

**Kansas Board of Regents
Board Academic Affairs Standing Committee**

**MINUTES
Monday, March 30th, 2020**

The March 30, 2020 meeting of the Board Academic Affairs Standing Committee (BAASC) of the Kansas Board of Regents was called to order by Regent Schmidt at 11:05 a.m. The meeting was held by conference call.

In Attendance:

Members:	Regent Schmidt, Chair	Regent Harrison-Lee	Regent Van Etten
Staff:	Daniel Archer Amy Robinson Julene Miller	Karla Wiscombe Erin Wolfram Natalie Yoza	Scott Smathers Renee Burlingham Samantha Christy-Dangermond
Others:	Elaine Simmons, Barton CC Michael McCloud, JCCC Brian Niehoff, K-State Linnea GlenMaye, WSU Matt Schuette, KUMC	Lori Winningham, Butler CC Joe McCann, Seward County CC Jean Redeker, KU Robert Klein, KUMC Mike Werle, KUMC	Michelle Schoon, Cowley CC Jill Arensdorf, FHSU Howard Smith, PSU LaVerne Manos, KUMC

Regent Schmidt welcomed everyone.

Accreditation for MS in Health Informatics at KUMC

LaVerne Manos, Director of Interprofessional Informatics Programs of Study at KUMC, provided a summary of the request. KUMC is seeking approval to pursue programmatic accreditation for its Master of Science in Health Informatics from the Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Health Information Management Education (CAHIIM).

Regent Van Etten asked what their original thoughts were in deciding to pursue accreditation. LaVerne responded that health informatics is a fairly new profession, and seeking accreditation is part of the ongoing process to professionalize the field. This allows students to take a board-certified exam and have some type of credibility with a foundation in education.

Regent Van Etten asked if there is a data analysis component or other institutions around the country that have a similar program. LaVerne responded there are several similar programs throughout the country and noted the University of Missouri-Columbia has applied for accreditation for their similar master's program. LaVerne stated the program does include data analysis, and she briefly discussed the professions in which graduates are employed.

Regent Schmidt asked if the University of Missouri-Columbia program is identical or similar. LaVerne responded that it is similar. She noted all new programs must adhere to the basic fundamental competencies that were released in 2019; however, each program can specialize in different areas.

Regent Schmidt and Regent Van Etten recommended the request for accreditation from KUMC be moved to the full Board for consideration for their April agenda.

Program Review Report AY 2018-2019

Sam Christy-Dangermond presented the Program Review Report for AY 2018-2019. She provided background information, KBOR's program review process, and a summary of the programs reviewed by each of these institutions as part of their regular eight-year cycle for program review. Sam noted there were a total of 215 programs reviewed last year: 198 were recommended to continue, 1 was recommended for enhancement, 2 were recommended to be discontinued, and 14 were recommended for additional review.

Regent Van Etten asked for clarification on the KUMC Master of Science in Health Informatics previously recommended for accreditation approval. Sam responded it is the same program previously recommended for additional review and noted KUMC would like to see if they can grow the program through becoming accredited.

Regent Van Etten asked if early childhood is included elsewhere now that the PSU Early Childhood Unified program has been discontinued. Howard Smith responded that early childhood portions were moved to the Family and Consumer Science area. Howard clarified the new early childhood program has certification for students. Regent Schmidt asked if PSU used their normal review process which allows for institutional input. Howard responded the department leadership and faculty are part of their regular review process.

Direct Support Professional (DSP) Update

Regent Schmidt discussed the importance of DSP workers, especially in light of the current pandemic. He noted the DSP working group has a meeting scheduled for April 14, and this in-person meeting may be converted to a virtual meeting in the near future. Regent Schmidt stated DSP's are part of health care providers out in the field who are "essential" right now, and he thanked them for their service during these uncertain times.

Policy Revision on Accreditation “nomenclature”

Karla summarized the request for approval for policy changes. This change is being requested by KBOR to align the Board policy with recent U.S. Department of Education regulations, as well as to remove outdated language in the Systemwide Transfer and Articulation section of Board policy. These revisions will occur in Chapter III under Academic Affairs:

- Section 2- Transfer and Articulation,
- Section 12- Accreditation of Degree Granting Institutions, and
- Section 13- Concurrent Enrollment of High School Students in Eligible Public Postsecondary Institutions Through Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships.

Regent Schmidt asked for clarification on removing the language that requires maintaining accreditation with the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) and replacing it with any recognized accrediting agency in the United States. Karla responded this was the language recommended by the U.S. Department of Education (USDE). The Committee discussed how this change may open the door for the possibility for institutions to change accreditation providers; however, the HLC accreditation is a 10-year process. Karla noted there was going to be an HLC conference and webinar to address questions such as this, but both were canceled due to the pandemic. This leaves questions unanswered as of now. Karla stated that KBOR is only requesting changes to the Board policy as recommended by the USDE. Institutions discussed their next accreditation dates, noting that most were not able to switch at this time because of where they are in their accreditation timeline. No institution indicated it has had discussions to change at this time. Regent Van Etten stated it would be a good idea to have a more in-depth conversation closer to the date institutions may be looking at the possibility of changing from HLC.

Regent Schmidt and Regent Van Etten recommended the request to change KBOR policy language be moved to the full Board for consideration on their April agenda.

Approval of Minutes

Regent Van Etten moved to approve the March 18, 2020 meeting minutes, and Regent Harrison-Lee seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion passed.

Adjournment

The next meeting will be via video conference on April 15, 2020. The Committee will hear updates on Apply Kansas, direct support professionals, and the Coordinating Council.

Regent Harrison-Lee moved to adjourn the meeting, and Regent Schmidt seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 11:54 a.m.