse transfers.
- Discussion continued on the matter of system-wide math course, placement scores, and the implementation of our corequisite modeling.
- Karla Wiscombe gave a report on our system-wide transfer associate degrees.
- The working group for the FIRST 15 initiative has been established, with members tasked to meet regularly to develop recommendations by May.
- Kansas has committed to join *Complete College America* group, which aims to enhance student success by providing access to resources and expert guidance. This strategic move is expected to improve graduation rates and streamline the process for students from enrollment to completion.

### REPORT ON FIRST 15 AND DEVELOPMENTAL EDUCATION UPDATE FROM RUSTY MONHOLLON, VICE PRESIDENT, ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

- A work group has been established to recommend the concurrent enrollment courses for the first 15 credit hours, develop a funding framework, and ensure access to concurrent enrollment courses for all eligible high school students. They are tasked with completing their recommendations by May 1.
- The group reached a consensus to simplify the approach to early college education by introducing 11 courses as part of the first 15, which will help both students and educational providers. This decision aims to facilitate early college opportunities for more students in Kansas.
- The working group members are expected to report back to their respective campuses and share the information discussed in the meeting with all sectors involved in early college education, ensuring collaborative efforts moving forward.
- The initiative is described as having no cost to students, but it is clarified that there will be costs involved that need to be covered by other parties, indicating a need for financial planning and transparency regarding funding sources.

- The board has established a goal related to this initiative, and the current discussion is focused on how to implement this goal effectively, highlighting the strategic importance of the initiative for the institutions involved.
- The initiative's outcomes include addressing declining enrollment rates and improving college-going rates. This initiative aims to create partnerships with school districts and educational providers to enhance recruitment efforts.
- There is a need to explore ways to support students who are qualified for dual enrollment but lack the financial means to participate. This is crucial for helping underserved and underrepresented students access post-secondary education.
- There is a need to clarify funding availability for ramping up the initiative, as well as to ensure that all stakeholders understand that participation is not mandatory, which is crucial for planning and execution.
- The conversation highlights the necessity for collaboration among educational institutions to ensure the success of the statewide initiative, indicating that competition should be set aside for collective benefit.
- A point is made regarding the financial implications of the initiative, emphasizing that while it may be presented as no cost to students, there are significant costs to institutions that need to be acknowledged.
- The group is open to ideas and suggestions on how to implement a system-wide approach to support students in need, indicating a willingness to consider various strategies moving forward.

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

- On December 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Legislature elected their legislative leadership for this upcoming session for both in the House and the Senate. The top three legislative leaders will stay the same in the House. Representative Woodard will become the House minority leader.. Senator Masterson will remain Senate President, and Senator Sykes will continue as the minority leader. Senator Schallenburger will be the Vice President, and Senator Blasi will be the Senate majority leader.
- The legislative leadership also started their committee assignments for the upcoming session.
- The system's budget requests are being reviewed by the Special Committee on Legislative Budget. The committee is set to finalize their recommendations by the end of the week, which will guide the budgetary decisions for the upcoming session.
- Last week, the System Council of Governmental Relations officers had a short retreat hosted by Pittsburg State University in Kansas City. It was good for the group to get together and hear about different topics as well as discussing legislative strategy. This afternoon, the Board will take final action on their non-budgetary legislative items.
- Final item, at legislative request, centralized transparency reports for community colleges will be posted on the Board of Regents website, allowing easier access for taxpayers and students to view the reports through a single platform. This decision aims to enhance transparency and accountability.

#### **REPORT ON REVERSE TRANSFER PROCEDURES REVISION FROM MISTY KNOX, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

- Reverse transfer is a process of retroactively awarding associate degrees from a student's most recently attended a two-year college institution by combining the credits earned at both the four-year and the two-year institutions.
- SCOCO unanimously approved the revised procedures for reverse transfer, which include the use of the National Student Clearinghouse as a system-wide data exchange service. This decision aims to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of reverse transfer processes among institutions.
- A formal vote from the CEOs was requested to finalize this procedure. President Linton moved for the vote and there was unanimous approval from all CEOs.

**OTHER MATTERS**

Dr. Flanders provided a reminder for the legislative reception on March 12, 2025, at the Beacon, 420 SW 9th St, Topeka, KS 66612.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:08AM by President Carter.

# AGENDA

**Council of Presidents  
Wednesday, January 15, 2025  
adjournment of SCOPS**

- I. Approve minutes of the November 20, 2024 meeting
- II. Report from Council of Chief Academic Officers: Dr. Susan Bon, J.D., Ph.D.
- III. Report from Council of Student Affairs Officers: Dr. Karl Stumo, Ed.D.
- IV. Report from Council of Inclusion, Belonging, & Community Engagement Officers: Deatrea Rose
- V. Report from Council of Government Relations Officers: Dr. Shawn Naccarato, M.P.A, J.D., PhD.
- VI. 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
  - Act on Plan Year 2025-2026 Student Health Insurance proposal
- VIII. Other matters

# MINUTES

## Council of Presidents December 18, 2024

At 11:12 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.

MEMBERS PRESENT: President Dan Shipp, Pittsburg State University, Chair  
Chancellor Doug Girod, University of Kansas  
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 November 20, 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.

- Pending items for approval from Council of Chief Academic Officers were approved:
  - *BA & BGS in Health & Society – KU*
  - *PSM in Environmental Geology – KU*
- Request for approval from COPs: President Muma motioned to approved, following a second from President Mason. No objections, motion carried.
- There was a first reading of a proposal from WSU for a PHD in Education and Behavioral Studies
- Four name changes were reviewed from KU (1), KU Medical Center (2), and KSU-Olathe (1).

### 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 University of Kansas has resumed their Belonging@KU series with Dr. Angela Mackey-Gist presenting on socio-economic class disparities. They have also held successful events focused on bringing faculty and staff together partnering with HR and the Wellness Ambassadors as well as held their first event for KU's Post-Docs. After a semester of reorganization and realignments to maximize efficiency, KU is gearing up for an exciting semester of programming in the spring.
- Kansas State University renamed their inclusion and belonging office to the **Office of Access and Opportunity**. K- State will promote a whole week of activities observing Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Saturday, January 25 – Friday, January 31, 2025. Emporia State University: The office has hired a Basic Needs Coordinator, who is currently working with Residence Life to ensure students staying in the halls over break have access to enough food.
- Emporia State University will be having a MLK Jr. Day Service Project and a community dinner in collaboration with a few of the local Black churches and Eastside Community Organization (which is an organization that works to provide activities and keep up a park on the Eastside of Emporia) the week of January 20th, .

- Pittsburg State University will host a Dr. MLK Jr. Day of Service on January 20. PSU's Spark Wheel Coordinator worked with various offices on campus to ensure students staying over the holiday break would have food and warm clothing.

### **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.

- COSAO will meet with Regents during the January Board meeting and plan to discuss organizational charts, food insecurity/basic needs-unhoused / impact services / Stop Hazing Act / CCA launch events.
- Update from Dr. Jenn Bonds-Raacke, KBOR Associate Director for Academic Affairs, offered an update from a national HLC conference regarding changes addressing benchmarking and retention/student success outcomes. New changes are coming from HLC regarding the annual review of student retention and student success indicators, including graduation rates at 150%. Each campus will respond back to it's HLC committee to ensure all are aware of new requirements coming in the summer. Also reviewed the Complete College America program.
- The Stop Campus Hazing Federal Legislation and new requirement reported by Thomas Lane, Kansas State Vice President and Dean of Students. The new legislation begins July 1, 2025 with reporting beginning in Spring 2026 (impacting formal or informal campus organizations). Clery data must be listed as its own crime statistics category. A Campus transparency report is now required. Definitions of hazing are changing slightly, and it is important how each campus is addressing and reporting incidents. Also, a need to have a specific plan for responding to incidents of hazing. Model suggested from University of Texas at Austin includes:
  - Policy
  - Training and prevention
  - Reporting
  - Website positioning
- Thomas Lane reported a review of bookstore relationships per campus.
  - Council discussed various designs of bookstore operations on campus and advantages and challenges with each.
  - Immediate access program
  - OER committee = Open Educational Resources
  - Council had a rich discussion regarding the various bookstore relationship and platforms, including self-operated, relationships with national partners (Follett, Barnes and Noble, VitalSource). A few opportunities and challenges with each platform were reviewed.
- Reviewed the First 15 Initiative and discussed impact of First 15 concept with student services and support.

### **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.

- Update on Kansas higher education government relations retreat/summit that Pittsburg State University hosted December 10-11, 2024. The agenda included:
  - Midwest Trust – discussion of strategic fund management for university foundations.
  - Majority Leader Chris Croft – 2025 Session Primer and New Legislative Budget Process.
  - Secretary of Administration/Director of Budget Adam Profitt – Kansas Fiscal and Economic Forecast and State Budget Implications and Impacts.
  - Kent Glasscock.- Pillar 3, Economic Prosperity, and Alignment with new Council for Research and Economic Development.
  - Cindy Lane – KS Blueprint for Literacy.

- Jeff Allen – Pre-ACT ACT Performance Trends in KS.
- Andrew Weisberg – Overland Park Chamber new concierge service program, talent council, and workforce study.
- From discussion at the summit and follow-up meeting yesterday, COGRO will have some specific recommendations for your consideration regarding our advocacy strategy on the base \$90 million request
- Legislative leadership elections:
  - **Senate**
    - President Ty Masterson was re-elected.
    - Vice President Tim Shallenburger will replace Sen Rick Wilborn.
    - Majority Leader Chase Blasi will replace Sen. Larry Alley.
    - Assistant Majority Leader Caryn Tyson will replace Sen. Renee Erickson.
    - Majority Whip Rick Kloos was re-elected.
    - Senate minority leader: Sen. Dinah Sykes was reelected.
    - Senate assistant minority leader: Sen. Oletha Faust-Goudeau was reelected.
    - Senate minority whip: Sen. Cindy Holscher will replace Sen. Pat Pettey.
    - Senate agenda chair: Sen. Marci Francisco was reelected.
    - Senate caucus chair: Sen. Ethan Corson will replace outgoing Sen. Jeff Pittman.
  - **House**
    - Speaker of the House: Rep. Dan Hawkins was reelected.
    - Speaker pro tem: Rep. Blake Carpenter was reelected.
    - House majority leader: Rep. Chris Croft was reelected.
    - House assistant majority leader: Rep. Kyle Hoffman will replace the late Rep. Les Mason.
    - House majority whip: Rep. Nick Hoheisel will replace Rep. Susan Estes.
    - House majority caucus chair: Rep. Kristey Williams was reelected.
    - House minority leader: Rep. Brandon Woodard will replace outgoing Rep. Vic Miller.
    - House assistant minority leader: Rep. Mike Amyx will replace Rep. Valdenia Winn.
    - House minority whip: Rep. Jo Ella Hoye will replace Rep. Stephanie Sawyer Clayton.
    - House minority caucus chair: Rep. Barbara Ballard, was reelected.
    - House minority agenda chair: Rep. Jerry Stogsdill was reelected.
    - House minority policy chair: Rep. Dan Osman will replace outgoing Rep. Christina Haswood.

### **Council on Research & Economic Development**

- The Council has been focused on initial planning, strategy, and logistics.
- Kent Glasscock presented at the Kansas Higher Education Government Relations Summit.
- First official meeting set for January 7<sup>th</sup>.

### **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.

- **Review updated RITC proposal for infrastructure/cyber funds:**
  - Angela Neria, Pittsburg State University Chief Information Officer, shared the RITC proposal for spending infrastructure/cyber funds. There are four categories for spending: Governance and Visibility, Cybersecurity Tools, Cloud Migration, and Asset Life-Cycle Management. This format lays out areas for collaboration with maximum risk reduction. Updates were made to the proposal and was submitted for the KBOR December agenda.
- **Enterprise Risk Management Reports**
  - Institutions are required to submit a report to the Board Governance Committee that a risk management process is in place. COBO discussed the reports should not contain sensitive information but more descriptive of the process. A copy of the policy was shared with COBO.

- **Property Insurance**

- Elliot Young, Kansas State Assistant Vice President, University Risk and Compliance Officer, briefed COBO on property insurance renewal. There is a request to move forward with hiring an appraisal company to collect the data from each institution. Campus visits are expected to take about five weeks to complete. COBO agreed to move forward with the project as recommended.

**OTHER MATTERS**

President Shipp proposed that COPs receive regular updates on significant legislation and policy changes, particularly regarding cybersecurity, and that a CIO could provide these updates in future meetings on a quarterly basis. There was consensus by the Council to add an update to future agendas and reports.

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Shipp called for the meeting of the Council of Presidents to be adjourned at 11:54am.



# AGENDA

**System Council of Chief Academic Officers  
Wednesday, January 15, 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 December 18, 2024
  
- II. Systemwide Updates**  
No items
  
- III. Other Matters**
  - A. New Program Proposal for MS in Medical Dosimetry John Fritch, Washburn University
  - B. AY 2025 Performance Report & Rubric Sam Christy-Dangermond
  - C. Complete College America Launch Rusty Monhollon
  - D. Academic Affairs Updates Academic Affairs Staff
  
- IV. Announcements**  
No items
  
- V. Adjournment**

Date Reminders:

- Updates to Systemwide General Education Master Course Lists – due January 17, 2025 (email to schristy@ksbor.org)
- Dual Credit Report – due January 31, 2025 (email mknox@ksbor.org)
- Next SCOCAO Meeting – February 12, 2025

# MINUTES

## System Council of Chief Academic Officers December 18, 2024

The December 18, 2024, meeting of the System Council of Chief Academic Officers was called to order by Chair Mickey McCloud at 8:30 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	Barbara Bichelmeyer, KU	John Fritch, Washburn
Brent Thomas, ESU	Jason Sharp, Labette CC	Shirley Lefever, WSU
Jill Arensdorf, FHSU	Susan Bon, PSU	Jennifer Seymour, WSU Tech
Jesse Mendez, KSU	Luke Dowell, Seward CC	Rusty Monhollon, KBOR ( <i>ex officio</i> )
Mickey McCloud, JCCC		

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Provost Bichelmeyer moved that the minutes of the November 20, 2024, meeting be approved. Following the second of Provost Arensdorf, the motion carried.

### SYSTEMWIDE UPDATES

#### REVISE REVERSE TRANSFER PROCEDURES

Associate Director for Academic Affairs Mistie Knox shared the revised Reverse Transfer procedures reflecting the use of the National Student Clearinghouse (NSC) as the systemwide data exchange service for reverse transfer. The Reverse Transfer Working Group reached consensus on October 3, 2024, to move forward with utilizing NSC. Institutional CAOs and reverse transfer institutional contacts were notified of this transition on October 3 to allow for a transition in Fall 2025. The first utilization of NSC for the reverse transfer process will take place in February 2026. Provost Arensdorf moved to approve the Reverse Transfer procedures. Following a second by Provost Bon, the motion carried unanimously.

#### SYSTEMWIDE MATH COURSE PLACEMENT SCORES

Vice President of Academic Affairs Rusty Monhollon shared that the Math Course Placement Measures Committee had recommended guidelines for additional interventions for students who might not be ready to enroll in the gateway course of College Algebra with corequisite support. He noted that institutions can advise students to consider an alternative pathway or additional support, but they cannot bar a student from enrolling in a gateway course with corequisite support. He emphasized that national research shows corequisite support is more effective than traditional prerequisite remedial education. Chair McCloud asked if KBOR had a suggestion for how to advise students with lower scores who already possess a high school diploma. Vice President Monhollon responded that the corequisite model would be most appropriate for this situation.

#### SYSTEMWIDE TRANSFER ASSOCIATE DEGREES

Director for Academic Affairs Karla Wiscombe shared they received Systemwide Transfer Associate Degree submissions for 11 Business Administration programs, four Computer Science programs, eight Pre-BSN Nursing programs, and eight Pre-Social Work programs. When institutions receive their approved check sheets, they should consult with their Institutional Research staff to ensure that the program inventory matches what is approved on the degree check sheet. She emphasized that only systemwide transfer courses are included in systemwide associate degrees. She added that all programs have specific gen-ed requirements and to make sure that any courses added for these degree programs should be added to the institution’s master course list.

**OTHER MATTERS****FIRST 15 INITIATIVE**

Vice President Monhollon shared the Regents have made the expansion of dual and concurrent enrollment for Kansas High School students a top priority for Academic Year 2025. The First 15 initiative will help KBOR staff achieve this goal. A workgroup has been assembled and will meet over the next several months to make recommendations to President Flanders. He shared the workgroup's charge, timeline, and the systemwide general education buckets. He noted that the natural and physical sciences bucket had been left out of this initiative due to variations in the number of credits offered and challenges in finding qualified instructors for these courses at the high school level. He emphasized that the workgroup intends to develop and implement this initiative collaboratively with all system institutions. The concurrent and dual enrollment policy will likely need to be amended, although the intent is to develop the First 15 within the existing policy framework. He also noted that this initiative is not a mandate or directive from the Board, and no institution will be required to offer the First 15. If an institution is unable to offer the First 15 in its service area, the Board may approve another institution to offer the First 15 within that service area. Provost Arensdorf asked if the whole course structure will be approved by President Flanders in May, or if it will be approved in smaller steps. Vice President Monhollon responded that it would be approved as a package. He added that the work is not complete and that he is open to receiving questions or concerns and sharing them with the workgroup. Provost Galm asked if there was discussion regarding how KBOR will track which institutions are offering the First 15. Vice President Monhollon responded that the workgroup had had a cursory discussion of the matter but had not reached a final decision on how it would be done. Provost Bichelmeyer asked if it would make sense to move up the timeline piece regarding National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Programs (NACEP) accreditation, given its potential to influence other aspects of the project. Vice President Monhollon responded that the workgroup would consider moving it up. Provost Sharp asked if high schools had expressed concerns regarding students who are not able to be placed into transfer courses. Vice President Monhollon responded that it has not come up in workgroup discussion, but it can be considered. Provost Galm asked if there was any discussion regarding faculty qualification. Vice President Monhollon responded that the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) left the decision up to the institutions. Chair McCloud cautioned against assuming all skill sets will be met for a specific course under HLC. Provost Bichelmeyer added that HLC was originally based on NACEP, which has since refined its guidance. Provost Bon asked if there would be a scenario where two institutions could form an alliance to offer the First 15. Vice President Monhollon responded that he was in favor of the idea. Provost Thomas asked if the First 15 were intended to be all dual enrollment or a combination of dual and concurrent enrollment. Vice President Monhollon responded that the workgroup would need to consider the implications. Provost Bichelmeyer added that it would also depend on the guidance from NACEP. Provost Galm asked if the workgroup had discussed students being allowed to retake a course if they have an unsuccessful first attempt. Vice President Monhollon responded that it would be an institutional decision. Chair McCloud added that it was important to consider how those students are tracked and listed, noting the potential negative implications for community college completion rates.

**COMPLETE COLLEGE AMERICA (CCA) LAUNCH**

Vice President Monhollon shared that Kansas has become the 48<sup>th</sup> state to join the Complete College America Alliance. The official launch will take place on February 11 at Washburn. Registration will open shortly, with a 5-person limit per institution. Any remaining spots may be allocated to institutions in mid-January.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Vice President Monhollon announced that Provost Lefever will retire in January and be replaced by Dr. Monica Lounsbery. He expressed the committee's appreciation for her work and well wishes for her retirement. Chair McCloud reminded the committee that the next SCOCOA meeting will be a virtual meeting on January 15, Systemwide General Education master course lists are due on January 17, and Dual Credit Reporting is due on January 31.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Provost Bon moved that the meeting be adjourned. Following the second of Provost Mendez, the motion carried unanimously.

# AGENDA

**Council of Chief Academic Officers  
Wednesday, January 15, 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 December 18, 2024
  
- II. Council of Faculty Senate Presidents Update** Norman Philipp, PSU
  
- III. First Reading** Barbara Bichelmeyer, KU
  - BS in Data Science
  
- IV. Second Reading**
  - No Items
  
- V. Other Matters**
  - A. Request for Minor in Data Science Barbara Bichelmeyer, KU
  - B. Request for Minor in Pre-Health Professions Barbara Bichelmeyer, KU
  - C. Request for Minor in Forensic Science Barbara Bichelmeyer, KU
  - D. Request for Minor in Statistics Barbara Bichelmeyer, KU
  - E. Request to change name of PSM in Applied Science to PSM in Environmental Assessment and move to Environmental Studies Program Barbara Bichelmeyer, KU
  - F. Request to change name of Department of Clinical Child Psychology Program to Department of Clinical Child Psychology Barbara Bichelmeyer, KU
  - G. Request to change name of BA Exercise Science to BS Exercise Science Monica Lounsbury, WSU
  - H. Request to change name of ME (Master of Education) Exercise Science to MS Exercise Science Monica Lounsbury, WSU
  - I. Faculty Tuition Proposal Norman Philipp, CoFSP
  - I. 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 – February 12, 2025 – Virtual Meeting
  
- VII. Adjournment**

# MINUTES

## Council of Chief Academic Officers December 18, 2024

The December 18, 2024, meeting of the Council of Chief Academic Officers was called to order by Chair Susan Bon at 9:25 a.m. The meeting was held at the Curtis State Office Building, 1000 S.W. Jackson, Suite 530, Topeka.

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jesse Mendez, KSU	Barbara Bichelmeyer, KU	John Fritch, Washburn
Brent Thomas, ESU	Jill Arensdorf, FHSU	Shirley Lefever, WSU
Robert Klein, KUMC	Susan Bon, PSU	Rusty Monhollon, KBOR ( <i>ex officio</i> )

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Brent Thomas moved that the minutes of the November 20, 2024, meeting be approved. Following Shirley Lefever's second, it was carried unanimously.

### COUNCIL OF FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENTS UPDATE

Norman Phillipp shared the items the Council of Faculty Senate Presidents has been working on. These items include updating the KBOR faculty award to include additional faculty roles and responsibilities, discussing AI in higher education, and keeping faculty updated on current developments within KBOR.

### FIRST READING

#### PHD IN EDUCATION AND BEHAVIORAL STUDIES - WSU

Wichita State University Provost Shirley Lefever introduced Dr. Jennifer Friend, Dean of the College of Applied Studies at WSU. Dr. Friend introduced Dr. Clay Stoldt, Associate Dean, and Dr. Phil Mullins, Co-Chair of the Department of Intervention Services and Educational Leadership. Dr. Mullins shared that WSU's proposed program will include tracks in both Educational Psychology and Counselor Education and Supervision. This will allow the institution to maximize resources and create a 60-hour program with 30 credits of a shared core curriculum focused on research and teaching. The remaining credits are differentiated into specialty areas. WSU has a strong core faculty to support these programs. The Educational Psychology Ed.D. program is being expanded into a Ph.D. The program aims to create a clinically focused counselor education program. WSU has a mental health-focused clinic to provide training to these students as supervisors. Clay Stoldt added that the program will seek to receive CACREP accreditation.

### SECOND READING

#### BA & BGS IN HEALTH & SOCIETY – KU

Provost Bichelmeyer noted that KU did not receive any questions regarding this program. Provost Lefever moved to approve the BA & BGS in Health & Society at KU. Following a second by Provost Arensdorf, the motion carried unanimously.

#### PSM IN ENVIRONMENTAL GEOLOGY – KU

Provost Bichelmeyer noted that KU has responded to questions from KSU regarding this program. Provost Thomas moved to approve the PSM in Environmental Geology at KU. Following a second by Provost Lefever, the motion carried unanimously.

**OTHER MATTERS****REQUEST APPROVAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF MA IN SLAVIC LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE TO SLAVIC AND EURASIAN STUDIES**

Provost Bichelmeyer shared that this name change will reflect the merger between the master's programs in Slavic Languages and Literature and Eastern European and Eurasian Studies. Provost Arensdorf moved to approve this name change. Following a second by Provost Lefever, the motion carried unanimously.

**REQUEST APPROVAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF PHD IN HEALTH POLICY AND MANAGEMENT TO POPULATION HEALTH - KUMC**

Jarron Saint Onge shared that KUMC is requesting a name change to better reflect a recent merger in the Department of Population Health. There are no course or credit changes associated with this name change. Provost Mendez moved to approve the name change. Following a second by Provost Arensdorf, the motion carried unanimously.

**REQUEST APPROVAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF MS IN HEALTH DATA SCIENCE TO HEALTH DATA SCIENCE AND INFORMATICS - KUMC**

Associate Professor and Assistant Director of Graduate Education in the Department of Biostatistics and Data Science Prabhakar Chalise shared that the requested name change would reflect the addition of health informatics courses to the existing program. Students will have the choice between health data science courses and health informatics courses. Other requirements will remain the same. Provost Arensdorf moved to approve the name change. Following a second by Provost Thomas, the motion carried unanimously.

**REQUEST APPROVAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF THE SCHOOL OF APPLIED AND INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES TO THE COLLEGE OF APPLIED AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES – KSU (OLATHE CAMPUS)**

Provost Mendez explained that the request aims to better reflect the purpose and direction of the Olathe campus. Provost Bichelmeyer moved to approve the name change. Following a second by Provost Thomas, the motion carried unanimously.

**DISCUSS OPPORTUNITIES FROM UNIVERSITIES**

Provost Bichelmeyer shared that the following degree programs are making their way through the internal approval process at KU: Bachelor of Science and Minor in Data Science, Bachelor of Science and Minor in Statistics, Bachelor of Science in Nutrition, and Bachelor of Science in Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chair Susan Bon announced that the next COCAO meeting will be held on January 15, 2025, with a virtual option.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Provost Thomas moved that the meeting be adjourned. Following the second of Provost Lefever, the motion was passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.



## MEETING DATES FOR FY 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, 2025 at **NOON**  
 April 23, 2025 at **NOON**  
 May 21, 2025 at **NOON**

## MEETING DATES FOR FY 2026

### Board of Regents Meeting Dates

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, 2025  
 June 17-18, 2025

### Agenda Materials Due to Board Office

August 27, 2025 at **NOON**  
 October 29, 2025 at **NOON**  
 November 24, 2025 at **NOON**  
 December 23, 2025 at **NOON**  
 January 21, 2026 at **NOON**  
 February 18, 2026 at **NOON**  
 March 25, 2026 at **NOON**  
 April 29, 2026 at **NOON**  
 May 27, 2026 at **NOON**





## COMMITTEES (2024-2025)

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

### Standing Committees

#### **Academic Affairs**

Diana Mendoza – Chair  
Alysia Johnston  
Neelima Parasker

#### **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