

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

**VIDEO CONFERENCE AGENDA**

**May 19, 2021**

**9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.**

**or upon adjournment of SCOCAO**

The Council of Chief Academic Officers (COCAO) will meet by video conference. Questions can be emailed to [arobinson@ksbor.org](mailto:arobinson@ksbor.org).

- |   |                           |      |
|---|---------------------------|------|
| <b>I. Call to Order</b>   | Shirley Lefever, Chair    |      |
| A. Roll Call & Introduction   |                           |      |
| B. Approve Minutes from April 14, 2021  |                           | p. 3 |
| <b>II. Requests</b>   |                           |      |
| A. Other Requests   |                           |      |
| 1. Act on Request of Name Change of the Department of Chemistry to the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry – WSU   | Shirley Lefever           | p. 6 |
| 2. Act on request of Name Change of the Bachelor of Applied Science in Workforce Leadership and Applied Learning to Bachelor of Applied Science in Organizational Leadership and Learning – WSU | Shirley Lefever           | p. 8 |
| <b>III. Council of Faculty Senate Presidents Update</b>   | Aleks Sternfeld-Dunn, WSU |      |
| <b>IV. Other Matters</b>  |                           |      |
| A. Discuss Opportunities (new degree programs, partnerships, strategic initiatives, etc.) that Universities are Considering or Planning to Pursue in the Future                                 | COCAO Members             |      |
| <b>V. Next COCAO Meeting – June 16, 2021</b>  |                           |      |
| <b>VI. Adjournment</b>  |                           |      |

## COUNCIL OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICERS

The Council of Chief Academic Officers, 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:

Shirley Lefever, Chair	WSU	Barbara Bichelmeyer	KU
Jill Arensdorf	FHSU	Robert Klein	KUMC
David Cordle	ESU	JuliAnn Mazachek	Washburn
Howard Smith	PSU	Daniel Archer	KBOR
Charles Taber	K-State		

### Council of Chief Academic Officers AY 2021 Meeting Schedule

Meeting Dates	Location	Lunch Rotation	Institution Materials Due	New Program Requests due
September 08, 2020 <small>*10:45am or upon adjournment of SCOCAO</small>	Video Conference		August 19, 2020	July 14, 2020
October 07, 2020 <small>*11:30am, UPK after</small>	<i>Conference Call for degree programs only</i>			August 12, 2020
November 18, 2020 <small>*UPK after BAASC</small>	Video Conference <small>*Originally at ESU</small>		October 28, 2020	September 23, 2020
December 16, 2020 <small>*UPK after BAASC</small>	Video Conference		November 24, 2020	October 21, 2020
January 20, 2021 <small>*UPK after BAASC</small>	Video Conference		December 30, 2020	November 18, 2020
February 17, 2021 <small>*UPK after BAASC</small>	Video Conference		January 27, 2021	December 23, 2020
March 17, 2021 <small>*UPK after BAASC</small>	Video Conference		February 24, 2021	January 20, 2021
April 14, 2021	Video Conference <small>*Originally at FHSU</small>		March 24, 2021	February 24, 2021
May 19, 2021 <small>*UPK after BAASC</small>	Video Conference		April 28, 2021	March 24, 2021
June 16, 2021	Topeka		May 26, 2021	April 21, 2021

**Council of Chief Academic Officers  
MINUTES**

**Wednesday, April 14, 2021**

The April 14, 2021 meeting of the Council of Chief Academic Officers was called to order by Chair Shirley Lefever at 9:39 a.m.

**In Attendance:**

Members:	Shirley Lefever, WSU Chuck Taber, K-State Barbara Bichelmeyer, KU	Jill Arensdorf, FHSU David Cordle, ESU Howard Smith, PSU	Robert Klein, KUMC JuliAnn Mazachek, Washburn Daniel Archer, KBOR
Staff:	Sam Christy-Dangermond Karla Wiscombe Connie Beene	Amy Robinson Tara Lebar Judd McCormack	April Henry Cindy Farrier
Others:	Erin Shaw, Highland CC Ann Brill, KU Adam Borth, Fort Scott CC Bobby Winters, PSU Christine Brodsky, PSU Clay Stoldt, WSU Heather Morgan, KACCT Jason Sharp, Labette CC Jennifer Ball, Washburn Jeremy Patterson, WSU Linnea GlenMaye, WSU Maggie Schoonover, WSU Monette DePew, Pratt CC Shannon Portillo, KU Sharon Kibbe, Highland CC	Corey Isbell, NCK Tech Aron Potter, Coffeyville CC Andrew Hippisley, KU Carl Hummell, WSU Carter File, Hutchinson CC Jean Redeker, KU Jerry Pope, KCKCC Jon Marshall, Allen CC Kim Morse, Washburn Jeromy Fisher, WSU Mickey McCloud, JCCC Michelle Schoon, Cowley CC Mindy Markham, K-State Sandy Valenti, ESU Stanton Gartin, SATC	Sarah Robb, Neosho County CC Aleks Sternfeld-Dunn, WSU Brian Niehoff, K-State Cindy Hoss, Hutchinson CC Deanna Carpenter, Allen CC Elaine Simmons, Barton CC Jane Holwerda, Dodge City CC Jody Fiorini, WSU Kim Zant, Cloud County CC Luke Dowell, Seward County CC Mike Zimmerman, NWK Tech Rija Kahn, WSU Shelly Gehrke, ESU Taylor Crawshaw, Independence CC Tiffany Evans, Colby CC

Shirley Lefever welcomed everyone. Roll call was taken for members and presenters.

**Approval of Minutes**

Howard Smith moved to approve the minutes of the March 17, 2021 meeting, and Chuck Taber seconded the motion. With no corrections, the motion passed.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Readings**

- Chuck Taber presented the K-State request for a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science for approval. Chuck Taber stated he had not received any concerns or questions since the first reading.
- Barbara Bichelmeyer presented the KU request for a Master of Arts in Organizational Communication. Barbara stated she had not received any concerns or questions since the first reading. No questions were presented.

The Council approved both requests unanimously, so both will go to COPS for approval later in the day.

## Other Requests

- Barbara Bichelmeyer and Ann Brill, Dean of Journalism and Mass Communications, presented the KU requests for a name change of their Bachelor of Science in Journalism to Bachelor of Science in Journalism and Mass Communications, a name change of their Master of Science in Journalism to Master of Science in Journalism and Mass Communications, and a name change of their Doctorate in Journalism and Mass Communication to Doctorate in Journalism and Mass Communications. This alignment is a matter of consistency in their degree names and a better reflection of the research, teaching, and service they provide.

David Cordle moved to approve the KU request for name changes, and Chuck Taber seconded. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously through a roll call vote.

- Shirly Lefever and faculty presented three WSU requests. The first is to change the name of their Department of Counseling, Educational Leadership, Educational and School Psychology (CLES) to Intervention Services and Leadership in Education (ISLE). Interim Dean Clay Stoldt summarized this request. The primary reason for this change is due to restructuring within the college and shifted several programs to this department. The second request is for a Minor in Multi-Organizational Leadership, and Master Sgt. Jeromy Fisher provided a summary. Master Sgt. Fisher stated this will allow graduate students who major in nursing or engineering to have a minor that reflects their ROTC curriculum and military training and can be shown on a resume or to a potential employer. The third request is for a Minor in Sustainability in the College of Innovation Design. Dean Jeremy Patterson indicated the request for this minor is based on their previous work with a sustainability initiative. The minor will consist of 15 credit hours and will be managed by a new hire with a background in sustainability.

Barbara Bichelmeyer moved to approve the three WSU requests as presented, and Chuck Taber seconded. With no further discussion or questions, the motion passed unanimously.

- Howard Smith presented the PSU request for a Minor in Sustainability. Howard stated this request is similar to the previous WSU request and comes from their Integrated Studies area. Dr. Bobby Winters, Assistant Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, noted PSU has a Major in Sustainability, which has emphasized their Integrated Studies program for the last several years, and it is one of PSU's most successful programs. Dr. Christine Brodsky, Assistant Professor of Biology, provided a background, noting since 2015, they have seen student interest increase across their campus, and students have requested a minor so they can delve more deeply into sustainability coursework. The minor will consist of 19 hours.

David Cordle moved to approve the PSU request as presented, and Jill Arensdorf seconded. With no further discussion or questions, the motion passed unanimously.

- Chuck Taber presented two K-State requests. The first is a request to change the name of their Professional Pilot program to Bill Gross Professional Pilot program. Chuck discussed Bill's background and their support for the K-State Salina campus. K-State requests this change to recognize Bill for his contributions to their university and specifically to their Professional Pilot program. The second request is to change their Master of Arts in Geography to Master of Science in Geography. K-State recently received approval to change the name of the Department of Geography to the Department of Geography and Geospatial Sciences. The current request does not create a change in curriculum.

Jill Arensdorf moved to approve the K-State requests as presented, and Barbara Bichelmeyer seconded. With no further discussion or questions, the motion passed unanimously.

- These requests will go to Blake Flanders, President and CEO, for final approval.

### **Council of Faculty Senate Presidents Update**

Aleksander Sternfeld-Dunn, WSU Faculty Senate President, provided an update from the Council. Aleks stated the Council would hear an update from Daniel Archer from the General Education (GE) Working Group. The Council had requested a workgroup be formed to look at the temporary, pandemic-related workforce management policy on dismissals which met the previous week. That group revised language, which was proposed to and approved by the Governance Committee earlier in the morning and will go to the Board later in the afternoon for consideration. The Council may also have discussions around Program Review. He noted the reviews include department costs and credit hours generated but may not consider faculty production such as grants and donor money they bring in, relationships they build, and notoriety to their respective campuses. No questions were presented.

### **Discuss Election Day as a Non-Instructional Holiday**

Rija Kahn, WSU Student Body President and Chair of the Student Advisory Committee (SAC), presented for discussion the student initiative to add federal election days as non-instructional holidays, which occur every two years. She provided data points and discussed the SAC rationale behind this request. Rija noted other universities outside of Kansas have already taken steps to designate the federal election date as a university holiday, and they believe this would help students become more engaged voters. SAC is not asking for it to become a university holiday, but instead, they request this be a non-instructional day for students. While they feel this request is a compromise based on institutional concerns, they would like to discuss any additional considerations to help move this initiative forward.

David asked if student leadership at regent universities is unified in this request. The SAC meets monthly, and Rija stated they had discussions and agreed to move this initiative forward. Barbara noted KU has already had movement on this issue. The KU Student Senate recently voted to swap the Thursday of fall break for a federal election day in 2022 and discussed including local elections. The KU Vice Provost of Student Affairs is working with the Student Center to submit a proposal to their University Calendar Committee for consideration. Daniel stated that BAASC has expressed interest in discussing this proposal and asked if any Chief Academic Officers opposed the idea. Though a few indicated more discussions might need to occur to address logistics and calendar issues, the CAO's did not express opposition. Barbara noted this also ties into accreditation standards and university calendar committee work and may need approval through those channels. She also stated there might be associated costs to consider. Barbara suggested they provide implementation data to BAASC. Shirley Lefever suggested the SAC members go back to their respective campuses for the additional information, and Rija could continue working with Daniel to move this initiative forward.

### **Opportunities that Universities are Considering or Planning to Pursue in the Future**

Jill Arensdorf stated FHSU would have an MS in Computer Science Application. They are behind due to the pandemic but will be continuing to move forward. Howard Smith said PSU will have a similar program coming forward shortly as well.

### **Adjournment**

Shirley Lefever reminded the Council members the University Press of Kansas Board of Trustees would meet later in the day. The next COCAO meeting will be on May 19, 2021.

Howard Smith moved to adjourn the meeting, and Chuck Taber seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 10:21 a.m.



April 14, 2021

**To:** Dr. Daniel Archer, Vice President for Academic Affairs – Kansas Board of Regents  
**From:** Dr. Shirley Lefever, Interim Executive Vice President and Provost  
**Date:** April 14, 2021  
**Re:** Department of Chemistry Name Change

This is a request from the faculty in the Wichita State Department of Chemistry to approve a department name change from *The Department of Chemistry* to *Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry*. The new name will more accurately reflect their degree offerings and research mission. The Department of Chemistry faculty voted unanimously in approval of this name change.

**Rationale:** The rationale for this request is a need to more accurately reflect the department's course and degree offerings and research directions in their official name. The Department of Chemistry is composed of 13 research active faculty. Three of the thirteen faculty members comprise our Biochemistry Division. These faculty members, Professors Bann, Beck and Wimalasena, primarily teach the biochemistry courses listed below.

Chem 103 – Introductory General, Organic and Biochemistry  
Chem 661– Principles of Biochemistry  
Chem 662 – Biochemistry I  
Chem 663 – Biochemistry II  
Chem 664 – Biochemistry Laboratory  
Chem 666 – Special Topics in Biochemistry  
Chem 669 – Research in Biochemistry  
Chem 721 – Advanced Biochemistry  
Chem 809E – Neurochemistry  
Chem 809G – Protein Structure and Function  
Chem 809X – Protein Folding and Human Disease

In addition to the biochemists, Professors Groutas, Wu and Eichhorn teach courses that are biochemistry oriented including Chem 605 – Medicinal Chemistry, Chem 835– Bio-organic, and Chem 815 – Bioinorganic Chemistry. Nearly all research active faculty members in the department focus their research in areas that lie at the interface of chemistry and biochemistry and directly involve biochemical goals.

The department offers one B.A. and five B.S. degrees and of these six degrees two are biochemistry degrees: B.S. in Chemistry – Biochemistry (accredited by the American Chemical Society) and the Biochemistry Field Major (jointly with the Department of Biological Sciences). Additionally, one of the department's most popular degrees is the B.S. in Chemistry-Pre-Medicine which includes a full year of

biochemistry and a number of other biochemistry related requirements and electives.

Including biochemistry in the department name will more accurately convey the department's research activities and course offerings and aid our students in identifying these opportunities. Most universities have either a standalone biochemistry department or include biochemistry in the name of the chemistry department (see for example Harvard, University of Maryland, University of South Carolina, UCLA, Georgia Tech and UCSD). Peer and aspiring institutions also have adopted the "Chemistry and Biochemistry Department" designation including New Mexico State University, Auburn University, and University of Texas El Paso.



WICHITA STATE  
UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF APPLIED STUDIES

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Daniel Archer, Vice President for Academic Affairs – Kansas Board of Regents  
FROM: Dr. Shirley Lefever, Interim Executive Vice President & Provost  
RE: Program Name Change  
DATE: April 29, 2021

The purpose of this memorandum is to request a program name change and to briefly discuss the rationale. The proposed program name change is from Bachelor of Applied Science in Workforce Leadership and Applied Learning to *Bachelor of Applied Science in Organizational Leadership and Learning*.

**Rationale:** The rationale for such a change is threefold. First, the proposed change will provide students—both potential and current—with a clearer understanding of how the degree can matriculate a student into a career path. Additionally, with the increased usage of the word “workforce” across campus, it creates uncertainty for a number of parties as to what the degree program’s focus is, where it can be found, and the type of educational credential that is earned (e.g., bachelor’s degree vs. badges). Secondly, as the degree has developed over the past two years, the curricula is increasingly focused on organizational studies, leadership, professional development, and personal development. These topic areas are increasingly popular in the interdisciplinary approach known broadly as organizational studies, which is born out of multiple social scientific approaches and not unique to one discipline. By focusing on both on leadership and learning within the organizational context, the degree program prepares students to meet both the current and evolving needs of the marketplace. Thirdly, the College of Applied Studies (CAS) has a deep reservoir of expertise in learning, human development, leadership development, pedagogy, and andragogy, which are all foundational elements for both a holistic approach to studying organizational leadership and for professional training within organizational settings. The CAS houses majors in education, learning and instructional design, counseling, sport management and exercise science, as well as other credentials in areas such as Wellness and eLeadership, so it is well suited to fully support this flexible, interdisciplinary degree.

We searched [WSU’s official webpage](#) of majors, minors, and certificates to ensure this degree name is not currently in use.

No additional resources are needed as a result of this change.

If you have any additional questions, then please feel free to contact me at your convenience.