

**Board Academic Affairs Standing Committee
MINUTES
Tuesday, June 4, 2024**

The June 4, 2024, meeting of the Board Academic Affairs Standing Committee (BAASC) of the Kansas Board of Regents was called to order by Regent Lane at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was held in person at the Board office, with a virtual option available.

In Attendance:

Members: | Regent Lane Regent Ice Regent Johnston Regent Mendoza

Approval of Minutes

Regent Ice moved to approve the May 15, 2024, meeting minutes; Regent Johnston seconded, and the motion passed.

Board Consent Agenda Items

Jennifer Armour pointed out a correction to the effective date listed on page 8 of the agenda, which should read July 1, 2025, not 2024. Ms. Armour provided a State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) update. The committee for program integrity and institutional quality met to discuss the U.S. Department of Education's 2024 negotiated rulemaking. These discussions included potential impacts to the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement. The negotiators could not reach a consensus. Therefore, the Department may propose new regulations as they see fit. The proposed rule changes may include a five hundred student rule, the enforcement of state laws related to closure, the application of states' general purpose laws, the complaint process, and the composition of the NC-SARA Board. Finalization of these rules is still pending, and updates will be provided as they are received.

Board Discussion Agenda Items

Regent Lane provided a recap of the program review process and the purpose of the meeting today. The recommendations made for the 31 programs that have been reviewed will go before the Board at the June 20 meeting for final approval.

The committee began with discussing the programs from Pittsburg State University. The first program discussed was the BS in Math. Regent Johnston moved to accept the action plan as proposed. Regent Mendoza seconded. The motion passed. The next program discussed was the BS in History. Regent Mendoza moved to accept the recommendation of the action plan as presented. Johnston seconded. The motion passed. The BS in Polymer Chemistry was discussed next. Regent Johnston moved to accept the recommendation of the action plan as presented. Regent Mendoza seconded. The motion passed. The BS in Physics was discussed next. Regent Johnston moved to accept the recommendation of the action plan as presented. Regent Ice seconded. The motion passed. The BM in Music was discussed next. Regent Mendoza moved to accept the recommendation of the action plan as proposed. Regent Johnston seconded. The motion passed. The final program discussed was the BBA in International Business. Regent Johnston moved to accept the recommendation of phase out. Regent Mendoza seconded. The motion passed.

The programs from University of Kansas were discussed next. The first program discussed was the BA/BGS in African & African American Studies. There was discussion about a merger with another program. Provost Bichelmeyer provided additional information pertaining to the financial ramifications of a merger, including the loss of funding. Regent Ice recommended moving forward with the action plan as presented with proviso. Regent Johnston moved to reject the action plan at the University of Kansas for African & African American Studies and asked that they merge or meet 3 of the 4 KBOR targets by 2026. There was no second. The motion failed. Regent Ice moved to accept the action plan with the proviso that the program meets 3 of the 4 metrics by July 1, 2026. Regent Mendoza seconded. The motion passed. The BA/BGS in American Studies was discussed next. Regent Mendoza moved to accept the recommendation of the action plan. Regent Ice seconded. Regent

Johnston voted no. The vote was split and the motion died. Regent Lane moved to accept the action plan with the proviso that the program meet or exceed 3 of the 4 thresholds within 3 years. Regent Johnston seconded. Provost Bichelmeyer pointed out that their proposed action plan aligns with Regent Lane's motion. Regent Ice moved to modify the second motion to accept the proposal as presented. Regent Mendoza seconded. The motion passed. The next program discussed was the BSE in Physical Education Plus. Regent Mendoza moved to accept the merger plan as presented. The motion was seconded was passed. The BA in Global & International Studies was discussed next. Regent Johnston moved to accept the action plan as presented. Regent Mendoza seconded. The motion passed. The BA/BGS in Religious Studies was discussed next. Regent Mendoza moved to accept the action plan as written. Regent Ice seconded. Regent Lane pointed out the inconsistency of this motion compared to previous motions for programs with similar which were approved with provisos. Regent Ice moved to modify the motion to accept the action plan with the proviso that it meets 3 of the 4 targets within 3 years. The motion passed. The sixth program discussed was the BA in Jewish Studies. Provost Bichelmeyer provided information regarding the loss of funding if a merger is undertaken. After further discussion it was noted that the date for the previous motions were incorrect. Regent Ice moved to amend the date of the previous motions to all be July 1, 2027. Regent Johnston seconded. The motion passed. Regent Johnston moved to accept the action with the proviso that they meet at least 3 of the 4 targets by July 1, 2027. Regent Ice seconded. The motion passed. The BA/BS in Astronomy was discussed next. Regent Johnston moved to accept the action plan. Regent Ice seconded. Regent Mendoza inquired about including the proviso. Regent Johnston moved to modify the motion to accept the action plan as written with the proviso that they meet 3 of the 4 targets by July 1, 2027. Regent Mendoza seconded. The motion passed. During discussion about the talent pipeline, Regent Lane suggested graduate school and student credit hour production be noted for consideration as additional metrics in the future. The BS in Atmospheric Science and the proposed action plan were discussed next. Regent Johnston moved to accept the action plan as written. Regent Ice seconded. The motion passed. The next program discussed was the BA/BGS in Geography. Regent Ice moved to accept the action plan as proposed. Regent Johnston seconded. The motion passed. The BA/BFA/BM in Music was discussed next. Regent Mendoza moved to accept the action plan as proposed. Regent Johnston seconded. The motion passed. The final program discussed for University of Kansas was the BS in Engineering Physics. Regent Johnston moved to accept the action plan as presented. Regent Mendoza seconded. The motion passed.

The programs for Kansas State University were discussed next. The first program discussed was the BA/BS in Geography. Regent Mendoza moved to accept the recommendation of the action plan as presented. Regent Johnston seconded. The motion passed. The last program discussed was the BA/BM in Music. Regent Johnston moved to accept the action plan with the proviso. Regent Mendoza seconded. The motion passed.

The BSE in Business (Education) at Emporia State University was discussed next. Regent Mendoza moved to accept the recommendation of phase out as presented. Regent Johnston seconded. The motion passed. The final program discussed was the BA/BFA in Theatre. Regent Ice moved to accept the action plan as proposed. Regent Johnston seconded. The motion passed.

Next, the programs for Wichita State University were reviewed. The BA in Women's Studies was reviewed first. Regent Johnston moved to accept the merger. Regent Mendoza seconded. The motion passed. Next, the BA in Philosophy was discussed. Regent Ice moved to accept the action plan as proposed. Regent Johnston seconded, and the motion passed. The BA in Women's, Ethnicity, and Intersectional Studies was discussed next. Regent Johnston moved to accept the merge as proposed. Mendoza seconded, and the motion passed. Regent Mendoza moved to accept the action plan as presented for the BA in Philosophy. Regent Johnston seconded, and the motion passed. The BA/BS in Geology was reviewed next. Regent Mendoza moved to accept the action plan as presented. Regent Johnston seconded. The motion passed. Next, the BA/BS in Physics was discussed. Regent Ice moved to accept the action plan as presented. Regent Mendoza seconded. The motion passed. Regent Lane requested credit hour production be added to future discussions for consideration in the review process. Finally, the proposed action plan for BS in Forensic Sciences was discussed. Regent Mendoza moved to accept the action plan as presented. Regent Johnston seconded. The motion passed.

Finally, the programs for Fort Hays State University were discussed. The BM in Music was discussed first. Regent Johnston moved to accept action plan as presented. Regent Ice seconded. The motion passed. The BA in Philosophy was discussed next. Provost Arensdorf provided an explanation of the process to decide where the program will be merged. This merge will not have any impact on students currently in the program. Regent Johnston moved to accept the merge as presented. Regent Ice seconded. The motion passed. Next, BA in Modern Language (Spanish) and the proposed action plan was discussed. Regent Ice moved to accept as presented. Regent Mendoza seconded. The motion passed. The BA/BS in Physics was discussed next. Regent Johnston moved to accept the action plan as presented. Regent Mendoza seconded, noting the action plan includes the provision that if the program doesn't meet at least 3 of the 4 metrics, a merge will occur. The motion passed. Finally, the BM in Music and the proposed action plan was discussed. Regent Mendoza pointed out that this action plan includes the provision that if the program doesn't meet at least 3 of the 4 metrics after 3 years, a merge or phase out will occur. She then moved to accept the action plan as written. Regent Johnston seconded. The motion passed.

Board Consent Agenda Items

Barb Bichelmeyer, University of Kansas, provided a summary of the Competency-Based Education process at Kansas University. Features of this program include direct assessment, asynchronous learning, 16 week calendars, subscription-based tuition pricing, and a shared faculty model. The key working groups in developing this program included business processes & systems, curriculum development & learning, information technology, policy & regulatory compliance, student journey supports, and leadership.

Provost Bichelmeyer presented the program approval request for the MS in Human & Organizational Performance Effectiveness (HOPE). Regent Johnston moved to approve the request. Regent Ice seconded. The motion passed.

Provost Bichelmeyer presented the program approval for the MSE in Secondary STEM Education. Regent Mendoza moved to approve the request. Regent Johnston seconded. The motion passed.

Regent Ice requested the CBE presentation, along with the two approved programs from University of Kansas be added to the discussion agenda for the Board meeting.

Shirley Lefever, Wichita State University, presented the program approval request for the Associate of Science. Regent Mendoza moved to approve the request. Regent Ice seconded. The motion passed.

Board Discussion Agenda Items

Karla Wiscombe provided a summary on four Systemwide Transfer Associate Degrees. The programs included are Business Administration, Management, & Operations; Computer Science; Pre-Bachelor of Science in Nursing; and Pre-Social Work and will go into effect in Fall of 2025. Regent Johnston moved to approve the Systemwide Transfer Associate Degrees as presented by Dr. Wiscombe. Regent Ice seconded. The motion passed.

Rusty Monhollon provided a summary of the revisions to the New Academic Units and Academic Programs for State Universities Policy. Gage Rolfe provided clarification on what the current policy states and allows regarding the awarding of associate degrees. He also provided clarification that the requested change is specifically expanding the degree types. Regent Johnston moved to accept the additional modification as presented. Regent Mendoza seconded. The motion passed. Regent Lane requested the reverse transfer policy be added to a future agenda for further discussion and possible revisions to the policy.

Adjournment

The next BAASC meeting will be held virtually on June 18th, 2024.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:57 a.m.