

KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS
BOARD ACADEMIC AFFAIRS STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
November 6, 2024

Chair Diana Mendoza called the November 6th, 2024, Board Academic Affairs Standing Committee meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. The meeting was held virtually via Zoom.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Regent Diana Mendoza, Chair
 Regent Alysia Johnston
 Regent Neelima Parasker

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regent Johnston moved that the minutes of the September 18th, 2024, meeting be approved. Following Regent Parasker's second, the motion carried unanimously.

BOARD CONSENT ITEMS

ALL STAR HIGH SCHOOL AWARDS

Associate Director of Academic Affairs Mistie Knox presented an overview of the All Star High School program, which recognizes and promotes best practices in post-secondary activities. Schools receiving this award have demonstrated a commitment to providing opportunities for Apply Kansas, financial aid completion, senior signing events, or other activities supporting students' post-secondary planning. This item will be added to the discussion agenda for the upcoming board meeting on November 20, 2024.

KSU BS CYBER SYSTEMS DESIGN AND DYNAMICS

Tanya Gonzalez (on behalf of Jesse Mendez) presented a program approval request for the Bachelor of Science in Cyber Systems Design & Dynamics at Kansas State University. Michael Oetken, a faculty member in the Department of Integrated Studies at Kansas State University, addressed specific questions regarding the program's development. This program will be added to the Board's consent items on the next agenda.

BOARD DISCUSSION AGENDA ITEMS

AY 2024 PERFORMANCE REPORTS – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Director of Academic Affairs Sam Christy-Dangermond presented an executive summary of the performance reports, providing an overview of the statutory requirements for performance agreements that have been in place for approximately twenty years. The previous performance funding model for these agreements included six indicators: three common system indicators and three institution-specific indicators. The Board of Academic Affairs and the Board identified several limitations within this framework, and in May 2023, they approved a project-based reporting system for Academic Years 2024 through 2026. This new framework focuses on institutions implementing four proven practices aligned with the Board's "Building a Future" strategic plan: corequisite support developmental education, math pathways, systemwide course placement measures for math and English gateway courses, and academic degree maps. Thirty-one of the thirty-two institutions met all requirements of the five report components and are recommended for full funding, while the one institution that did not meet all requirements is recommended for ninety percent of new funding.

OTHER MATTERS

2024 KANSAS OER ANNUAL REPORT

Associate Director of Academic Affairs Mistie Knox provided an overview of the OER Steering Committee and introduced Barry Bailey, professor and digital projects librarian at Johnson County Community College, who presented the 2024 Kansas OER Annual Report. Mr. Bailey also provided an overview of the history of the OER Steering Committee and the OER initiatives. Thirty-two institutions responded to the initiatives survey request sent to Chief Academic Officers in March 2024.

CONTINUATION OF PROGRAM REVIEW DISCUSSION

Vice President of Academic Affairs Rusty Monhollon reviewed the draft recommendations for revising the academic program review process, as discussed at the September 18th BAASC meeting. The proposed recommendations include clarifying the purpose of academic program review, exempting interdisciplinary programs without a formal departmental or administrative structure from minimum requirements for the number of majors and graduates, reducing the minimum enrollment for master's programs from 20 to 12 students, and allowing programs that offer both master's and doctoral degrees to be reviewed as a single program. Additionally, the recommendations propose establishing institution-specific thresholds based on Carnegie classifications to account for differences in size and mission. For the "talent pipeline" metric, students who immediately pursue graduate studies may be included, but they should be excluded from the wage metric five years post-baccalaureate. The committee agreed to adopt these recommendations as a complete package for inclusion in the Board's discussion items.

CONTINUATION OF "FIRST 15" DISCUSSION

Vice President of Academic Affairs Rusty Monhollon reviewed the draft of the "First 15" white paper at the September 18th BAASC meeting. The proposed recommendations suggest that the Board of Regents designate five specific courses, called the "First 15," that eligible high school students can take at no cost. Additionally, the Board should collaborate with school districts and dual/concurrent enrollment providers to develop a funding framework that allows students in underserved areas to access "First 15" courses. The Board is also encouraged to revise its current dual/concurrent enrollment policy to expand early college opportunities to all Kansas high schools. Furthermore, the Board should consider requiring all dual/concurrent enrollment providers to be accredited by the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP). Regent Parasker moved to accept the recommendations as presented, and following Regent Johnston's second, the motion was carried unanimously.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS UPDATES

Associate Director of Academic Affairs Jenn Bonds-Raacke presented updates on systemwide academic affairs initiatives. The Math Pathways professional development series, which includes monthly task force meetings and statewide meetings with advisors and registrars, has offered professional development opportunities to over one thousand participants. Additionally, the Systemwide English Course Placement Measures Committee has finalized recommendations for systemwide multiple placement measures for English Composition I, which will be presented to BAASC at the next meeting. KBOR will also facilitate professional development sessions to help English faculty develop corequisite support sections for English Composition I. Faculty can register for these sessions on the "English Initiatives" subpage of the KBOR website.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kansas State University will host the next BAASC meeting in person on November 20, 2024.

ADJOURNMENT

Regent Johnston moved that the meeting be adjourned. Following the second of Regent Mendoza, the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 11:43 a.m.