

**Council of Chief Academic Officers  
MINUTES**

**Wednesday, April 15, 2020**

The April 15, 2020, meeting of the Council of Chief Academic Officers was called to order by Chair David Cordle at 9:08 a.m. The meeting was originally scheduled to be held at K-State. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, this meeting was held through Zoom and live streamed for the public.

**In Attendance:**

Members:	David Cordle, ESU Howard Smith, PSU Barbara Bichelmeyer, KU	Jill Arensdorf, FHSU Rick Muma, WSU Robert Klein, KUMC	Charles Taber, K-State JuliAnn Mazachek, Washburn
Staff:	Daniel Archer Karla Wiscombe	Sam Christy-Dangermond Erin Wolfram	Amy Robinson Steve Funk
Others:	Adam Borth, Fort Scott CC Duane Whitbeck, PSU Cindy Hoss, Hutchinson CC Brian Niehoff, K-State John Buckwalter, K-State Sonya Lutter, K-State Michael Calvert, Pratt CC Monette DePew, Pratt CC Erin Shaw, Highland CC Matt Pounds, NWK Tech	Chuck Martin, K-State Elaine Simmons, Barton CC Jane Holwerda, Dodge City CC Jean Redeker, KU Kaye Monk-Morgan, WSU Mark Haub, K-State Michelle Schoon, Cowley CC Pedro Leite, Cloud County CC Jerry Pope, KCKCC	Aron Potter, Coffeyville CC Eric Elsinghorst, KUMC Jason Sharp, Labette CC Jeff Radel, KUMC Linnea GlenMaye, WSU Marlon Thornburg, Coffeyville CC Michael McCloud, JCCC Marc Malone, Garden City CC Lori Winningham, Butler CC

Chair David Cordle welcomed everyone, and attendance was taken by roll call.

**Approval of Minutes**

Howard Smith moved to approve the minutes of the February 19, 2020 meeting, and Chuck Taber seconded the motion. With no corrections or discussion, the motion passed by roll call vote.

**1<sup>st</sup> Readings**

- K-State is requesting approval for a BS in Geographic Information Science and Technology. Chuck Taber discussed their interdisciplinary proposal designed to prepare students for careers in geospatial technology methods, geographic information systems, analysis for geospatial data, designing digital maps and relational databases with geographic information, and web-based geographic services to name a few. Shawn Hutchinson and Chuck Martin were available for questions. No questions were presented from the Committee.
- K-State is requesting approval for a BS in Sports Nutrition. This would be offered in the Department of Food Nutrition, Dietetics and Health. Chuck Taber discussed the rising importance of this degree and noted there is not currently any such degree program in Kansas at the bachelor level. Chuck noted there has been demand from their student base for this degree at the bachelor level, instead of at the master's level. K-State currently has a dual degree option that allows students to get a Nutrition degree and a Kinesiology degree; however, this requires students to complete 130 credit hours. Chuck noted this new degree would replace that option. Mark Haub and John Buckwalter were available on the call for questions. No questions were presented from the Committee.

- KUMC is requesting approval for an MS in Genetic Counseling. Robert Klein introduced Eric Elsinghorst, Chair of the Department of Clinical Laboratory Sciences, and Jeff Radel, Department of Occupational Therapy Education. Jeff discussed the program details. He noted KUMC has the resources to provide a deep experience for genetic counseling students, as well as a multi-disciplinary and interprofessional working environment. Jeff stated there is a growing need in this area because of advances in genetic research and technology and the concern that the medical community lags in the ability to discuss genetics advancement with the average person through counseling. No questions were presented from the Committee.

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

- PSU is requesting approval for a BSE in Early Childhood Unified: Birth through Kindergarten. The Committee heard this proposal at their February meeting. Duane Whitbeck was available for questions, but there were none. Rick Muma moved to approve the new degree, and Jill Arensdorf seconded the motion. With no corrections or discussion, the motion passed unanimously by roll call vote. David noted this proposal will be forwarded to COPS for approval later in the morning.
- K-State is requesting approval for an EdD in Community College Leadership. The Committee heard this proposal at their February meeting. Howard Smith moved to approve the new degree, and Barbara Bichelmeyer seconded the motion. With no corrections or discussion, the motion passed unanimously by roll call vote. David noted this proposal will be forwarded to COPS for approval later in the morning.

## **Other Requests**

- KU is requesting approval of a name change of the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures to the Department of Slavic and Eurasian Languages and Literatures. Chuck Taber moved to approve the name change, and Jill Arensdorf seconded the motion. With no corrections or discussion, the motion passed unanimously by roll call vote. The request will go to Dr. Flanders for final approval.
- K-State is requesting approval of a name change of the School of Family Studies and Human Services to the Department of Applied Human Sciences. Chuck Taber clarified that schools are usually groups of coherent programs defined for accreditation reasons, and that isn't the case with this group of programs. He believes changing from a school to a department makes more sense for K-State. The new department will still be housed in the College of Health and Human Sciences. Rick Muma moved to approve the name change, and Howard Smith seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously by roll call vote. The request will go to Dr. Flanders for final approval.
- KUMC is requesting approval of a name change of the Master of Science in Applied Statistics and Analytics to Master of Science in Applied Statistics, Analytics, and Data Science. Robert Klein discussed the success of the original program and noted the new proposal adds data science. Data science students make up around 1/3 of the current students in the original program. Jill Arensdorf moved to approve the new degree, and Barbara Bichelmeyer seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously by roll call vote. The request will go to Dr. Flanders for final approval.
- K-State is requesting approval of a name change of the Bachelor of Science in Apparel and Textiles to the Bachelor of Science in Fashion Studies. Chuck noted this change better aligns with career opportunities and similar program names in this field. Howard Smith moved to approve the new degree, and Jill Arensdorf seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously by roll call vote. The request will go to Dr. Flanders for final approval.

- K-State is requesting approval of a Minor in Middle East Studies. Chuck stated this will be housed in the Department of Political Science, and there is already a long list of courses in this area. Chuck also noted students have expressed interest in having this as a minor option. Jill Arensdorf moved to approve the new degree, and Rick Muma seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously by roll call vote. The request will go to Dr. Flanders for final approval.

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

Greg Schneider was unable to be present. David Cordle presented a brief update in his place. The COFSP is considering a statement for the Regents which requests postponing aspects of program review until next year.

### **Other Business and Discussion**

- Rick Muma stated WSU is working on three different data science degrees, each with a different focus. In this process, they will bring forward a proposal for a new computing school which would house these degrees in the College of Engineering. They are also working on a BA in Linguistics.
- Howard Smith stated PSU is investigating a support area for online learning, such as a type of academic virtual unit. They are accelerating their work in this area due to the current health crisis.
- Barbara Bichelmeyer noted KU has a few programs going through the vetting process. She listed these programs as: An Undergraduate Minor in Nutrition at KU Edwards campus, an Undergraduate Minor in Public and Population Health at KU Edwards campus, a Bachelor in Health Sciences at KU Edwards campus, and an Undergraduate Minor in Design Entrepreneurship at the Lawrence campus.
- Jill Arensdorf noted FHSU has a few programs going through the vetting process. They are working on an MS in a computer science area and a BS in the data analytics area.

### **Adjournment**

David noted a decision will soon be made whether the next meeting will be held in Topeka or virtually. He also noted the University Press of Kansas Board of Trustees will meet after next month's meeting.

Howard moved to adjourn the meeting, and Chuck Taber seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion passed by roll call vote. The meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.