

**Kansas Board of Regents
Board Academic Affairs Standing Committee**

**MINUTES
Tuesday, March 2, 2021**

The March 2, 2021 meeting of the Board Academic Affairs Standing Committee (BAASC) of the Kansas Board of Regents was called to order by Regent Kiblinger at 11:00 a.m. The meeting was held by Zoom.

In Attendance:

Members:	Regent Kiblinger, Chair	Regent Schmidt	Regent Van Etten
Staff:	Daniel Archer Amy Robinson April Henry Cindy Farrier	Karla Wiscombe Sam Christy-Dangermond Charmine Chambers	Tara Lebar Jennifer Armour Crystal Puderbaugh
Others:	Adam Borth, Fort Scott CC Ben Wolfe, KU David Cordle, ESU Heather Morgan, KACCT Jean Redeker, KU Kim Morse, Washburn Matt Schuette, KUMC Monette DePew, Pratt CC Robert Klein, KUMC Sarah Leftwich, WSU Tech Steve Loewen, FHTC	Brian Niehoff, K-State Erin Shaw, Highland CC Howard Smith, PSU Jill Arensdorf, FHSU Kaye Monk-Morgan, WSU Linnea GlenMaye, ESU Mickey McCloud, JCCC Shirley Lefever, WSU Sharon Kibbe, Highland CC Scott Lucas, WSU Tech Sandy Valenti, ESU	Amber Knoettgen, Cloud County CC Cindy Hoss, Hutchinson CC Elaine Simmons, Barton County CC Jerry Pope, KCKCC Jane Holwerda, Dodge City CC Kim Zant, Cloud County CC Lori Winningham, Butler CC Mark Allen, Independence CC Michelle Schoon, Cowley CC Sarah Robb, Neosho County CC

Regent Kiblinger welcomed everyone. Roll call was taken for members and presenters.

Approval of Minutes

Regent Schmidt moved to approve the February 17, 2021 meeting minutes, and Regent Van Etten seconded the motion. With no corrections, the motion passed.

Consent Agenda

- David Cordle presented the ESU request for a Master of Arts in Applied Sociology. David noted the program intends to prepare students directly for work in the service sector, and it's not a traditional research-based Master's program. It does not require a thesis but requires practicum work with social service or law enforcement agencies as a culminating project. David also stated it's a 7-week accelerated online program that provides an ongoing schedule with multiple entry points.

Regent Schmidt asked why an additional expert faculty member wasn't being brought in until the third year. David responded that the curriculum is phased in gradually, and it is more economical not to bring in resources until they are needed. Regent Van Etten asked what the breakdown is between tuition and state funds. Sam Christy-Dangermond clarified that on page 17 of the agenda, these funds were primarily from tuition. Regent Kiblinger asked if the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) information ESU provided is always provided in proposals (indicating the GRE is not required for admission to the program). David responded that he does not usually see this included, and he does see a steady progression away from requiring the GRE. He noted ESU has found over time the GRE is not a particularly accurate or useful indicator of who is ready for graduate work. While they still have a small

number of graduate programs that require it, he noted undergraduate-level academic records are more useful. Regent Schmidt asked if there was an impact on their space utilization, and David responded there was zero impact.

- Jean Redeker and Ben Wolfe presented the KU request for approval to pursue programmatic accreditation for its Master of Engineering and its Master of Science in Project Management from the Global Accreditation Center of Project Management Education Programs (GAC). KU currently offers these programs through the School of Professional Studies at the KU Edwards Campus. Ben Wolfe stated their request is in response to feedback they received from their Workforce Advisory Board. Accreditation will help strengthen the program, help demonstrate the program's quality, grow enrollment, and aid in student recruitment. Ben noted the program accreditation would align with their peers to make it a more competitive program. The total cost for initial accreditation is \$16,000, with an annual fee of \$2,500 thereafter. No questions were presented.
- Regent Van Etten motioned to approve the ESU and KU requests to the Board March consent agenda. Regent Schmidt seconded, and the motion passed unanimously through a roll call vote.

Discussion Agenda

Daniel presented proposed revisions to the New Academic Units and Academic Programs policy. On January 20, BAASC requested revisions to this policy to ensure community and technical colleges are included in the comment period when universities seek to offer associate degrees. No questions were presented.

Regent Schmidt motioned to move the New Academic Units and Academic Program policy changes to the Board March discussion agenda. Regent Van Etten seconded, and the motion passed unanimously through a roll call vote.

SARA Report

Jennifer Armour presented the yearly State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) report. SARA allows the accredited degree-granting institutions to offer distance education in member states without having to seek individual state approval. Members include all states except California. Within these states, over 2,000 institutions participate, with 44 of those institutions in Kansas. Each year participating institutions provide distance education enrollment data. The 2019 data shows over 16,000 out-of-state students enrolled in participating SARA institutions and over 11,000 Kansas students enrolled in out-of-state participating institutions. SARA provisions cover a limited number of out-of-state learning placements, including clinical rotations, student teaching, and internships outside a student's institution home state. These are reported by the Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Code. SARA data is reported by calendar year and includes all placements, not just those associated with distance education. The 2019 data also shows over 3,800 out-of-state students placed in Kansas and over 4,500 Kansas students placed out-of-state. Most of these placements were related to health professions and related program CIP Codes. Jennifer noted that the SARA Institutional Cost Savings Study results would be available in the upcoming months. The cost study outlines savings associated with SARA participation and will include individual state reports. No questions were presented.

Discuss Potential Follow-Up for New Academic Program Reviewing

Sam Christy-Dangermond provided information on a potential follow-up report for new academic programs. Universities have new programs approved by the Board every year, and each new program proposal includes estimates on the number of students they expect for enrollment over the first few years. Once a new program is approved by the Board program, reporting to the Board is typically limited to once every eight years through regular program review, and it could be up to eight years before the Board hears how a new program is doing, so there is a need for a timelier update on new programs. Academic Affairs proposed to look at programs approved two years ago, in AY 2018-19, and provide BAASC a report next month on the numbers of students enrolled in the programs for the first and second years.

Regent Kiblinger asked if this report puts any burden on the institutions. Sam responded Academic Affairs will compile the report, and institutions would be given the opportunity to review their list of new programs and prepare for potential questions. Regents discussed if it was best to be on a two- or three-year schedule. It was clarified that based on the report, BAASC could request a follow-up if they felt it was necessary. Regent Kiblinger noted she would like to see the original estimates for the first three years provided in the report. Regent Schmidt asked if they should also be looking at adjusting the minimum number of majors for program review, perhaps differentiating between regional and research universities, based on overall enrollments. Daniel responded that he has not seen this done in other states. Regent Schmidt asked about the origin of the minimum requirement for the number of majors (25). It was clarified that COCAO determined the minimum in 1997. Regent Van Etten noted they should use one consistent criterion instead of adjusting the number for different institutions. Regent Kiblinger pointed out that when BAASC looks at the report, they can consider if it is a research or regional institution.

Regents agreed that looking back over three years would be best. Academic Affairs will provide a report of programs approved during AY 2018 and will provide the estimates and actual numbers of students enrolled in the programs for the first three years. Each institution will be provided its list prior to BAASC's review of the report. No motion is required, and Academic Affairs will provide the report in April.

Adjournment

The next BAASC meeting is March 17, 2021, at 10:15 a.m. Board members, Presidents, and Board staff plan to meet in person, but all others will attend virtually.

Regent Van Etten moved to adjourn the meeting, and Regent Schmidt seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 11:42 a.m.