

**KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS
SYSTEM COUNCIL OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICERS**

**VIRTUAL MEETING AGENDA
Wednesday, June 14, 2023
8:30 – 9:00 a.m.**

The System Council of Chief Academic Officers (SCOCAO) will meet virtually via Zoom. An in-person option will be available at the Curtis State Office Building at 1000 SW Jackson, Suite 530, Topeka, Kansas, 66612. Meeting information will be sent to participants via email, or you may contact arobinson@ksbor.org.

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| I. Call to Order | Mickey McCloud, Co-Chair | |
| A. Roll Call and Introductions | | |
| B. Approve Minutes from May 17, 2023 | | p. 3 |
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| II. Transfer and Articulation Council (TAAC) Update | Jane Holwerda | |
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| III. Other Matters | | |
| A. Systemwide Transfer Associate Degree in Elementary Education Discussion | Paul Adams, FHSU | p. 5 |
| B. Discuss Fiscal Impact for Kansas Free Application Week | Tara Lebar | p. 11 |
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| IV. Next SCOCAO Meeting – September 20th, 2023 | | |
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| V. Adjournment | | |

SYSTEM COUNCIL OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICERS

The System Council of Chief Academic Officers (SCOCAO), established in 2002, is composed of the six chief academic officers of the state universities, four chief academic officers selected by the nineteen community colleges, one chief academic officer selected by the six technical colleges, and the chief academic officer of Washburn University. The Board’s Vice-President for Academic Affairs serves as an ex officio member. The Committee meets in person on the morning of the first day of the monthly Board meeting. Membership includes:

Mickey McCloud, Co-Chair	JCCC
Barbara Bichelmeyer, Co-Chair	KU
Aron Potter	Coffeyville CC
Jane Holwerda	Dodge City CC
R. Brent Thomas	ESU
Jill Arensdorf	FHSU
Charles Taber	K-State
Sarah Robb	Neosho County CC
Howard Smith	PSU
Laura Stephenson (Interim)	Washburn
Shirley Lefever	WSU
Scott Lucas	WSU Tech
Daniel Archer	KBOR

System Council of Chief Academic Officers AY 2024 Meeting Schedule

<i>Tentative SCOCAO Academic Year 2023- 2024 Meeting Dates</i>		
Meeting Dates	Location (virtual or in-person)	Institutional Materials Due
September 20, 2023	TBD	August 30, 2023
October 18, 2023	TBD	September 27, 2023
November 15, 2023	TBD	October 25, 2023
December 20, 2023	TBD	November 29, 2023
January 17, 2024	TBD	December 27, 2023
February 14, 2024	TBD	January 24, 2024
March 20, 2024	TBD	February 28, 2024
April 17, 2024	TBD	March 27, 2024
May 15, 2024	TBD	April 24, 2024
June 19, 2024	TBD	May 29, 2024

*SCOCAO meets at 8:30 a.m. unless otherwise noted.

**System Council of Chief Academic Officers
MINUTES**

Wednesday, May 17, 2023

The May 17, 2023, System Council of Chief Academic Officers (SCOCAO) meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Mickey McCloud at 8:40 a.m. The meeting was held virtually through Zoom with an in-person option at the KBOR offices.

In Attendance:

Members:	Mickey McCloud, JCCC Chuck Taber, K-State Brent Thomas, ESU Shirley Lefever, WSU Scott Lucas, WSU Tech	Barbara Bichelmeyer, KU Howard Smith, PSU Sarah Robb, Neosho County CC Jane Holwerda, Dodge City CC	Aron Potter, Coffeyville CC Jill Arensdorf, FHSU Laura Stephenson, Washburn Daniel Archer, KBOR
Staff:	Amy Robinson Tara Lebar	Karla Wiscombe Charmine Chambers	Sam Christy-Dangermond Marti Leisinger
Others:	Andrew Hippisley, WSU Ashlie Jack, WSU Elaine Simmons, Barton CC Jean Redeker, KU JoLanna Kord, ESU Kristen Kremer, K-State Melanie Wallace, Allen CC NWKTC Representatives Sharon Kibbe, Highland CC Tom Nevill, Butler CC Susan Dumler, FHSU Steven Skinner, WSU Vincent Bowhay, Indy CC	Andy Howe, ESU Brett Whitaker, FHSU Janice Stover, Cowley CC Jennifer Ball, Washburn Karen Johnson, PSU Linnea GlenMaye, WSU Monette DePew, Pratt CC Robert Klein, KUMC Tanya Gonzalez, K-State Tricia Paramore, Hutchinson CC Brad Bennett, SCCC Seth Carter, Colby CC	Angela Pool-Funai, FHSU Cheryl Giefer, PSU Jason Sharp, Labette CC Jennifer Callis, SATC Kim Zant, Cloud County CC Luke Dowell, SCCC Mary Carol Pomatto, PSU Seth Kastle, FHSU Taylor Crawshaw, Independence CC Victor H. Gonzalez, KU Susan Castro, WSU Amber Knoettgen, Cloud County CC

Roll call was taken for members and presenters.

Approval of Minutes

Steve Loewen moved to approve April 19, 2023, meeting minutes, and Jill Arensdorf seconded the motion. With no corrections, the motion passed.

Transfer and Articulation Council (TAAC) Update

Jane Holwerda presented the TAAC update. The Council did not meet in May. An email has been sent to Chief Academic Officers requesting to submit preliminary course information for four new courses for the October 6, 2023, Kansas Core Outcomes Groups Conference. TAAC recommends that each institution checks the Transfer Portal to ensure the accuracy of the current 116 Systemwide Transfer (SWT) courses.

Other Matters

- Karla Wiscombe presented the Concurrent/Dual Enrollment Report found at https://www.kansasregents.org/academic_affairs/dual-credit-cooperative-agreements/high-school-enrollments. This report previously consisted of only concurrent enrollment, and it has evolved to include concurrent, dual, and CTE enrollment information. She reviewed data on Kansas high school student enrollments in public higher education available on the [Kansas Higher Education Statistics](#)

[\(KHEStats\)](#) website.

- Tara Lebar summarized the 2022 Advanced Placement (AP) reports. The 2022 AP Summary Report for both 2-year and 4-year institutions can be found at https://www.kansasregents.org/academic_affairs/credit_for_prior_learning/ap-clep-exams. Tara noted the following:
 - Data show increases in sectors for the number of test-takers, exam scores reported, and scores of three or above
 - College Board changed its AP Summary Report format to include new data points and may be interesting for institutions to review
- Sam Christy-Dangermond provided a reminder on the AY 2022 Performance Reports. The AY 2022 performance reports were emailed to institutional contacts on April 17, with a due date of June 30. If an institution hasn't received theirs, please get in touch with Sam at schristy@ksbor.org.
- Mickey McCloud presented a KCIA update. They have had conversations over the year with high school partners on dual credit and ways to mitigate the loss of HLC-qualified staff who deliver these courses. They also support the 4-year institution's interest in the importance of an AA degree and look forward to working with them to make reverse transfer more deliverable. The KCIA summer retreat is scheduled for June 8-9th, where they will look at ways to work with the system towards positive improvements.

Adjournment

The next SCOCAO meeting is scheduled virtually for June 14, 2023, at 8:30 a.m.

Barbara Bichelmeyer moved to adjourn the meeting, and Brent Thomas seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:59 a.m.

Summary

Systemwide associate-to-baccalaureate program transfer provides an avenue to simplify the transfer process for students and academic advisors, reduce cost of degree, decrease time to degree, and increase baccalaureate completion. Background information on the benefits of systemwide transfer associate degrees and a copy of the first systemwide transfer associate degree in Kansas, an Associate in Arts/Science Degree in Elementary Education, is detailed herein.

June 14, 2023

- *Affordability – On Time Graduation*
- *Success – Degrees and Certificates Earned*
- *Access – Enrollment Equity Gaps*

Background

A systemwide program transfer approach is intended to preserve credits and establish a clear transfer pathway between community colleges and universities.¹ As a result, this approach creates a concrete trajectory in which all courses completed within an earned associate degree transfer and apply toward the completion of specific baccalaureate degree requirements. Implementing a systemwide associate-to-baccalaureate transfer model is advantageous to students, states, universities, and community colleges for a multitude of reasons. Among others, the benefits include:

Benefits to the Student

- Provides a shorter path to completion, thereby reducing time-to-degree²
- Decreases the cost of the degree²
- Creates more flexibility and increases options for students³

Benefits to the State

- Increases efficiencies and reduces course redundancy³
- Saves state costs associated with excessive credits²
- Aligns with the KBOR Strategic Plan – Promotes affordability, retention, and completion

Benefits to the University

- Provides an opportunity to attract more non-traditional students as universities adapt to recruiting from smaller high school graduating classes⁴
- Establishes an opportunity to have a larger population of junior transfer students, which could increase the demand for upper-division coursework⁴
- Simplifies transfer student advising and streamlines degree audits because the transferability has previously been determined⁵

¹ Gross, B., & Goldhaber, D. D. (2009). *Community college transfer and articulation policies: Looking beneath the surface*. Bothell, WA: Center on Reinventing Public Education, University of Washington.

² Root, M. (2013). *Essential elements of state policy for college completion*. Retrieved from http://publications.sreb.org/2013/013_ess_elem_tran_courses.pdf

³ Kisker, C. B., Wagoner, R. L., & Cohen, A. M. (2012). Elements of effective transfer associate degrees. *New Directions for Community Colleges*, 2012(160), 5-11.

⁴ Jenkins, D., Kadlec, A., & Votruba, J. (2014). *Maximizing resources for student success: The business case for regional public universities to strengthen community college transfer pathways*. Retrieved from http://hcmstrategists.com/maximizingresources/images/Transfer_Pathways_Paper.pdf

⁵ Manz, N. (2015). *The transfer handbook: promoting student success*. Washington, DC: American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers.

- Creates opportunities to increase baccalaureate degree completion (transfer students who have an associate degree are more likely to earn a baccalaureate degree)⁶

Benefits to the Community College

- Creates opportunity to increase associate degree completion⁷
- Simplifies transfer student advising⁵

Core Components in a Systemwide Associate-to-Baccalaureate Transfer Framework

A review of practitioner and scholarly literature revealed that three components are commonly cited when establishing a systemwide associate-to-baccalaureate program transfer model.

- Developing a common general education (GE) package^{2,3}
- Examining associate and/or baccalaureate degree credit limits³
- Creating a framework in which program courses transfer as a block without the loss of credit^{1,2}

The Board approved the systemwide GE package in June 2022 that will take effect in Fall 2024, so the wheels are in motion to implement the first bullet. Additionally, credit hour limits were also examined in 2020 and 2021, and policy was subsequently revised to allow a university to increase the total number of credit hours that it can accept from two-year colleges.

Creating a framework in which program courses transfer as a block without the loss of credit

In Kansas, transferring a block of program courses has primarily been based upon a university establishing a set of bilateral agreements with community colleges. Thus, if a university wishes to establish a program transfer agreement with each community college in the state, it must develop 19 individual agreements. This is cumbersome for universities and community colleges and necessitates ongoing oversight because any program change made by either party triggers a need to re-examine and revise the agreement.

In addition to bilateral agreements with community colleges, universities also have transfer guides that specify program-specific courses from community colleges that will transfer. While this is a helpful resource, a transfer guide does not guarantee that community college credits will transfer because it may change between the point at which the student took the course at the community college and the date in which he/she is admitted to the university.⁸

On account of the challenges and limitations associated with transferring program-specific courses, multiple states have established systemwide associate degrees in which a block of program-specific courses transfer and apply toward the completion of baccalaureate degrees in like programs.³ This has been executed by using pre-major and early-major courses to 1) fulfill the program portion of associate of arts/science degrees and 2) satisfy specific baccalaureate degree course requirements, without the loss of credit. This model aligns program-specific courses across community colleges and universities, which, in turn, reduces course overlap and eliminates the need to repeat similar courses at the university. This has occurred in states such as Colorado, Tennessee, and Ohio.

First Systemwide Transfer Associate Degree in Kansas

In 2022-2023, education deans at the six state universities and Washburn University collaborated on creating the first systemwide transfer associate degree, an Associate in Arts/Science Degree in Elementary Education. This degree will take effect Fall 2024.

This is a program that meets both student demand and employer need. Elementary education is the number one transfer program selected by Kansas community college students transferring to Kansas public universities. Additionally, teacher shortage is becoming increasingly more challenging, particularly in rural areas. Creating

⁶ Shapiro, D., Dundar, A., Ziskin, M., Chiang, Y.-C., Chen, J., Harrell, A., & Torres, V. (2013). *Baccalaureate attainment: A national view of the postsecondary outcomes of students who transfer from two-year to four-year institutions* (Signature Report No. 5). Herndon, VA: National Student Clearinghouse Research Center.

⁷ Spencer, G. (2017). *Improving transfer pathways: the impact of statewide articulation policies* (Doctoral dissertation).

⁸ Schudde, L. (2019). *Why Texas should mandate that associate degree credits can be readily transferred from two- to four-year colleges*. Retrieved from <https://scholars.org/contribution/why-texas-should-mandate-associate-degree-credits-can-be-readily-transferred-two-four>

more direct transfer pipelines for community college students – many of which grew up in rural communities that have been adversely impacted by teacher shortage – will help support efforts to meet this important need. A copy of the Systemwide Transfer Associate in Arts/Science Degree in Elementary Education is included on the next page. Additional systemwide transfer associate degrees will be added in future years.

60-student credit hour transfer program in elementary education framework 06/05/23

Elementary AA/AS 60 Credit Hour Program to KBOR Transfer (PK-6 Pathway)

Overview

The intent of the plan is to provide an expedited pathway from any community college to any KBOR Institution Elementary Program for individuals desiring to become an elementary teacher. The pathway identifies sixty credit hours to be taken at the community college level and reflect the KBOR General Education plan “buckets” (https://www.kansasregents.org/academic_affairs/general-education/seven-bucket-framework) and recommended education coursework.

These sixty hours are transferred to any KBOR institution as the first sixty hours towards a 120-hour degree program. The remaining sixty hours at the KBOR Institution are the required courses to complete an elementary degree. Adoption and implementation of the plan will require frank and deep discussions between the KBOR schools and community colleges to move this effort from conception to implementation to assure coherence and fidelity of elementary teacher preparation in Kansas.

KBOR General Education Program (34-35 Credit Hours)

Bucket #1	English Discipline Area+	Credit Hours: 6
English Composition 1	ENG1010	3
English Composition 2	ENG1020	3
Bucket #2	Communications Discipline Area+	Credit Hours: 3
Fundamentals of Oral Communications	COM1010	
	OR	3
Interpersonal Communications	COM1020	
Bucket #3	Mathematics & Statistics Discipline Area+ (Note: Future revision dependent on KBOR Math Pathway Project)	Credit Hours: 3
College Algebra	MAT1010	
	OR	3
Elements of Statistics	MAT1020	
Bucket #4	Natural & Physical Sciences Discipline Area+	Credit Hours: 4-5 from One Subject (must include a lab)
Life Science	Any life science within Bucket #4	4 -5
Bucket #5	Social and Behavioral Sciences Discipline Area+	Credit Hours: 6 hours in a least two courses from two subject areas

Bucket 5 options to come from two of the following areas: Anthropology, Economics, Geography, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology*		6
Bucket #6	Arts & Humanities Discipline Area+	Credit Hours: 6 in at least two courses from two subject areas
United States History to 1877 OR United States History Since 1877	HIS1010 OR HIS1020	3
Fine Art: Open Elective from Art, Music, or Theatre	Any ART, MUSIC, THEATRE, LITERATURE within the Bucket	3
Bucket #7	Elementary Designated Area+	Credit Hours: 6
Choose two courses from the identified list	As part of the Elementary Program Universal Transfer Plan this is a deviation from Bucket #7 Institutionally Designated Plan. The course cannot have been used in another bucket.	
American Government	POL1020	
	OR	3
Cultural Diversity and Ethnicity	SOC2030	
	AND	
One Free Elective	One Free Elective from Buckets # 1-6	3
	TOTAL CREDIT HOURS	34-35

Teacher Education Program (25 - 26 Credit Hours)

Recommended Courses	Systemwide Transfer Designator+	Credit Hours
Introduction to Education	EDU1010	3
Children's Literature	EDU2010	3
Human Life Span/Developmental Psychology	PSY2020	3
Creative Expressions	Choose <u>one that has not been used to fulfill general education requirements:</u> ART2020 Art in the Elementary Classroom MUS2010 Music in the Elementary Classroom, OR HSC2020 Elementary School PE & Health	2- 3
Physical Science/Physics Course	Any physical science/physics course within Bucket 4	4-5
Educating Exceptional Students	EDU2020	3
Technology for Teachers	EDU2030	3
Free Elective in Education	<i>Free Elective from any Education Course that has not been used to meet other requirements PREFERENCE FOR AN</i>	2-3

	<i>EDUCATION COURSE or early childhood course BUT NOT LIMITED</i>	
Open Elective** – to complete 60 Credit Hours	Open Elective within the System Wide Transfer List to complete a minimum of 60 credit hours for transfer	0 - 3
	TOTAL	26
	GRAND TOTAL (GE and EDUCATION)	60 - 61

+References for Systemwide transfer identification:

https://www.kansasregents.org/resources/PDF/SWT/2023_June_Disciplines_One-Page.pdf

https://www.kansasregents.org/academic_affairs/transfer-articulation

https://www.kansasregents.org/academic_affairs/transfer-articulation/institutional-transfer-information

*Advising Note: Review local community college requirements for PSY2020 HUMAN LIFE SPAN/DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY to determine if PSY1010 INTRO TO PSYCHOLOGY. is a prerequisite. If it is, take PSY1010 INTRO TO PSYCHOLOGY in Bucket 5.

**Depending on the courses taken and credit hours awarded, the student may need additional coursework to reach the minimum 60 credit hours for transfer.

1. Kansas Free Application Days October 17-19, 2023

- Access – Enrollment Equity Gap
- Access – College Going Rate

Summary and Staff Recommendation

Create Kansas Free Application Days during the month of October. For three days, October 17-19, 2023, Kansas residents regardless of age or income could apply to any baccalaureate, associate or certificate program at any of our Kansas Universities or Community Colleges for free and we would see if the Technical Colleges or Private Colleges would want to join the campaign. These dates coincide with the Apply Kansas Application month and occur before many of the scholarship priority deadlines for public universities. It would remove the cost barrier for high school seniors and adult Kansas residents who could be thinking about pursuing an undergraduate level certificate, associate degree or baccalaureate degree. With a marketing campaign, this could encourage Kansans to invest in their future through pursuing postsecondary education.

Background

Five years ago, Colorado started an Apply Free day for all residents. Starting with one day in October and by utilizing cable marketing spots advertising in both English and Spanish, residents were given the opportunity to apply free to all undergraduate programs at all state public and some private Colorado colleges and universities. In 2020 their third year, they saw a one-day total of 56,896 applications, a 28% increase over the first year, 44% of those applications were submitted by students of color, 28% submitted by first-generation students and almost 2,000 transfer applications. With the growth they had seen in the program and the madness of processing that many applications in one 24-hour period, Colorado changed to a 3-day window in 2021 and saw an increase in each category over the prior years.

Staff Recommendation

In conjunction with the Apply Kansas efforts, staff recommends creating Kansas Free Application Days this fall on October 17-19, 2023. All residents of Kansas who are applying for undergraduate programs at state public universities and community colleges would be eligible to submit their admission applications for free starting Tuesday, October 17, 2023 through Thursday, October 19, 2023. Undergraduate programs include undergraduate level certificates, associate, and baccalaureate degrees. This means all of the following applicants are eligible: First-time Freshmen, Transfer Students, Returning Students, and Applicants seeking a second bachelor’s degree. (Applicants for graduate-level programs are not eligible).

The actual admission application must be submitted through midnight on Thursday, Oct 19 to be eligible to have the application fee waived. However, applicants can and are encouraged to begin filling out the application before this time. The application just needs to be submitted during this three-day period. (All colleges and universities have application fee waivers for financial hardship during the entire year. As such, students with financial need may continue to submit fee waivers with their application before or after the Free Application Days.)

As the state continues to look for ways to increase the college-going rate and FAFSA completion, initiatives like this could inspire Kansans, of all ages, who have been thinking about continuing their education to take that first step. While this will benefit Kansans of all ages, Colorado’s data has shown that the biggest benefit will be seen from students of color, first-generation and transfer students. By removing barriers for students to pursue a credential, Kansas can create opportunities to increase the number of students who complete their programs and enter the workforce with a degree or competitive skills.

(Model based on [Colorado Free Application Days](#))

Student Advisory Committee Feedback

In March 2023 this proposal was shared with the Student Advisory Committee members soliciting their feedback. Staff received responses both via email and verbally at their meeting on March 22, 2023. Several members shared the proposal with their University President prior to the March 22, meeting. The overwhelming comments were positive regarding an initiative that encourages more access to higher education. The following comment was shared via email,

“My youngest brother, who wasn’t sure what he wanted to do after high school, filled out his first college application when FHSU hosted a free application day. He is now a Tiger, happy with his decision. I also trust the argument that this initiative will benefit students of color and first-generation college students, for which FHSU is home to many. This week would increase accessibility to higher education for Kansans, which I see as a benefit to both the students and the universities.”

While the conversation was mostly positive, the student representatives voiced some challenges their institutions had about lost revenue from these free application days. Would it be possible to replace this lost revenue? Would it be better to start with three days rather than a full week might be a better way to start the program. They encouraged staff to carry the program forward for further consideration.

Following the suggestion from the Student Advisory Committee and conversation from the Board of Academic Affairs Subcommittee meeting on May 17, 2023, the proposal has been adjusted from a five-day to a three-day free application program.