



## **System Council of Presidents (SCOPS)**

Kansas Board of Regents

Wednesday, January 14, 2026 at 10:30 AM CST

Curtis State Office Building at 1000 SW Jackson, Topeka, Kansas, 66612

### **I. Call to Order**

Presenter: President Knoettgen, Cloud Community College

#### **A. Approve Minutes from September 17, 2025**

### **II. Report from System Council of Chief Academic Officers**

Presenter: Mickey McCloud, Ph.D

### **III. Other Matters**

#### **A. Legislative and Budget Update**

Presenter: Fred Patton, Kelly Oliver

### **IV. Adjournment**

## MINUTES

### System Council of Presidents September 17, 2025

At 10:30 a.m. President Amber Knoettgen called the System Council of Presidents meeting to order in Suite 530 at the Curtis State Office Building (CSOB), 1000 SW Jackson, Suite 530, Topeka, KS 66612.

MEMBERS PRESENT:     Amber Knoettgen, Cloud County, Chair             Tisa Mason, Fort Hays State University  
                                 Thomas Newsom, Pittsburg State University     Rick Muma, Wichita State University  
                                 Barb Bichelmeyer, University of Kansas     Jesse Mendez, Kansas State University  
                                 JuliAnn Mazachek, Washburn     Ken Hush, Emporia State University  
                                 Greg Nichols, Salina Tech

#### **Approval of Minutes**

President Newsom moved to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2025, meeting. President Mason seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### **Report from System Council of Chief Academic Officers**

*Mickey McCloud, Executive Vice President and Provost, Johnson County Community College*

- The 2025 KCOG Conference is scheduled for October 10; registration deadline is September 26.
- Discussion included reduced-credit baccalaureate degrees and the need for a task force to develop policy recommendations for the Board of Regents.
- Sam Christy-Dangermond provided an update on the HonorLock Online Proctoring Services contract, which expires in November. Institutions interested in joining a state consortium should contact KBOR staff.

#### **Discussion on Reduced-Credit Bachelor's Programs**

*Blake Flanders, President and CEO*

- Concerns were raised regarding proposed changes to degree credit requirements.
- Extensive feedback from institutions and faculty is needed before implementing significant policy changes.
- KBOR will form a task force to study reduced-credit baccalaureate degrees and develop policy recommendations.
- Emphasis was placed on outcomes-based education, prior learning assessment, and redefining general education requirements.

#### **Board Budget Request**

*Blake Flanders, President and CEO*

- Discussion focused on the upcoming budget request.
- Concerns were raised about the size of some items and the need for effective advocacy by government relations officers.
- Despite strong revenues, a gap between expenditures and reserves presents challenges.
- The Board emphasized partnership with the state and acknowledged that some requests—such as program revamping and energy initiatives—will require significant state general fund support.

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m. by President Muma, seconded by President Nichols.