

**Council of Chief Academic Officers  
MINUTES**

**Wednesday, December 14, 2022**

The December 14, 2022, Council of Chief Academic Officers (COCAO) meeting was called to order by Chair Barbara Bichelmeyer at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was held through Zoom.

**In Attendance:**

Members:	Barbara Bichelmeyer, KU Chuck Taber, K-State Brent Thomas, ESU	Jill Arensdorf, FHSU Howard Smith, PSU Shirley Lefever, WSU	Robert Klein, KUMC Laura Stephenson, Washburn Daniel Archer, KBOR
Staff:	Amy Robinson Sam Christy-Dangermond Tara Lebar	Karla Wiscombe Cindy Farrier	Judd McCormack Marti Leisinger
Others:	Adam Borth, Fort Scott CC Jason Sharp, Labette CC Jennifer Callis, SATC Karen Johnson, PSU Kim Zant, Cloud County CC Michelle Schoon, Cowley CC Rebecca Bilderback, Butler CC Tanya Gonzalez, K-State Stuart Day, KU	Elaine Simmons, Barton CC Jean Redeker, KU Jerry Pope, KCKCC Kim Dhority, FHTC Linnea GlenMaye, WSU Monette DePew, Pratt CC Scott Lucas, WSU Tech Tom Nevill, Butler CC Jane Holwerda, Dodge City CC	Cindy Hoss, Hutchinson CC Jennifer Ball, Washburn JoLanna Kord, ESU Kim Warren, KU Luke Dowell, SCCC Nate Brunsell, KU Sheila Markowitz, ESU Taylor Crawshaw, Independence CC Tricia Paramore, Hutchinson CC

Roll call was taken for members and presenters.

**Approval of Minutes**

Shirley Lefever moved to approve November 16, 2022, meeting minutes, and Chuck Taber seconded the motion. With no corrections, the motion passed.

**Council of Faculty Senate Presidents (CoFSP) Update**

Nate Brunsell, KU's faculty senate president and CoFSP Chair, provided the update. The Council approves of the Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) guideline document changes. CoFSP is looking for guidance on the Systemwide General Education implementation process and is cognitive of the workload that might entail submitting exceptions. CoFSP has concerns with the academic portfolio review work that rpk GROUP is doing, specifically regarding program duplication, noting that having duplicate programs is not necessarily a negative thing and asking that care be taken on how recommendations are communicated to faculty.

**First Reading**

Barbara Bichelmeyer and Stuart Day presented the first reading for a BA/BS in Criminal Justice at KU. The hybrid program will be housed in the School of Professional Studies on the KU Edwards campus. The program is designed to meet growing employment demands in the Kansas City metro area and the greater Kansas and Missouri region. Barbara noted that it is partially funded through the Johnson County Education Research Triangle. WSU and FHSU have submitted written comments on this program, and KU will respond accordingly. KU stated they understand there is some level of duplication but noted their target audience and regional needs differ, and there is a high level of market needs in Kansas City that the KU Edwards campus provides. This program will be up for a second reading in January.

### **Other Requests**

- KU's Stuart Day and Kim Warren led a discussion on KBOR's bachelor's degree definition. In March 2019, KBOR amended its policy to allow a pilot project between KU and JCCC to change the KBOR definition of a baccalaureate degree. The change allowed students to transfer more than 60 community college hours and apply them to KU Edwards campus programs having transfer agreements with JCCC. After a successful pilot, in November 2021, KBOR permanently amended its policy to allow all public universities to "have transfer agreements that make programmatic exceptions to the requirement that a minimum of 60 semester credit hours be from institutions that have a majority of degree conferrals at or above the baccalaureate level." KU is seeking to amend KBOR's definition of a bachelor's degree to allow KU to apply more than 60 hours from a community college towards a KU degree housed at Lawrence or Edwards campuses and do so without a transfer agreement in place.

With COCAO approval, the next step would be to take this item to BAASC for discussion. The Council noted that Regents might ask if this change should be allowed for all public institutions or just KU. The Council agreed through consensus to allow more time for institutions to look closely at their partnerships and formulate feedback for a February discussion in BAASC.

- Shirley Lefever presented requests from WSU to change the name of the Department of Physician Assistant to the Department of Physician Associate and change the name of the Master of Physician Assistant, with the major of Physician Assistant, to Master of Physician Associate, with the major of Physician Associate. In May 2021, the American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA) passed a resolution altering the definition of "PA" from "physician assistant" to "physician associate." These changes will allow WSU to follow national trends and align with AAPA recommendations.

Chuck Taber moved to approve, and Jill Arensdorf seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Both requests will go to Dr. Flanders for final approval.

### **Other Matters**

KU noted they would likely submit a BAS in Operations Management for approval by January's meeting.

### **Adjournment**

The next COCAO meeting is scheduled virtually for January 18, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

Brent Thomas moved to adjourn the meeting, and Jill Arensdorf seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m.