

**KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS**  
**SYSTEM COUNCIL OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICERS**  
MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 20, 2024

The November 20, 2024, meeting of the System Council of Chief Academic Officers was called to order by Luke Dowell at 8:30 a.m. The meeting was held in the Flint Hills Room on the Kansas State University Campus, Student Union 918 N. MLK Jr. Drive, Manhattan, KS 66506, with a virtual option available.

**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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Jill Arensdorf moved that the minutes of the June 18, 2024, meeting be approved. Following the second of Brandon Galm, the motion carried unanimously.

**SYSTEMWIDE UPDATES**

**REVISE CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING GUIDELINES**

Associate Director for Academic Affairs Mistie Knox presented an overview of the revisions of the Credit for Prior Learning Guidelines. The updates include the addition of Cambridge International and the alignment of terminology with the Kansas Seal of Biliteracy to ensure consistency with Board policy. Provost Barbara Bichelmeyer moved to approve the revised guidelines, and following a second by Jason Sharp, the motion passed unanimously.

**TAAC UPDATES**

Provost Jennifer Seymour, a TAAC member from Wichita State University Technical College, provided updates on the Transfer and Articulation Council (TAAC). The council approved six new courses for Systemwide Transfer, which will be presented to the Board of Academic Affairs Committee in December.

**MATH PATHWAYS & ENGLISH INITIATIVE UPDATES**

Director for Academic Affairs Sam Christy-Dangermond provided updates on math pathways and English initiatives. Four professional development sessions for math faculty have been conducted, the most recent of which was held on Friday, November 15. Approximately 70 participants attended the session, and a recording will be available on the KBOR website early next week for those unable to attend. The next session is tentatively scheduled for Friday, December 6, and it will also be recorded and posted on the KBOR website. The first English professional development session took place on Friday, November 8, with 89 participants. The recording of this session is also available on the KBOR website. The next English session is scheduled for January 31, and registration is currently open.

**FIRST 15**

Vice President of Academic Affairs Rusty Monhollon provided an update on the 'First 15' initiative, discussed at the November 6 Board of Academic Affairs Standing Committee (BAASC) meeting. Monhollon has identified several representatives for a workgroup for the initiative, including members from the K-12 sector and three representatives from universities. He plans to include three representatives from community colleges and one from technical colleges to complete the group and begin work soon.

The group will be tasked with recommending the five courses comprising the 'First 15,' developing a funding plan for the initiative, and standardizing the framework to ensure consistency in dual and concurrent enrollment. Additionally, KBOR policies must be reviewed to ensure alignment with these recommendations. The deadline for presenting these recommendations to the Board is May 1.

### **OTHER MATTERS**

#### **APPLY FREE DAYS**

Associate Director of Academic Affairs Mistie Knox provided updates on Apply Kansas and Apply Free Days. Completion data for Apply Kansas is due to the KBOR office by December 1 and is planned to be included in the February update. Since KBOR launched this campaign, participation has grown significantly, with 303 high schools from 253 out of 286 districts registered this year, a 30% increase from the previous year. Data collection for Apply Free Days will occur in two phases: an aggregate collection and a unit record collection through KHEDS. The deadline for submitting the aggregate data collection is December 20.

#### **ACADEMIC AFFAIRS UPDATES**

Director of Academic Affairs Karla Wiscombe reminded community college Chief Academic Officers that forms for the systemwide associate degrees are due by December 2. Associate Director of Academic Affairs, Mistie Knox, noted that Barry Bailey from Johnson County Community College presented the Open Education Resources (OER) Annual Report at the November 6 Board of Academic Affairs Committee meeting. The report is now available on the KBOR website.

#### **AD ASTRA PRESENTATION**

Stacey White shared background information and provided updates on Ad Astra.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Co-chair Luke Dowell reminded attendees that the next SCOCAO meeting is scheduled for December 18 at the KBOR office, with a virtual option available. He also noted that the Complete College America (CCA) launch will occur on February 11, 2025. Vice President of Academic Affairs, Rusty Monhollon, provided background information on Complete College America and shared an overview of the planned activities for the launch day. Additional details will be sent to institutions soon.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

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