GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
Kansas Board of Regents
MINUTES
December 17, 2025

The Kansas Board of Regents Governance Committee met on Wednesday, December 17, 2025. Chair Blake Benson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Proper notice was given according to the law.

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Blake Benson, Chair	Diana Mendoza
	Neelima Parasker	Alysia Johnston

MINUTES
Regent Johnston moved to approve the minutes of the Committee's November 19, 2025, meeting. Regent Parasker seconded the motion. The motion carried.

DISCUSS MEMBER CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO ADDRESS ANY ACTUAL OR PERCEIVED CONFLICTS
John Yeary, General Counsel, stated that Regent Crocker reported service on an advisory council and an advisory board of an institution that is governed by the Board: the Kansas State University College of Business Administration. Staff recommends approving continued service on these advisory entities, as they are advisory rather than governing for KSU and are not considered conflicts of interest under Board policy. These advisory roles are as follows:

- Regent Crocker serves as a member of the Kansas State University College of Business Administration Dean's Business Advisory Council.
- Regent Crocker serves as a member of the Kansas State University College of Business Graduate Program Advisory Board.

Regent Crocker reported having no direct or indirect interest in any contracts or transactions with the Board or any educational institution governed, coordinated or regulated by the Board.

Regent Parasker moved to approve the staff recommendations regarding the disclosed conflicts of interest. Regent Johnston seconded, and the motion carried.

RECEIVE STATE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS SECURITY AND IT REPORT – KSU
Ethan Erickson, Vice President for Administration and Finance, introduced the KSU staff members who presented the various sections of the Annual Campus Security and IT Report.

Brandon Chance, Chief Risk and Safety Officer, discussed campus security initiatives, highlighting significant progress in physical security, emergency management, and public safety. The division consolidated 15 legacy systems into unified platforms for access control and security cameras. This increased monitored doors from 14 in 2024 to 165 in 2025 and expanded camera coverage from 139 to 250 units. Phase 3 of the exterior camera project is underway. New construction and major renovations are required to adhere to standardized security protocols, ensuring consistent implementation across campuses, including Salina. The university launched a mobile safety app in May, achieving 2,100 downloads compared to 1,700 over eight years for the previous app. The app offers features such as mobile panic buttons, incident reporting, virtual escorts, and integration with Safe Rides, enhancing real-time safety support. Emergency management efforts included a large-scale tabletop exercise focused on post-incident recovery involving over 50 participants and utilizing the newly established Emergency Operations Center at Stonehouse. The university continues to enforce its weapons policy and is developing a five-year roadmap for safety improvements while reassessing security measures for campus events in light of national

trends. Leadership emphasized balancing security presence with event success and fostering community engagement to strengthen safety protocols.

Thomas Button, Chief Information Officer, discussed IT and cybersecurity initiatives, emphasizing progress and ongoing challenges. Since 2023, he has aligned the university with the NIST cybersecurity framework and completed a Rubin Brown assessment, achieving an overall maturity score of 3.2 out of 5, with core enterprise services scoring 3.44. Key priorities include modernizing identity and access management, improving asset tracking, and strengthening data protection. The team eliminated 16,000 outdated data feeds; enforced encryption for data in transit and at rest; and implemented advanced detection and response measures to counter phishing, AI-driven threats, and supply chain vulnerabilities. Significant achievements include consolidating 16 decentralized IT groups into a unified organization, filling director roles, and modernizing account lifecycle processes by disabling 70,000 inactive accounts. The university also removed default administrative permissions and deployed a high-capacity firewall blocking all unauthorized traffic. The university mitigates billions of intrusion attempts annually. Chief Information Officer Button also highlighted ongoing risks such as business email compromise, zero-day exploits, and AI, while stressing the need for continued investment in advanced security technologies and endpoint protection. Efforts toward CMMC certification for controlled unclassified information are underway, with completion targeted for July. Mandatory cybersecurity training for employees begins in January to reinforce awareness. Chief Information Offier Button concluded by urging sustained support from the Board of Regents and state partners to maintain funding, enhance statewide collaboration, and extend cybersecurity education to rural communities.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Benson adjourned the meeting at 9:46 a.m.