

**KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS**  
**BOARD ACADEMIC AFFAIRS STANDING COMMITTEE**  
MINUTES  
JUNE 11, 2025

Regent Diana Mendoza called the June 11, 2025, Board Academic Affairs Standing Committee meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. The meeting was held in the Kathy Rupp conference room, located in the Curtis State Office Building, 1000 S.W. Jackson, Suite 520, Topeka, KS 66612.

MEMBERS PRESENT:           Regent Diana Mendoza  
                                  Regent Alysia Johnston  
                                  Regent Neelima Parasker  
                                  Regent Kathy Wolfe Moore

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Regent Johnston moved that the minutes of the May 28, 2025, meeting be approved. Regent Parasker seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

**BOARD CONSENT ITEMS**

**RECEIVE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON BOARD GOAL No. 5 (ALTERNATIVE CREDENTIALS)**

Vice President of Finance and Administration Elaine Frisbie provided an update on Board Goal No. 5 regarding alternative credentials. The Board requested the Council of Institutional Researchers (CIRO) develop recommendations for a framework and definitions for reporting industry-recognized credentials.

To support this initiative, CIRO convened alongside a subcommittee composed of university experts in alternative credentials and continuing education to evaluate the national and state-level landscape. Although several national organizations are actively working to define alternative credentials and establish flexible frameworks for data sharing, the field remains fluid and continues to evolve.

In light of these conditions, CIRO specifically focused on the Board's goal for reporting industry-recognized credentials and identifying the types of offerings provided by Kansas public universities. CIRO recommended replacing the term "industry-recognized" with "workforce-aligned" to reflect the scope and intent of credentialing initiatives more accurately. The subcommittee also proposed a set of high-level definitions to guide reporting and data collection. Additionally, CIRO recommended that the Board Academic Affairs Standing Committee (BAASC) be tasked with further examining the issue and determining appropriate next steps.

Vice President Frisbie emphasized that further work is necessary, particularly in developing effective methods for collecting data from institutions. Accordingly, this item will not be presented for action at this time.

**OTHER MATTERS**

**AAS IN FOOD & FEED MANUFACTURING UPDATE**

Provost Mendez reported that faculty have completed a review of the course descriptions for the Cowley County Community College Flour Milling Certificates. It is anticipated that all milling courses will be applicable to the proposed Associate of Applied Science (AAS) in Food and Feed Manufacturing, either as required coursework or electives.

Although the courses will not follow a true one-plus-one credit structure, students who have completed the Cowley certificates may be eligible to apply up to 30 credit hours toward the proposed AAS degree at Kansas State University. In addition, students will have the option to enroll in online courses for both programs concurrently.

A meeting has been requested with Cowley leadership to initiate the development of an articulation agreement.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS UPDATES

Vice President for Academic Affairs Rusty Monhollon introduced Dr. Rochelle Rowley, a Professor at Emporia State University, as the incoming Chair of the Council of Faculty Senate Presidents for the 2026 academic year. He also announced that Associate Director Mistie Knox will be departing from the Kansas Board of Regents. The Committee extended its congratulations and expressed appreciation for her dedicated service.

Vice President Monhollon further provided a correction to the update on the Rural Talent Development and Attraction Laboratory that was shared at the previous meeting. He clarified that Kansas was selected for a site visit, which occurred on June 3. Kansas is one of six finalists under consideration for the project. He expressed gratitude to all participating institutions and state agencies for their involvement.

A final decision regarding the selected states is expected by the end of the month, at which time Vice President Monhollon will provide an update.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next BAASC meeting will be held in September 2025.

ADJOURNMENT

Regent Parasker moved that the meeting be adjourned. Regent Wolfe Moore seconded, and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 11:18 a.m.