

**Council of Chief Academic Officers
MINUTES**

Wednesday, May 20, 2020

The May 20, 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 in Topeka. 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 Charles Taber, K-State	JuliAnn Mazachek, Washburn Robert Klein, KUMC
Staff:	Daniel Archer Karla Wiscombe	Sam Christy-Dangermond Erin Wolfram	Amy Robinson Travis White
Others:	Adam Borth, Fort Scott CC Brian Niehoff, K-State Cindy Hoss, Hutchinson CC Jason Sharp, Labette CC Jerry Pope, KCKCC Cory Isbell, KCKTC Mark Haub, K-State Shawn Hutchinson, K-State	Brad Bennett, Colby CC Elaine Simmons, Barton CC Jane Holwerda, Dodge City CC Jean Redeker, KU Kaye Monk-Morgan, WSU Pedro Leite, Cloud County CC Erin Shaw, Highland CC Greg Schneider, ESU	Aron Potter, Coffeyville CC Eric Elsinghorst, KUMC Jeff Radel, KUMC Jennifer Ng, KU Linnea GlenMaye, WSU Shannon Portillo, KU Mickey McCloud, JCCC Amber Knoettgen, Cloud County CC

Chair David Cordle welcomed everyone. Attendance was taken by roll call for the Committee, presenters, and KBOR staff.

Approval of Minutes

Chuck Taber moved to approve the minutes of the April 15 meeting, and Jill Arensdorf seconded the motion. With no corrections or discussion, the motion passed.

Howard Smith moved to approve the minutes of the April 24 special meeting, and Chuck Taber seconded the motion. With no corrections or discussion, the motion passed.

2nd Readings

- K-State is requesting approval for a BS in Geographic Information Science and Technology. Shawn Hutchinson, Professor of Geography and Director of K-State's Geographic Information Systems Spatial Analysis Laboratory was available for questions. Jill Arensdorf moved to approve the new program, and Howard Smith seconded the motion. With no further questions or discussion, the motion passed. David noted this proposal will be forwarded to COPS for approval later in the morning.
- K-State is requesting approval for a BS in Sports Nutrition. This would be offered in the Department of Food Nutrition, Dietetics and Health. Mark Haub, Department of Food, Nutrition, Dietetics and Health, was available for questions. Barbara Bichelmeyer moved to approve the new program, and Rick Muma seconded the motion. With no further questions or discussion, the motion passed. David noted this proposal will be forwarded to COPS for approval later in the morning.
- KUMC is requesting approval for an MS in Genetic Counseling. Eric Elsinghorst, Chair of the Department of Clinical Laboratory Sciences, and Jeff Radel, Department of Occupational Therapy Education, were available for questions. Rick Muma moved to approve the new program, and Chuck

Taber seconded the motion. With no further questions or discussion, the motion passed. David noted this proposal will be forwarded to COPS for approval later in the morning.

Other Requests

- ESU is requesting to consolidate its Master of Science in Psychology (general option) with its Master of Science in School Psychology. David Cordle provided a brief overview. Jill Arensdorf moved to approve the consolidation, and Howard Smith seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion passed. The request will go to Dr. Flanders for final approval.
- KU is requesting a Minor in Design Entrepreneurship. Barbara Bichelmeyer provided a brief overview. Howard Smith moved to approve the new minor, and Jill Arensdorf seconded the motion. With no further discussion the motion passed. The request will go to Dr. Flanders for final approval.
- KU is requesting a Minor in Nutrition. Barbara Bichelmeyer provided a brief overview. Chuck Taber moved to approve the new minor, and Howard Smith seconded the motion. With no further discussion the motion passed. The request will go to Dr. Flanders for final approval.
- KU is requesting a Minor in Public and Population Health. Barbara Bichelmeyer provided a brief overview. Rick Muma moved to approve the new minor, and Chuck Taber seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion passed. The request will go to Dr. Flanders for final approval.

Council of Faculty Senate Presidents Update

Greg Schneider, ESU, noted this will be the last meeting update from the outgoing group of COFSP. The new Chair will be Aleksander Sternfeld-Dunn of WSU. Aleksander will report to COCAO at the June 17 meeting. Greg thanked the departing members, members who will stay on, and the provosts for their work and communication. Greg also noted they appreciated being involved in the shared governance approach of reopening universities in the fall.

Positive Pathways

- Daniel Archer provided an update on the Board goal of Positive Pathways in relation to helping students who do not meet Qualified Admissions Criteria to help achieve success beyond high school. Earlier in the spring, a working group was formed consisting of admissions staff from each institution. Daniel discussed three core items that the group worked on:
 1. Looking at the exception window and how this message is communicated to perspective students.
 2. Referring inadmissible applicants to two-year colleges.
 3. Ensuring the intent of positive pathways through positive messaging and communications.

The working group came up with three recommendations:

1. Universities will provide the statement "If you do not meet either of the guaranteed admission requirements, you are still encouraged to apply. Your application will be reviewed individually";
2. Admission denial letters will contain a statement that promises that the applicant will be reconsidered for admission if they reapply after completing 24 college credit hours with at least a 2.0 GPA (2.5 for KU); and
3. A link to a newly developed KBOR webpage which provides a list of community and technical colleges in Kansas and provides contact information for each respective college.
https://www.kansasregents.org/academic_affairs/qualified_admissions/alternative-admissions-options

JuliAnn commented that she would like to discuss Washburn being involved in the working group. Rick asked if the working group recommendations sent to admissions staff could be sent to the CAO's. The committee discussed if the recommendations needed formal action taken. Daniel clarified the

recommendations do not include policy changes, but more so a small change in communication that has been created by a working group previously appointed by the committee. He noted this item can be pulled if they would like to do so. The committee agreed to move forward with these recommendations, and in the future working group recommendations will be taken back to the committee before proceeding.

- Jennifer Ng, KU, provided the 2019 Tilford Conference Report. Jennifer noted the conference was an overall success with a historic number of attendees. The 2019 conference included changes to extend the timeframe to allow for extended sessions in the afternoon and included an exclusive session for upper institutional leaders. Both received positive feedback. Jennifer stated areas of improvement include opening the registration and submission of proposals earlier, communications, and improving accommodations through the registration system. Jennifer provided conference costs and stated they felt good about the cost compared to past years.

Barbara asked her to discuss communication plans for this vulnerable population during the COVID-19. Jennifer responded the senior diversity officers across KBOR institutions have been meeting weekly to discuss grading, teaching evaluation, and technology needs to name a few. She anticipates this will continue, and as they look at summer and fall, she believes there will be a great importance on sharing data on enrollment trends and representations. Jennifer believes there is increasing attention being given to international students, and they will monitor and be informed on this population through data.

Jennifer discussed plans for the 2020 Tilford Conference. They are considering holding the October conference virtually but have come to the consensus that it may be better to suspend the conference instead, due to financial and staffing constraints, as well as pressing immediate needs. If suspended, they ask the institutional contributions to be directed towards the purposes of diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives on their respective campuses for the year 2020. Jennifer discussed alternative possibilities being considered for 2020 for either virtual statewide or smaller campus specific meetings or activities to continue moving forward during the current year. David Cordle noted the present structure and responsibility of the Tilford Conference falls under the Chief Diversity Officers. Jennifer responded the officers are from different institutions and have indicated they are not comfortable making funding decisions for others outside of their own institution.

Chuck asked if there was an opportunity or need to be thinking about the impact of COVID-19 on their campuses in reference to diversity. Jennifer responded there is and stated she could put some additional information together. Several committee members agreed this could be beneficial. Jill commented she supports some type of conversations or webinars in lieu of the conference to continue making progress. David noted the participants thought 2019 was a high-quality event, and he continues to hear good comments. The Committee thanked Jennifer for her presentation.

Adjournment

David noted the University Press of Kansas Board of Trustees will meet after adjournment.

Chuck Taber moved to adjourn the meeting, and Howard Smith seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 9:58 a.m.