

**KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS  
COUNCIL OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICERS**

**VIRTUAL MEETING AGENDA**

**Wednesday, February 14, 2024**

**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.

- |   |                            |      |
|---|----------------------------|------|
| <b>I. Call to Order</b>   | Debbie Mercer, Chair       |      |
| A. Roll Call & Introductions  |                            |      |
| B. Approve Minutes from January 17, 2024  |                            | p. 3 |
| <b>II. Council of Faculty Senate Presidents Update</b>  | Don Von Bergen,<br>K-State |      |
| <b>III. Other Requests</b>  |                            |      |
| A. Request to change name of BS in Agricultural Communications & Journalism to BS in Agricultural & Natural Resources Communications – K-State                  | Debbie Mercer              | p. 5 |
| B. Request to change name of BS in Social Work to Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) - PSU   | Howard Smith               | p. 6 |
| C. Request to change name of BBA in Computer Information Systems to BBA in Data Science & Information Systems - PSU   | Howard Smith               |      |
| D. Request to change name of MS in Teaching to MS in Curriculum & Instruction – PSU   | Howard Smith               |      |
| <b>IV. Other Matters</b>  |                            |      |
| A. Supportive Metrics   | Karla Wiscombe             |      |
| B. Breakfast with the Board   | COCAO Members              |      |
| C. Discuss Opportunities (new degree programs, partnerships, strategic initiatives, etc.) that Universities are Considering or Planning to Pursue in the Future | COCAO Members              |      |
| D. Academic Affairs Update  | Karla Wiscombe             |      |
| <b>V. Next COCAO Meeting – March 20<sup>th</sup></b>  |                            |      |
| <b>VI. Adjournment</b>  |                            |      |

Date Reminders:

- February 15: Breakfast with the Board (8:30 a.m.)
- February 21<sup>st</sup>: New program requests due date for the April 17<sup>th</sup> meeting
- March 27<sup>th</sup>: Institutional materials due date for the April 17<sup>th</sup> meeting

## COUNCIL OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICERS

The Council of Chief Academic Officers (COCAO), established in 1969, is composed of the academic vice presidents of the state universities. The Board's Vice President for Academic Affairs serves as an ex officio member, and the member from the same institution as the chairperson of the Council of Presidents serves as chairperson of the Council of Chief Academic Officers. The chief academic officers of the University of Kansas Medical Center and Washburn University are authorized to participate as non-voting members when agenda items affecting those institutions are to be considered. The Council of Chief Academic Officers meets monthly and reports to the Council of Presidents. The Council of Chief Academic Officers works with the Board Academic Affairs Committee through the Vice President for Academic Affairs. Membership includes:

Debbie Mercer, Interim, Chair	K-State	Howard Smith	PSU
Brent Thomas	ESU	John Fritch	Washburn
Jill Arensdorf	FHSU	Shirley Lefever	WSU
Barbara Bichelmeyer	KU	Karla Wiscombe, Interim	KBOR
Robert Klein	KUMC		

### Council of Chief Academic Officers AY 2024 Meeting Schedule

<i><b>COCAO Academic Year 2023- 2024 Meeting Dates</b></i>			
<b>Meeting Dates</b>	<b>Location (virtual or in-person)</b>	<b>Institutional Materials Due</b>	<b>New Program Requests Due</b>
September 20, 2023	Virtual	August 30, 2023	July 26, 2023
November 15, 2023	Emporia State University	October 25, 2023	September 20, 2023
December 13, 2023	Virtual	November 22, 2023	October 18, 2023
January 17, 2024	Virtual	December 27, 2023	November 22, 2023
February 14, 2024	Virtual	January 24, 2024	December 20, 2023
March 20, 2024	Virtual	February 28, 2024	January 24, 2024
April 17, 2024	Fort Hays State University	March 27, 2024	February 21, 2024
May 15, 2024	Virtual	April 24, 2024	March 20, 2024
June 18, 2024	Virtual	May 29, 2024	April 24, 2024

COCAO meets at 9:00 a.m. or upon adjournment of SCOCAO unless otherwise noted.

**Council of Chief Academic Officers  
MINUTES**

**Wednesday, January 17, 2024**

The January 17, 2024, Council of Chief Academic Officers (COCAO) meeting was called to order by Chair Debbie Mercer at 8:54 a.m. The meeting was held virtually through Zoom with an in-person option at the KBOR offices.

**In Attendance:**

Members:	Debbie Mercer, K-State	Jill Arensdorf, FHSU	Robert Klein, KUMC
	Barbara Bichelmeyer, KU	Howard Smith, PSU	Laura Stephenson Washburn
	Brent Thomas, ESU	Shirley Lefever, WSU	Karla Wiscombe, KBOR

**Approval of Minutes**

Jill Arensdorf moved to approve the December 13, 2023, meeting minutes, and Barb Bichelmeyer seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Council of Faculty Senate Presidents (CoFSP) Update**

Don Von Bergen, Chair of Council of Faculty Senate Presidents, provided the update. The Council suggests the timing of the January Board meetings in the future not coincide with the first week of classes. They are determining criteria for the Faculty of the Year Award to be presented to KBOR soon.

**Second Readings**

Shirley Lefever presented the second reading for a BBA in Hospitality at WSU. Provost Lefever indicated K-State had communicated some concerns about the program and WSU has responded to those concerns. Barb Bichelmeyer moved to approve the proposal and Jill Arensdorf seconded. The motion passed unanimously, and the proposal will be reviewed by COPS today. If approved by COPS, the proposal will be reviewed at the next BAASC meeting.

Robert Klein and Jo Wick presented the second reading for a PhD in Clinical & Translational Science. The external review team provided a report on the proposal and KUMC addressed the team's minor concerns. Brent Thomas moved to approve, and Shirley Lefever seconded. The motion passed unanimously, and the proposal will be reviewed by COPS today. If approved by COPS, the proposal will be reviewed at the next BAASC meeting.

**Other Requests**

Barb Bichelmeyer presented a request for KU to create the Department of Clinical Child Psychology. Jill Arensdorf moved to approve, and Howard Smith seconded. The motion passed.

Shirley Lefever presented a request for WSU to change the name of the Department of Sport Management to the Department of Sport & Leadership Studies. Barb Bichelmeyer moved to approve, and Jill Arensdorf seconded. The motion passed.

Shirley Lefever presented a request for WSU to move the BA in Physical Education: K-12 from Human Performance Studies to the School of Education. Brent Thomas moved to approve and Howard Smith seconded. The motion passed.

**Other Matters**

Karla Wiscombe and Sam Christy-Dangermond discussed Program Review for AY 2024. The written reports

with recommendations are due April 19. Reports should include details supporting the recommendation and outlining expected outcomes for each program/recommendation. Details can be found on page 2 of the Program Review document provided. Sam will provide a template for the reports and requested they be submitted to her at [schristy@ksbor.org](mailto:schristy@ksbor.org). BAASC will review the reports at the May 15 meeting, and the Board will review and make a final decision on the programs on June 19.

Provosts discussed coming up with a list of agenda topics for the breakfast with the Board on February 15.

**Adjournment**

Barbara Bichelmeyer moved to adjourn the meeting, and Shirley Lefever seconded. With no further discussion, the meeting adjourned.



# Pittsburg State University

OFFICE OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

January 24, 2024

Ms. Karla Wiscombe  
Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs Kansas Board of Regents  
1000 SW Jackson Street, Suite 520  
Topeka, KS 66612-1368

Dear Ms. Wiscombe:

I am writing to request approval for changing the name of the following degree programs.

Changing the name of the following degree programs.

- Bachelor of Science in Social Work to Bachelor of Social Work (CIP 44.0701)
- Bachelor of Business Administration in Computer Information Systems to Bachelor of Business Administration in Data Science and Information Systems (CIP 11.0501)
- Master of Science in Teaching to Master of Science in Curriculum and Instruction Education (CIP 13.1202)

The name changes will allow prospective students to identify their career goals with the program by correctly identifying what students do. The name change has received the appropriate internal approvals to change the degree name. I support our faculty's request for the name change.

BBA major deletion with a merge to a BBA with new emphasis

- Elimination of the BBA International Business (CIP 52.1101) The degree will be merged into our existing BBA Business Economics degree as an elective studies International Business emphasis (CIP 45.0603)

These program changes have been fully legislated and approved at PSU. Please let me know if you have questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Howard W. Smith".

Howard W. Smith, Ph.D.  
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

January 24, 2024

Karla Wiscombe, Interim Vice President Academic Affairs  
Kansas Board of Regents  
1000 SW Jackson Street Ste 520  
Topeka, KS 66612-1368

Dear Interim Vice President Wiscombe,

Kansas State University requests the renaming of our BS in Agricultural Communications and Journalism to a BS in Agricultural and Natural Resources Communications. This request responds to two trends that we see in the field.

First, career opportunities and student interest are moving away from traditional journalism toward a broader range of communication skills. This name change emphasizes broad communications training and experiences for our graduates.

Second, we want every student in the program to embrace both agricultural sciences and natural resources, which relates to land management. Communications training in both areas are inherently linked and this name change makes this training visible for students, industry partners, and employers.

We expect the program name change will retain our traditional recruitment pool while also broadening the pool of interest in this major. Also, programs across the country have minors or options with a similar name, like University of Florida's agricultural and natural resource communication minor.

This name change also allows us to streamline the major, which currently has an agriculture option and an environmental option. Eliminating the two options will further unite the concepts of agriculture and natural resources for our students.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Debbie Mercer  
Interim Provost and Executive Vice President  
Kansas State University