

**KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS
COUNCIL OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICERS
MINUTES
NOVEMBER 20, 2024**

The November 20, 2024, meeting of Council of Chief Academic Officers was called to order by Chair Susan Bon at 9:14 a.m. The meeting was held in the Flint Hills Room on the Kansas State University Campus, Student Union 918 N. MLK Jr. Drive, Manhattan, KS 66506 with a virtual option available.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jesse Mendez, KSU	Barbara Bichelmeyer, KU	John Fritch, Washburn
Brent Thomas, ESU	Jill Arensdorf, FHSU	Shirley Lefever, WSU
Robert Klein, KUMC	Susan Bon, PSU	

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Provost Brent Thomas moved that the minutes of the September 18, 2024, meeting be approved. Following the second of Provost Jesse Mendez, the motion carried.

COUNCIL OF FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENTS UPDATE

Council of Faculty Senate Presidents Chair Norman Philipp provided an update, announcing that their discussions will shift to focus on AI in Kansas higher education. This topic was introduced at the last COCAO meeting.

FIRST READING

BA & BGS IN HEALTH & SOCIETY – KU

Provost Barbara Bichelmeyer presented the first reading for the BA & BGS in Health & Society at the University of Kansas. Professor Joane Nagel, Associate Professor Tracey LaPierre, and Professor Saint Onge from the University of Kansas shared information about the presented program.

PSM IN ENVIRONMENTAL GEOLOGY – KU

Provost Barbara Bichelmeyer presented the first reading for the PSM in Environmental Geology at the University of Kansas. Program Director Marcia Shulmeister from the University of Kansas shared information about the presented program.

OTHER MATTERS

REQUESTS FOR APPROVAL – KU

Provost Barbara Bichelmeyer presented a request for approval to merge the BAS Biotechnology with the BS Applied Biological Sciences resulting in the BS Biotechnology. Several degree name change requests were presented. The name change requests included changing the PhD Applied Behavioral Science to PhD Behavioral Psychology, changing the MA Leadership in Diversity & Inclusion to the MA Leadership Studies, and changing the MSE Educational Technology to the MSE Learning Design. Provost Jill Arensdorf moved to approve these requests as presented. Following the second from Provost Jesse Mendez, the motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSS OPPORTUNITIES FROM UNIVERSITIES

Provost Shirley Lefever shared that Wichita State University is working on program proposals to be presented in December for approval. These proposals will enhance the university's partnership with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (BATFE) on its campus.

Vice President of Academic Affairs Rusty Monhollon revisited the discussion on AI, noting that he will explore resources to share with institutions and identify ways for KBOR to facilitate roundtable discussions among all

institutions. He also informed the group that he has been in discussions about KBOR possibly joining the Civic Learning and Democracy Coalition.

Provost Robert Klein shared that the University of Kansas Medical Center will have name changes to present for the December meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Susan Bon provided a reminder that the next COCAO meeting will be held on December 18th.

ADJOURNMENT

Provost Jesse Mendez moved that the meeting be adjourned. Following the second of Provost Jill Arensdorf, the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:41 a.m.