

KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS
SYSTEM COUNCIL OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICERS
VIRTUAL MEETING AGENDA
Wednesday, December 17, 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.

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| I. Call to Order | |
| A. Roll Call and Introductions | Name
Mickey McCloud,
Chair |
| B. Approve Minutes from November 19, 2025 | |
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II. Systemwide Updates | |
| A. TAAC Updates | Jennifer Seymour &
Jenn Bonds-Raacke |
| B. Reduced-Credit Bachelor's Degrees | Rusty Monhollon |
|
III. Other Matters | |
| A. Systemwide Associate Transfer Degrees- Additional Considerations | Jenn Bonds-Raacke,
Sarah Robb, & Scott
Tanona |
| B. Academic Affairs Updates | Academic Affairs
Staff |
|
IV. Announcements | |
| Next SCOCAO Meeting- January 14, 2026 | |
|
V. Adjournment | |

Date Reminders:

- Updates to Systemwide General Education Master Course Lists – due January 16, 2026 (email to jbondsraacke@ksbor.org)
- Dual Credit Report – due January 31, 2026 (email to jbondsraacke@ksbor.org)

KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS
System Council of Chief Academic Officers
MINUTES
November 19, 2025

The November 19, 2025, 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 via Zoom conference. *Proper notice was given according to law.*

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Brandon Galm, Cloud County CC	Barbara Bichelmeyer, KU	John Fritch, Washburn
Mickey McCloud, JCCC	Marc Malone, GCCC	Ashlie Jack (for Monica Lounsbery,) WSU
Brent Thomas, ESU	Susan Bon, PSU	Lisa Kirmer, FHTC
Jill Arensdorf, FHSU	Luke Dowell, Seward CC	Rusty Monhollon, KBOR (<i>ex officio</i>)
Jesse Mendez, KSU		

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Luke Dowell moved that the minutes of the September 17, 2025, meeting be approved. Following the second of Lisa Kirmer, the motion carried.

Systemwide Updates

TAAC Updates

Dr. Jennifer Seymour, representing TAAC, shared that the 2025 Virtual KCOG meeting was held on October 10, 2025, with participation from over 500 faculty representatives. Discipline groups collaborated on learning outcomes for 21 review courses and seven new courses. These courses will move forward to BAASC for approval at the December 17 meeting. Approved learning outcomes will take effect summer of 2026 and be available online during the spring 2026 semester.

Other Matters

Next Cycle Performance Agreement – Focus Group Summary

KBOR Director for Academic Affairs Dr. Jennifer Bonds-Raacke thanked chief academic officers for completing the survey focused on the future of performance agreements. Performance reports for the current round of project-based agreements are due July 1, 2026. KBOR will then approve a new round of agreements for Academic Year 2027.

Director Bonds-Raacke emphasized that today's overview is not intended to signal any final decisions; it is simply a reflection of the feedback provided by institutions.

Benefits of the metric-based approach to performance agreements noted by CAOs were alignment with institutional goals and consistency and comparability. Challenges noted by CAOs included lagging indicators, which often reflected past performance rather than current outcomes.

Benefits to the project-based approach to performance agreements were timeliness and a statewide focus with shared goals. Noted challenges included the timeline, faculty burnout, strained processes, and compromised shared governance.

If KBOR were to consider a hybrid model including elements of a metric-based and project-based approach, CAOs believe that flexibility, institutional customization, clear expectations, and a realistic timeline would make the model most effective.

When asked how performance agreements should be structured to encourage institutional improvement and/or innovation, CAOs indicated they would like to place emphasis on improvement and innovation, and not just accountability.

CAOs were asked what they view as the most pressing issues facing higher education in the next three years. Responses included declining enrollment, changing demographics, funding instability, financial pressures, artificial intelligence, rapid technology changes, workforce alignment / career readiness, and public perception and the value of higher education.

When asked how KBOR can design agreements that reflect institutional diversity across sectors, a key recommendation was to adopt a tiered or differentiated framework that allows sector-specific customization. CAOs emphasized the importance of promoting institutional voice and the co-creation of performance agreements between KBOR and institutions.

Director Bonds-Raacke highlighted the commonality in responses, which speaks to the shared commitment to strengthening student success and ensuring accountability.

Academic Affairs Updates

Vice President for Academic Affairs Rusty Monhollon shared that the next Task Force meeting for the reduced-credit Baccalaureate degree is to be determined.

The KSU proposal for a reduced-credit Baccalaureate degree, a BAS in Uncrewed Aircraft Systems, is on the COCAO agenda for a second reading, but will not go to BAASC without policy updates.

Dr. Brandon Galm, Vice President for Academic Affairs at Cloud County Community College, asked if KSU would need to revise its proposal if the eventual policy differs significantly from what KSU has proposed. Vice President Monhollon responded that it would need to be revised if it is not in compliance with the policy.

Dr. Jesse Mendez, Provost at KSU, asked if any private institutions have expressed interest in offering these degrees. Vice President Monhollon responded that KBOR Private Post-Secondary director has reported one private institution requesting to offer a 90 credit-hour Baccalaureate in Psychology. Dr. Marc Malone expressed the need to address discrepancies in approval processes between two-year and four-year institutions when proposing new programs and suggested we have an opportunity to alleviate some of these discrepancies when discussing new policy.

Vice President Monhollon congratulated Jennifer Armour on her outstanding service award from the Midwestern Higher Education Compact and announced that he will be retiring from KBOR effective January 30, 2026. Chair McCloud congratulated both on their accomplishments. KBOR Director for Academic Affairs Sam Christy-Dangermond added that KBOR has decided not to move forward to finalize a contract/agreement with Honorlock, citing feedback that better rates are offered by Honorlock when working with institutions directly.

Adjournment

Chair Mickey McCloud adjourned the meeting at 9:02 a.m.