

**KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS
COUNCIL OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICERS
MINUTES
DECEMBER 18, 2024**

The December 18, 2024, meeting of the Council of Chief Academic Officers was called to order by Chair Susan Bon at 9:25 a.m. The meeting was held at the Curtis State Office Building, 1000 S.W. Jackson, Suite 530, Topeka.

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	Rusty Monhollon, KBOR (<i>ex officio</i>)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Brent Thomas moved that the minutes of the November 20, 2024, meeting be approved. Following Shirley Lefever's second, it was carried unanimously.

COUNCIL OF FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENTS UPDATE

Norman Philipp shared the items the Council of Faculty Senate Presidents has been working on. These items include updating the KBOR faculty award to include additional faculty roles and responsibilities, discussing AI in higher education, and keeping faculty updated on current developments within KBOR.

FIRST READING

PHD IN EDUCATION AND BEHAVIORAL STUDIES - WSU

Wichita State University Provost Shirley Lefever introduced Dr. Jennifer Friend, Dean of the College of Applied Studies at WSU. Dr. Friend introduced Dr. Clay Stoldt, Associate Dean, and Dr. Phil Mullins, Co-Chair of the Department of Intervention Services and Educational Leadership. Dr. Mullins shared that WSU's proposed program will include tracks in both Educational Psychology and Counselor Education and Supervision. This will allow the institution to maximize resources and create a 60-hour program with 30 credits of a shared core curriculum focused on research and teaching. The remaining credits are differentiated into specialty areas. WSU has a strong core faculty to support these programs. The Educational Psychology Ed.D. program is being expanded into a Ph.D. The program aims to create a clinically focused counselor education program. WSU has a mental health-focused clinic to provide training to these students as supervisors. Clay Stoldt added that the program will seek to receive CACREP accreditation.

SECOND READING

BA & BGS IN HEALTH & SOCIETY – KU

Provost Bichelmeyer noted that KU did not receive any questions regarding this program. Provost Lefever moved to approve the BA & BGS in Health & Society at KU. Following a second by Provost Arensdorf, the motion carried unanimously.

PSM IN ENVIRONMENTAL GEOLOGY – KU

Provost Bichelmeyer noted that KU has responded to questions from KSU regarding this program. Provost Thomas moved to approve the PSM in Environmental Geology at KU. Following a second by Provost Lefever, the motion carried unanimously.

OTHER MATTERS**REQUEST APPROVAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF MA IN SLAVIC LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE TO SLAVIC AND EURASIAN STUDIES**

Provost Bichelmeyer shared that this name change will reflect the merger between the master's programs in Slavic Languages and Literature and Eastern European and Eurasian Studies. Provost Arensdorf moved to approve this name change. Following a second by Provost Lefever, the motion carried unanimously.

REQUEST APPROVAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF PHD IN HEALTH POLICY AND MANAGEMENT TO POPULATION HEALTH - KUMC

Jarron Saint Onge shared that KUMC is requesting a name change to better reflect a recent merger in the Department of Population Health. There are no course or credit changes associated with this name change. Provost Mendez moved to approve the name change. Following a second by Provost Arensdorf, the motion carried unanimously.

REQUEST APPROVAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF MS IN HEALTH DATA SCIENCE TO HEALTH DATA SCIENCE AND INFORMATICS - KUMC

Associate Professor and Assistant Director of Graduate Education in the Department of Biostatistics and Data Science Prabhakar Chalise shared that the requested name change would reflect the addition of health informatics courses to the existing program. Students will have the choice between health data science courses and health informatics courses. Other requirements will remain the same. Provost Arensdorf moved to approve the name change. Following a second by Provost Thomas, the motion carried unanimously.

REQUEST APPROVAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF THE SCHOOL OF APPLIED AND INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES TO THE COLLEGE OF APPLIED AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES – KSU (OLATHE CAMPUS)

Provost Mendez explained that the request aims to better reflect the purpose and direction of the Olathe campus. Provost Bichelmeyer moved to approve the name change. Following a second by Provost Thomas, the motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSS OPPORTUNITIES FROM UNIVERSITIES

Provost Bichelmeyer shared that the following degree programs are making their way through the internal approval process at KU: Bachelor of Science and Minor in Data Science, Bachelor of Science and Minor in Statistics, Bachelor of Science in Nutrition, and Bachelor of Science in Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Susan Bon announced that the next COCAO meeting will be held on January 15, 2025, with a virtual option.

ADJOURNMENT

Provost Thomas moved that the meeting be adjourned. Following the second of Provost Lefever, the motion was passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.