

KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS

MINUTES

October 14, 2020

The October 14, 2020, meeting of the Kansas Board of Regents was called to order by Chair Bill Feuerborn at 10:00 a.m. The meeting was held in the Board Office located in the Curtis State Office Building, 1000 S.W. Jackson, Suite 520, Topeka. Proper notice was given according to law.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Bill Feuerborn, Chair
- Cheryl Harrison-Lee, Vice Chair
- Shane Bangerter
- Ann Brandau-Murguia
- Mark Hutton
- Shelly Kiblinger
- Jon Rolph
- Allen Schmidt
- Helen Van Etten

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regent Harrison-Lee moved that the minutes of the September 9-10, 2020 regular meeting and the September 24, 2020 special meeting be approved. Following the second of Regent Hutton, the motion carried.

GENERAL REPORTS

REPORT FROM CHAIR

Chair Feuerborn reported that Wichita State University held its 2020 spring and summer commencement ceremony last weekend. On behalf of the Board, he congratulated all the graduates and their families and noted the importance of continuing to celebrate student success during the pandemic. Regent Feuerborn also reported that today's Board agenda includes carry over items from last month's meeting and specific topics for the Board to discuss and for which to provide guidance.

REPORT FROM PRESIDENT AND CEO

President Flanders stated that in June the Board resumed its practice of meeting in person at the Board office and noted that the Board room is set up to meet social distancing standards. He stated the regular Board meetings will continue to be livestreamed and noted that an overflow room in the office will be used when the capacity in the Board room is reached.

President Flanders reported that last month members in the higher education system were all deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Reggie Robinson. Reggie was an important leader in the state's public higher education system, serving as President and CEO of the Board of Regents

and later as Vice Chancellor at the University of Kansas. His legacy in higher education was significant. Reggie created the structure of the Board's first ever strategic plan, *Foresight 2020*, which was an enormous step for the system, and he oversaw the implementation of the Board's first transfer and articulation plan. Also during his administration, the Postsecondary Technical Education Authority was created by the Legislature, the affiliation between Washburn University and Kaw Area Technical College was approved by the Board, and four university CEO searches were conducted, including three that occurred simultaneously, one of which resulted in the hiring of President Scott. President Flanders stated that as important as his accomplishments were, Reggie also touched many lives as a leader, friend and mentor. A tribute video was then shared which contained comments from past Board Chairs who served with Reggie – Regent Jack Wempe (2002), Regent Janice DeBauge (2003), Regent Christine Downey-Schmidt (2007), and Regent Jill Docking (2009). President Scott, Chancellor Girod, Regent Bangerter, and Regent Feuerborn also shared their memories of working with Reggie and all of his amazing accomplishments throughout the years. President Flanders, on behalf of the Board and the system of higher education, extended his condolences to Reggie's wife Jane and daughters Clare and Paige.

REPORT FROM THE COMMUNITY COLLEGES

President Rittle stated he worked with Reggie at the Board office and extended his condolences to Reggie's family.

President Rittle reported that this year during his community college reports he will be highlighting activities for a third of the colleges each month. This month he covered Fort Scott Community College, Garden City Community College, Highland Community College, Dodge City Community College, and Hutchinson Community College. The leaders at these colleges reported that issues related to the pandemic have been challenging, and one college noted the biggest challenge it has faced is trying to keep students who are either quarantined or isolated connected to their classes, so they do not fall behind. It was noted students may be isolated for two or more weeks depending on their individual circumstances. The college leaders reported that the increase in communication between the colleges and their local communities and community leaders is one positive byproduct of the pandemic. The pandemic has also highlighted the importance of having face-to-face classes for students. President Rittle then highlighted partnerships that the colleges are involved with, including Fort Scott Community College's partnership with the Crawford County Career & Technical Center and the collaboration between Garden City Community College and Cloud County Community College on their paramedic programs. Regent Rolph requested information on the COVID-19 positivity rates for the college campuses. President Rittle reported that the vast majority of the college students who have contracted the virus have experienced mild symptoms, and he noted at his College, Cowley County Community College, the positivity rate is 0.3 percent, which includes students, faculty, and staff.

President Rittle also announced that the Seward Community College Board of Trustees recently named Brad Bennett as their new president. President Bennett had served as Executive Vice President at Colby Community College before accepting this position.

REPORT FROM THE TECHNICAL COLLEGES

President Genandt reported that the technical colleges continue to update their websites with information related to the pandemic and noted that Manhattan Area Technical College has reported

only twelve positive cases on campus since returning to in-person classes in May. He thanked all the students, faculty and staff for their efforts to slow the spread of the virus. President Genandt reported that Northwest Kansas Technical College is preparing for an accreditation visit at its Gove County location where its welding technology program is housed. This visit was previously delayed because of the pandemic. It was noted that this program has strong enrollment and is supported by the local businesses. Flint Hills Technical College is currently renovating its Culinary Arts facility, which should be completed in April 2021. This is a \$2 million renovation project. Four colleges (Manhattan Area Technical College, Salina Area Technical College, North Central Kansas Technical College, and Northwest Kansas Technical College) submitted a grant proposal to the U.S. Department of Labor. If funded, the money will be used for transportation and construction trades in each of the college's service areas. It was also reported that Flint Hills Technical College, North Central Kansas Technical College, Manhattan Area Technical College, and Northwest Kansas Technical College were each awarded the Advanced Manufacturing Grant.

REPORT FROM THE UNIVERSITY CEOS

President Garrett reported that the format for classes this semester at Emporia State University is 74 percent face-to-face, twenty percent hybrid, and six percent online. As of this morning, ESU has two students in quarantine and one in isolation on campus. President Garrett stated that, as anticipated, total enrollments at the University are down – 49 in headcount and 102 in full-time equivalency (FTE). However, she stated that graduate student enrollments increased and are the largest enrollments on record for the University. President Garrett reported that the University also increased its retention and graduation rates. Regarding student success, President Garrett stated that the School of Business's Beta Gamma Sigma Chapter received the national society's highest honor for the fifth year in a row and is the only school in Kansas to receive this honor. She also reported that the Teachers College is partnering with the College Football Playoff Foundation on the Go Teach Project, which is an initiative designed to help athletic and academic departments recruit qualified student-athletes into the teaching profession. Currently, ESU has 53 student athletes who are majoring in education.

Chancellor Girod reported the University of Kansas's overall enrollment for fall is down 2.8 percent. The one-year retention rate is the second highest in University history at 85.7 percent and the two-year retention rate is at an all-time high of 77.1 percent. Chancellor Girod stated the University's freshman class has the highest high school GPA of any class at 3.64. KU also set records in its diversity, out-of-state, and military enrollments. The Chancellor reported that later this week KU will hold a ground-breaking for Phase III of the Bioscience & Technology Business Center (BTBC) project. It was noted that the BTBC is a unique partnership between the City of Lawrence, Douglas County, Kansas Department of Commerce, University of Kansas, and the Lawrence Chamber of Commerce to support the bioscience and technology industries in northeastern Kansas. Chancellor Girod reported that KU is involved with several research projects related to COVID-19 and stated that Dr. Steven Soper, a KU chemistry and mechanical engineering professor, and his graduate students are leading the way on developing an at-home COVID-19 test. He also noted that the University of Kansas Medical Center was chosen as one of 32 institutions to receive a grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to support projects designed to rapidly implement COVID-19 testing strategies in populations disproportionately affected by the pandemic. The Chancellor then paid tribute to two successful Jayhawks who passed away in September – Chancellor Gene Budig and Gale Sayers.

President Myers stated that half of the semester has been completed, and he is hopeful that the University can continue to operate with the same class format, which is a mix of in-person, online, and hybrid courses, for the remainder of the semester. However, he is still concerned that off campus activities are spreading the virus and is worried about the start of the flu season. President Myers reported that last week, the University had 18 positive COVID-19 cases out of the 937 individuals who were tested at the Lafene Health Center, which is a positivity rate of 1.9 percent. The week before, the positivity rate was 4.7 percent. President Myers stated he is proud of the KSU students for adhering to the University's mask policy and noted that the KSU marching band has been able to put procedures in place to allow the students to continue to play. KSU's fall graduation will take place over three days and will be held in Bramlage Coliseum. Each graduate will be able to invite two guests, which will allow the University to de-densify the Arena to adhere to social distancing guidelines. President Myers reported that KSU increased its retention rate to 81.1 percent and increased its six-year graduation rate. He also announced that Claudia Petrescu was recently named to serve as the Dean of the Graduate School. She will be replacing Dean Carol Shanklin, who is retiring at the end of the year.

President Scott reported that Pittsburg State University's student enrollments are down 3.7 percent, but despite it being down the mix of enrollment will allow the University to meet its revenue projections for the year. President Scott stated that he will be attending a Town Hall meeting later this week to discuss the University's finances and with the current projections, he is not expecting to implement any furloughs or salary reductions during FY 2021 unless something significant changes. However, the financial environment for FY 2022 is more concerning with the state's financial challenges. Regarding the COVID-19 case rate on campus, President Scott reported the University numbers are trending down with only three positive student cases being reported last week. However, the community is concerned with the number of positive cases and hospitalizations in Crawford County. President Scott stated that the University will continue to work the city and county officials to help slow the spread of the virus. President Scott announced that the Pittsburg State football team will play five games this year and two of them will be home games. For the home games, the stadium will be at 25 percent capacity with no tailgating allowed. Pittsburg State will also hold a fall commencement ceremony later in the semester and graduates will be allowed to invite four guests each. President Scott also announced that PSU has created a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Council that will be led by Deatrea Rose, Director of Student Diversity Programs. The charge for this Council is to build a plan to ensure Pittsburg State is a place in which everyone feels safe and is treated fairly and equitably, and its first task is to conduct a university-wide climate survey. President Scott also reported that Pittsburg State University is moving its spring break to the end of the spring semester.

President Mason stated that during the summer Fort Hays State University started enrolling students in its new online Bachelor of Social Work program. The University's five-year enrollment projection showed the program starting with ten students in the fall of 2020 and then growing to 65 students by fall of 2024. President Mason reported the enrollments for this fall doubled the projections with 22 student enrollments. The University's Master of Social Work program also enrolled 21 more students than was projected for a total enrollment of 56. President Mason stated the University's Journey fundraising campaign is the largest, most aggressive campaign in school history with a goal of raising \$100 million. With a full year left, the University

is on track to reach its goal. President Mason reported that over 23,000 donations have been made to the campaign and that \$18.3 million in student scholarships have already been awarded. Lastly, President Mason reported that Fort Hays State increased its student retention rate to 78 percent, which surpassed the University's goal of 75 percent.

Acting President Muma reported that the Council of Presidents met briefly this morning to discuss the proposed student health insurance benefits and premium rates for plan year 2021-2022. After receiving information from the Student Insurance Advisory Committee, the Council approved the proposed early renewal recommendation of a nine percent fixed rate increase with no changes in benefits. Acting President Muma stated that the Board is scheduled to consider this proposal later in today's agenda. The Council also approved the University of Kansas's request to offer a Master of Engineering (ME) in Bioengineering, which will be forwarded to the Board for consideration at a future meeting.

Acting President Muma reported that Wichita State University's enrollment was down three percent, which the University had projected. The University was down in concurrent enrollments but slightly up in graduate student enrollments. It was also noted that the University's revenues are stable even with the decrease in enrollments. Dr. Muma stated so far this semester 62 students have tested positive for COVID-19, which has resulted in a positivity rate of 3.3 percent. He then reported that on Monday, October 19, there will be ribbon cutting ceremony to mark the opening of Wichita State University's Molecular Diagnostics Lab. This Lab, when fully operational, will be able to conduct 3,000 COVID-19 test per day, and Dr. Muma noted it will be the only high-volume test lab in the state. Dr. Muma stated that Wichita State student-athletes set a school record with a 3.54 cumulative grade point average, which continued a 30-semester streak of 3.0 or higher. Also in spring 2020, 119 Shocker athletes were named to the Dean's List with a GPA of 3.5 or higher, 54 had a 4.0 GPA, and all 11 teams earned a cumulative GPA above 3.0. Dr. Muma noted that Deloitte and Wichita State University recently announced the launch of The Smart Factory @ Wichita, which is a groundbreaking and immersive experiential learning environment that will accelerate the future of manufacturing. Acting President Muma also reported that Wichita State will complete a comprehensive review of its Campus Master Plan in 2021.

BREAK

Chair Feuerborn called for a break at 11:25 a.m. and resumed the meeting at 11:35 a.m.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Regent Harrison-Lee moved, with the second of Regent Van Etten, that the Consent Agenda be approved. The motion carried.

Technical Education Authority

MANHATTAN AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE'S CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTS TECHNOLOGIES PROGRAM

Manhattan Area Technical College (MATC) received approval to offer a Technical Certificate B (38 credit hours) and an Associate of Applied Science degree (62 credit hours) in Critical Environments Technologies (15.0599). The initial cost of the program is estimated at \$92,650, which will be funded with a National Science

Foundation Advanced Technology Education grant. Ongoing costs of the program will be funded with tuition, fees, state aid, MATC foundation funds, Capital Outlay, and Carl D. Perkins funding (if eligible). The College will begin offering the program in the fall of 2020.

ALIGNMENT FOR AUTOMOTIVE COLLISION AND REFINISHING TECHNOLOGY REVISIONS

The revisions to the Automotive Collision and Refinishing Technology program alignment were approved. The attached alignment maps reflect the changes.

(Maps filed with Official Minutes)

CONSIDERATION OF DISCUSSION AGENDA

Technical Education Authority

REPORT FROM THE KANSAS POSTSECONDARY TECHNICAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY

Ray Frederick, Chair of the Kansas Postsecondary Technical Education Authority (TEA), provided an update on the TEA's activities. At its last meeting, the TEA approved its FY 2021 goals, which are listed below.

- Continue the Extraordinary Costs review – the TEA is developing an ongoing process to update systemwide expenditures using actual institution data to ensure extraordinary costs accurately account for real institutional costs. Approximately 50 programs will be reviewed during AY 2020 (2020-2021).
- Excel in CTE fund allocations – Based on future expected state revenues and the current Excel in CTE FY 2021 budget reduction, the TEA plans to evaluate alternative allocation methodologies that might better meet the objectives of the program.
- Continue existing CTE programs review – the TEA will review all programs whose graduates are employed in jobs that pay less than 250% of the poverty rate. Conducting this review in no way means that the programs will automatically be reclassified to non-tiered, as each program will be reviewed on its own merits.
- Work based learning definitions, guidelines and processes – the TEA will ensure that the postsecondary system is aligned with Federal and the Kansas Department of Commerce guidelines and will ensure that the definitions, rules and regulations are consistent, which will help avoid confusion for both the institutions and students.
- CTE program alignment with the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) – the TEA will work with KSDE on program alignment to help define what programs at the high schools have a pathway into college. As part of this effort, common definitions between secondary and postsecondary will need to be established.
- College Program Information Marketing – the TEA will review ideas for expanding awareness of the multiple websites that already exist that help users search for a program of interest, find every institution that offers it, and acquire specific information regarding the program such as certifications earned, program cost, required courses, etc.

He noted that many of these goals are a continuation of 2020 goals. Chair Frederick also thanked the Board's Workforce Development Unit for all the work they do to support the TEA. Regent Hutton stated he is pleased that the TEA is reviewing CTE programs and asked what the TEA is hearing from business and industry. Chair Frederick spoke about the importance of having business and industry leaders involved with program alignment and noted the Board just approved the new alignment for the Automotive Collision and Refinishing Technology program. That review was initiated in response to a request by business and industry leaders. Regent Kiblinger stated she likes the idea of partnering with KSDE to identify what programs at the high schools have a pathway into a CTE program. She noted the importance of increasing access to these pathways so that secondary students throughout the state have the same opportunities. She understands that this is a complicated issue but would like the TEA and KSDE to identify the access barriers so that solutions can be developed. Regent Schmidt asked for clarification on how the TEA is going to review programs whose graduates are employed in jobs that pay less than 250% of the poverty rate. Chair Frederick stated the TEA will review each program on its own merits and not every program will be reclassified to non-tiered. The TEA understands that certain programs are vital to the state's workforce even if its graduates earn less than 250%. President Flanders thanked the TEA for conducting this review and noted it is difficult but important work. He also encourages the TEA to continue to look at the extraordinary costs and fees associated with programs because these can be barriers for students.

Student Health

KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS STUDENT HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFITS AND PREMIUM RATES FOR PLAN YEAR 2021-2022

Doug Ball, Chair of the Student Insurance Advisory Committee, presented the Committee's recommendation for the plan year 2021-2022 student health insurance benefits and premium rates. The Board's student health insurance plan is offered through MHECare and is underwritten by UnitedHealthcare – Student Resources (UHC-SR). For plan year 2021-2022, UHC-SR made an early renewal offering available, which will allow students and families to obtain information sooner. The early renewal may also positively impact the enrollments in the voluntary plan. Chair Ball stated the Committee reviewed the two proposals from UHC-SR for plan year 2021-2022:

1. Commit to Renew Now ("Fixed Rate"): At an agreed upon increase of 9% to lock in the premium rates for the next academic year; or,
2. Commit to a Future Renewal ("Rate Guarantee"): UHC-SR will agree that the renewal rates for the next academic year will not exceed a cap of 12%. The actual rates will be increased by 12% or less, determined through negotiation at the typical renewal time.

Following its review of the proposals, the Committee decided to recommend the 9% across-the-board fixed rate option, which was viewed as a reasonable increase. It was also noted that the plan benefits will not change for the 2021-2022 plan year. Chair Ball stated the Council of Business Officers and the Council of Presidents concurred with the fixed rate recommendation. Regent Bangerter moved to approve the Committee's recommendation. Regent Schmidt seconded, and the motion carried.

BREAK

The Board took its lunch break at 12:00 p.m. and resumed its meeting at 12:45 p.m.

Academic Affairs**RECOMMENDED HIGH SCHOOL COURSES FOR COLLEGE PREPARATION**

Daniel Archer, Vice President for Academic Affairs, stated when the new Qualified Admission regulations take effect, specific high school courses will no longer be a requirement for admission to the state universities. However, to help guide high school counselors, parents, and students toward a pathway that fosters college readiness, the Kansas Scholars Curriculum is being repurposed. This Curriculum includes recommended coursework for high school students who wish to pursue postsecondary education at a state university. The coursework also aligns with the Kansas State Scholarship award. The details of the proposed curriculum are listed below, and Dr. Archer reiterated that the curriculum framework is only recommended and is not required for admission into a state university.

Recommended Scholars Curriculum Courses*English - 4 years*

One unit to be taken each year. Must include substantial recurrent practice in writing extensive and structured papers, extensive reading of significant literature, and significant experience in speaking and listening.

Mathematics - 4 years

Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, and one unit of advanced mathematics--suggested courses include: Analytic Geometry, Trigonometry, Advanced Algebra, Probability and Statistics, Functions or Calculus.

Science - 3 years

One year each in Biology, Chemistry, and Physics, each of which include an average of one laboratory period a week. Applied/technical courses may not substitute for a unit of natural science credit.

Social Studies - 3 years

One unit of U.S. History; minimum of one-half unit of U.S. Government and minimum of one-half unit selected from: World History, World Geography or International Relations; and one unit selected from: Psychology, Economics, U.S. Government, U.S. History, Current Social Issues, Sociology, Anthropology, and Race and Ethnic Group Relations. Half unit courses may be combined to make this a whole unit.

Foreign Language - 2 years

Two years of any one language. Latin and Sign Language are accepted.

Regent Harrison-Lee moved to approve the Kansas Scholars Curriculum as the Board's recommended college preparation curriculum. Regent Schmidt seconded, and the motion carried.

NEW FRAMEWORK FOR PERFORMANCE FUNDING

Vice President Archer stated with the adoption of the Board's new strategic plan, *Building a Future*, it is time to begin the process of developing a new framework for performance funding. He noted that the current performance funding model is limited because it lacks the structure to ensure that there is continuity among institutions, alignment with the Board's strategic plan, and a system in which the data can be consistently verified. Dr. Archer stated after analyzing performance funding in other states, three recurring themes regarding their metrics stood out: 1) they are based on national and state higher education system data sources, 2) they are pre-defined, and 3) they aligned with the state higher education system's strategic plan. Based on this information and concerns raised by Board members on how the current plan functions, the following recommendations were made for the new performance funding framework.

- The performance funding initiative should be retitled "student-centered funding" to ensure that students are at the forefront of this initiative;
- The preliminary framework would require institutions to select from a pre-determined list of metrics that align with the student-centered areas identified in the Board's strategic plan: 1) success and completion, 2) improving affordability, 3) expanding access, and 4) decreasing equity gaps; and
- The metrics would be based on data available in the Kansas Higher Education Data System, the National Student Clearinghouse, or IPEDS.

Vice President Archer stated in each student-centered area, the institutions would be allowed to select either one or two metrics from the pre-determined list in each section. He also noted the earliest the new framework could be implemented is FY 2022. Regent Bangerter stated he likes the idea of aligning the performance agreements with the Board's new strategic plan and having pre-defined metrics that can be verified. He noted the current framework is not helpful because it lacks these elements. Regent Schmidt concurred that the current performance agreement model provides little value with regard to evaluating the institutions. He believes the new framework needs to include metrics that will move the institutions and system forward and likes the fact that this framework is using data that is already being collected. Regent Schmidt did note that the number of metrics that the institutions are to be measured on should be limited and believes six is way too many. He also wanted to know if the metrics will be the same for the colleges and universities. Vice President Archer stated that the new framework will most likely contain two tracks – one for colleges and one for universities. Regent Kiblinger stated it is critical to align the new performance funding model with the Board's strategic plan and believes there needs to be plenty of metric options under each category for institutions to choose from. She also likes the idea of limiting the number of metrics that the institutions are evaluated on. Regent Harrison-Lee stated that by aligning with the Board's strategic plan, the performance agreements will help the institutions and the Board address some of important needs for the system like closing the enrollment equity gaps. Chancellor Girod stated that institutional research is a large component of the three research universities and believes it should be included in the new framework. President Myers concurred and stated that placement rates should also be considered as a metric option. Regent Kiblinger agreed that research and placement rates should be included in the new model. Regent Van Etten likes the idea of the new performance model and asked about the process to move this forward. Dr. Archer stated the next steps are to work with the institutions and the Board's Academic Affairs Standing Committee to solidify the framework and identify metrics

under each category. He noted the institutions will have many opportunities to provide feedback on the new model.

Fiscal Affairs and Audit

ALLOCATION OF FY 2021 EDUCATIONAL BUILDING FUND APPROPRIATION – SYSTEM

Chad Bristow, Director of Facilities, reported the two deferred maintenance studies that the Board commissioned earlier this year will serve as an initial step to evaluate state university facilities and gather data to support a request for state funding to address deferred maintenance. To further develop the data that was gathered, it is recommended that Accruent LLC be engaged to incorporate the facilities condition and space utilization data together into a single database, as well as work with the Board Office and university stakeholders to configure the database with an analytic mechanism. It is also recommended that an allocation from the Educational Building Fund (EBF) be used to finance the cost of this additional service. Regent Hutton asked whether compiling the data into a single database will delay the final reports. Director Bristow stated the reports from the two studies are still scheduled to be completed by the end of October 2020 and that this additional step will not impact those reports. He also noted that a single database will be helpful to the Board as it develops its comprehensive plan. Regent Rolph moved to approve the recommendations. Regent Murguia seconded, and the motion carried. The following distributions will be made from the EBF:

Allocation of Educational Building Funds for State University Deferred Maintenance Data Analysis and Process Development

	<u>Allocation</u>
University of Kansas	\$33,894
University of Kansas Medical Center	\$14,238
Kansas State University	\$37,800
Wichita State University	\$13,734
Emporia State University	\$7,560
Pittsburg State University	\$9,324
Fort Hays State University	<u>\$9,450</u>
Total	\$126,000

Other Matters

BOARD GOALS FOR 2020-2021

President Flanders reported the Board adopted its new strategic plan, *Building a Future*, at the June Board meeting. The plan contains three messaging pillars: 1) Kansas families, 2) Kansas businesses, and 3) Kansas economic prosperity. Under each pillar are areas of focus and dashboard metrics. President Flanders reviewed why specific areas of focus were identified in the plans including affordability, access, success, and the talent pipeline. He noted that level of education matters to individuals and to the state. Those who have attained a degree or certificate beyond high school earn more and tend to be less affected by an economic downturn, which can be seen in the unemployment data associated with the pandemic. President Flanders stated the state's recovery after the last economic downturn was slow and noted that the net outmigration over the

past decade in Kansas was over 52,000 people. It was also noted that many of these individuals have degrees beyond high school and are leaving Kansas to pursue more lucrative positions in other states. President Flanders stated these trends need to be reversed in order for the state and Kansans to prosper, and he believes the metrics identified in the strategic plan can help move the state forward. He then highlighted the proposed Board goals, shown below, for this year and noted that most of the goals directly advance the priorities laid out in the strategic plan.

Helping Kansas Families

1. Improve academic program transfer by creating a systemwide general education (GE) package to align programs under a common framework that guarantees seamless transfer and evaluate the pilot program that increased the number of credit hours eligible for transfer.
2. Review the 60 low-enrollment programs at the six state universities to assess program viability and strengthen the efficiency of degree program inventories.
3. Review university, community college and technical college plans and best practices to improve college-going rates, retention rates, and graduation rates of students from underrepresented populations.
4. Promote simplicity, transparency, and degree completion by exploring tuition rate strategies for resident and non-resident students attending the state universities.
5. Develop a comprehensive plan to finance deferred maintenance of public institutions of higher education facilities to be presented to the 2021 Legislature.

Advancing Economic Prosperity

6. Establish five- and ten-year systemwide objectives within *Building a Future* by leveraging individual university strengths into the creation of direct jobs and direct investments from beyond the state borders into Kansas.

Governance

7. Develop Board guidance on free speech and civil debate at state universities.

Regent Harrison-Lee stated economic development will be important to the state as it recovers, and she believes the universities can help drive the economy. She also believes that the system needs to work with the school districts so that high school students and parents understand the different degree pathways and the income associated with them. It was noted the Kansas DegreeStats website will be an important tool. Regent Bangerter stated he likes that the Board's strategic plan is being implemented and wanted to know if there was a reason the enrollments at the community colleges declined so much. He noted that typically during an economic downturn the community colleges see enrollment growth. President Flanders stated the college going rate of Kansas high school graduates has been declining over the last several years, and it will be important to work with the institutions to identify the issues surrounding the low enrollment

numbers so solutions can be formulated. Following discussion, Regent Rolph moved to approve the Board's 2020-2021 goals. Regent Harrison-Lee seconded. The motion carried.

WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY'S SECURITY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

General Counsel Julene Miller presented an updated Resolution transferring the Board's authority to exercise management, control, and supervision over security of certain classified information at Wichita State University to the University Security Executive Committee. She noted the Resolution excludes any acting or interim president of WSU from seeking a personnel security clearance and thereby access to any classified information that will become accessible to the University if it moves forward with U.S. government-funded projects subject to national security controls at the Secret and Top Secret levels and involving the National Institute of Aviation Research (NIAR) and other similar entities. The Resolution also temporarily permits the Wichita State University Senior Vice President of Industry and Defense Programs to oversee all classified programs and operations and requires the Senior Vice President to report directly to the President and CEO of the Board regarding any management matters that directly impact classified programs or information. Regent Feuerborn asked for clarification on why an acting or interim president needs to be excluded from serving on the University Security Executive Committee. General Counsel Miller stated the process to receive security clearance of this nature is extensive and can take several months to complete, and by the time an acting or interim president completes the process, the Board may be ready to name a permanent president to WSU. Regent Schmidt moved to approve, and Regent Rolph seconded. The motion carried.

(Resolution filed with Official Minutes)

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Matt Casey, Director of Government Relations, presented the legislative update. The general election is twenty days away, and Director Casey noted there will be membership changes in the Kansas Legislature. Regarding legislative leadership positions, the Senate will have a new Senate President and new Majority Leader with the retirements of Senator Wagle and Senator Denning. In the House, Representative Ron Ryckman, if reelected, will be seeking a third term as Speaker, which has never happened in the Kansas House. Director Casey reported the state is facing a \$1.4 billion budget shortfall that the Legislature and Governor will need to address in the upcoming session. He also noted that revenues for the state are coming in each month above what was estimated, which is promising. The next revenue estimate is scheduled for November 6. Director Casey reported that the university Government Relations Officers are reaching out to their local chambers of commerce and individual legislators to discuss the Board's legislative priorities.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 1:45 p.m., Regent Harrison-Lee moved, followed by the second of Regent Van Etten, to recess into executive session for 45 minutes to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel. The subject of this executive session was to discuss possible interim candidates for Wichita State University and the purpose was to protect the privacy of the individual Board candidates involved. Participating in the executive session were members of the Board and President Flanders. The motion carried. At 2:30 p.m. the meeting returned to open session. Regent Harrison-Lee moved to extend the session for 15 minutes, and Regent Kiblinger seconded. The motion carried. At 2:45 p.m. the meeting returned to open session. Regent Harrison-Lee moved to extend the session for

10 minutes, Regent Kiblinger seconded. The motion carried. At 2:55 p.m., the meeting returned to open session. Regent Harrison-Lee moved to extend the session for 10 minutes, and Regent Kiblinger seconded. The motion carried. At 3:05 p.m. the meeting returned to open session.

INTERIM PRESIDENT – WSU

Regent Van Etten moved to appoint Dr. Rick Muma as Interim President of Wichita State University. Regent Harrison-Lee seconded, and the motion carried. Regent Rolph voted against the motion.

ADJOURNMENT

At 3:11 p.m., Regent Kiblinger moved to adjourn the meeting. Regent Harrison-Lee seconded, and the motion carried.

Blake Flanders, President and CEO

Bill Feuerborn, Chair