

## **KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS**

### **MINUTES**

May 17-18, 2023

The May 17, 2023, meeting of the Kansas Board of Regents was called to order by Chair Jon Rolph at 12:25 p.m. The meeting was held in the Board Office located in the Curtis State Office Building, 1000 S.W. Jackson, Suite 520, Topeka. Proper notice was given according to law.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Jon Rolph, Chair
- Carl Ice, Vice Chair
- Blake Benson
- John Dicus
- Cheryl Harrison-Lee
- Shelly Kiblinger
- Cynthia Lane
- Diana Mendoza
- Wint Winter

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 12:25 p.m., Regent Lane moved, followed by the second of Regent Kiblinger, to recess into executive session for 60 minutes in Conference Room B to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel. The subject of this executive session was a regular annual university CEO evaluation, and the purpose was to protect the privacy of the individual employee involved. Participating in the executive session were members of the Board, President and CEO Blake Flanders and Chancellor Girod. The motion carried. At 1:25 p.m., the meeting returned to open session and moved to the Board Room. Chair Rolph called the meeting to order at 1:45 p.m.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Regent Ice moved to approve the minutes of the April 19, 2023, meeting. Following the second of Regent Harrison-Lee, the motion carried.

### **INTRODUCTIONS**

Chair Rolph recognized President Mason, who introduced Ella Burrows, Fort Hays State University's 2023-24 Student Government Association President. President Mason stated Ella is a fourth generation Tiger. She is a Junior majoring in political science. Ella is an honors student, VIP Ambassador, Newman Civic Fellow and a member of Delta Zeta Sorority. President Mason said Ella is a person of high integrity whose friendly manner inspires trust and collaboration. President Mason thanked Ryan Stanley for his service as Fort Hays State University's Student Government Association President this past year. She stated Ryan always perpetuates high standards, invites collaboration, and inspires greatness from all with whom he works. Ryan will begin an HR Business internship at the end of the month with WellSky Corporation in Overland Park. She noted that Ryan was last year's NCAA Division II pole vault champion and that he has continued to further his skills. He recently won the MIAA outdoor championship in pole vault this year, and he heads to his last NCAA national championship on the May 25. His season best is 17 feet and 7 inches. President Mason wished Ryan good luck.

Chair Rolph recognized President Muma, who acknowledged Wichita State University's incoming Faculty Senate President, Jolynn Dowling, who is a professor of nursing. President Muma stated WSU is thankful for her service. President Muma also thanked WSU's outgoing Faculty Senate President, Susan Castro, who is a philosophy professor. President Muma acknowledged WSU's incoming SGA President, Isis Okere, who is a marketing major, and WSU's incoming Vice President, Sophie Martins, who is a political science and pre-law major. President Muma thanked John Kirk, WSU's outgoing Student Body President, for his service.

Chair Rolph recognized President Linton, who thanked Kansas State University's outgoing Student Body President, Parker Vulgamore, who just graduated with a degree in Agricultural Economics and will continue at KSU to pursue a graduate degree. President Linton introduced KSU's new incoming Student Body President, Caleb Stout, who is also an Agricultural Economics major. President Linton introduced KSU's new Faculty Senate President, Don Von Bergen, from the K-State Salina campus.

## **GENERAL REPORTS**

### **REPORT FROM CHAIR**

Chair Rolph thanked President Carter File and the team at Hutchinson Community College for hosting him for a visit to the college on May 7. Along with Vice Chair Ice and President Flanders, Chair Rolph met with the leadership of the State Board of Education on May 15. Chair Rolph stated he had the opportunity to spend Mother's Day with Chancellor Girod, whose daughter was graduating from law school. He congratulated all the graduates. Chair Rolph presented certificates of appreciation to Dr. Nate Brunsell, Chair of the Council of Faculty Senate Presidents, who attended the meeting virtually, and to Sadie Williams, President of the Students' Advisory Committee. Chair Rolph thanked them for their service.

### **REPORT FROM PRESIDENT AND CEO**

President Flanders thanked Fort Hays State University President Mason for welcoming him to commencement exercises at FHSU. President Flanders stated he also had an opportunity to continue to monitor and think more broadly about how the system helps its industry partners such as Panasonic. He and Regent Harrison-Lee visited with Kansas City Kansas Community College President Greg Mosier, who wants to help in that effort. President Flanders stated they have been working with a company called EAB that helps with student success and have come to general agreement. Each university is now looking at how to best utilize the general agreement to enter contracts that will 1) help to enhance the student success platform that the Governor and Legislature have partnered on by providing funding support, and 2) generate data that will assist in providing a comprehensive dashboard where system progress in student academic success can be monitored. President Flanders stated that Board staff continues to collaborate with the Kansas Department of Commerce to look at ways to best respond to the CHIPS and Science Act and to get a designation for a tech hub in our state. All the system institutions are participating in that activity because there is a research component and a workforce component, and President Flanders hopes for it to be a big win for our state.

## REPORT FROM COUNCIL OF FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENTS

Chair Rolph welcomed Dr. Nate Brunsell who introduced Dr. Victor Gonzalez as the incoming Faculty Senate President at KU. Dr. Brunsell encouraged the Board to continue working with the faculty senate presidents next year and all faculty at the institutions as a resource. Chair Rolph again thanked Dr. Brunsell for his service, which has been appreciated.

## REPORT FROM STUDENTS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Students' Advisory Committee President Sadie Williams recognized the outgoing student body presidents and shared a little about what each is doing. Kansas State University's Parker Vulgamore graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Economics and his plan next year is to return to Kansas State for his Masters in Agricultural Economics. Pittsburg State University's Tarynn Brenner is majoring in Business Management and Marketing and is pursuing a certificate in Professional Selling and Sales Management. She has an internship with President Shipp, will be finishing her last year of school, and hopes to move on the graduate school thereafter. Emporia State University's Bella Price graduated with a Bachelor of Science in History and a minor in Communication. She is going to work at Emporia State University for a year and then go to law school. John Kirk has represented Wichita State University for past year. He has a bachelor's degree in Vocal Music and Psychology with a minor in Organizational Leadership. He has been accepted into graduate school at WSU for Higher Education and Student Affairs and will be working in President Muma's office to continue his public service. Fort Hays State University's Ryan Stanley graduated with an M.B.A. with a specialization in Human Resources. He has an internship with WellSky in Overland Park this summer. Washburn University's Shayden Hanes graduated with a double major in International Business and Marketing and a double minor in Leadership and Political Science. She will be moving to New Jersey for a job in the Pfizer Sales Academy Program. Sadie Williams graduated from the University of Kansas with a Bachelor of Arts in Economics and English and a minor in Spanish. She will be moving to Washington, D.C., in September. President Williams expressed her gratitude for a great year and thanked the Board. Chair Rolph noted the Committee's involvement this year made the Board members better Regents and thanked and congratulated the Committee members.

## STANDING COMMITTEE AND OTHER REPORTS

### ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Regent Kiblinger reported that in the Board Academic Affairs Standing Committee (BAASC) meeting held that morning Karla Wiscombe presented a concurrent enrollment report that will be presented at the Board meeting later in the day. Dr. Daniel Archer presented on the math reform and performance funding work, which will also be part of the Board's discussion today. Regent Kiblinger reported BAASC discussed the possibility of having a free application week in which the undergraduate admission application fee would be waived during a week in October. That item was referred to the Council of Chief Academic Officers to further consider the idea and determine its feasibility and implications. BAASC discussed creating a new program review process. The provosts will provide feedback by next Friday. Regent Lane discussed concurrent and dual enrollment task force draft recommendations. Dr. Daniel Archer provided an update on the systemwide general education work and noted that a general education council has been formed to work on implementation this summer. Regent Lane also gave an update on the educator workforce task force and noted community college leaders will review and approve the statewide

transfer associate degree in elementary education this summer. Chair Rolph thanked BAASC for its work.

### FISCAL AFFAIRS AND AUDIT

Regent Ice reported the Fiscal Affairs and Audit (FAA) Committee approved minutes of the previous meeting, and thoroughly discussed the items on the Board's consent agenda during its meeting and its May 2 agenda call. Those include several projects, the JCERT budget, the Comprehensive Grant sector allocations, and the nursing initiative grants. FAA discussed the schedule for receiving the university financial plans through the rest of the year but did not engage in the five-year capital plan because the Board will do that in this meeting. FAA spent most of its time on the universities' tuition and fee proposals. The Committee heard from students and CFOs. The reports were comprehensive, thoughtful, and well-done. The Board will go through those again in its meeting because all the Regents perspectives are incredibly important. Regent Ice noted that for anyone who wants to look at the proposals they are all posted on the Board's website. Chair Rolph stated he sat in on a portion of the FAA meeting that morning and appreciated the depth of the Committee's review and the work that everyone put into the presentations.

### GOVERNANCE

Chair Rolph reported the Board's Governance Committee met that morning and had a somewhat abbreviated meeting to accommodate other meetings that Committee members needed to attend. After approving its April meeting minutes, the Committee again discussed the 2024 CEO assessment form and process and the feedback received from the Chancellor and Presidents on the proposed changes to the form. The Committee finalized its recommendations for updates and improvements and those will be on the June agenda for full Board consideration. The most substantive change the Committee will be asking the Board to consider is adding a new section to the form to evaluate the University CEOs' progress on implementing the Board's goals. Finally, the Committee had an executive session to discuss CEO compensation for Fiscal Year 2024.

### CHAIR REPORT SUPPLEMENT AND AGENDA AMENDMENT

Chair Rolph recognized President Shipp for riding his bike to the Board meeting and asked President Shipp to share how many miles he's ridden, how many he has to go, and provide an update on fundraising for scholarships. President Shipp reported they are close to 120 miles biked, they are meeting a lot of people along the way, and they have had alumni receptions in three locations. He stated their goal is to go 800 miles and raise \$8 million to build an endowment for future students. Chair Rolph congratulated Regent Wint Winter for being inducted into the Lawrence Business Hall of Fame.

Chair Rolph stated he would be departing the meeting early to attend his daughter's 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation. Chair Rolph moved to relocate discussion of the tuition and fee proposals to the top of the discussion agenda. Regent Ice seconded the motion. The motion passed.

### ELECTION OF FY24 BOARD CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Regent Harrison-Lee led this part of the meeting at Chair Rolph's request. She called for a motion for the Board Chair. Regent Lane moved to reappoint Chair Rolph for the upcoming year. Regent Benson seconded the motion. The motion carried. Regent Harrison-Lee called for a motion for

the Board Vice Chair. Chair Rolph moved that Regent Ice be reappointed as Vice Chair. Regent Winter seconded the motion. The motion carried.

### **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Chair Rolph asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda. Regent Harrison-Lee so moved, and Regent Dicus seconded the motion. The motion carried.

### *Fiscal Affairs and Audit*

#### **AMEND WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY FY 2023 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN TO INCREASE THE TOTAL PROJECT COST FOR THE WOODMAN CENTER INTERIOR REMODEL PROJECT**

Wichita State University received authorization to amend the FY 2023 capital improvement plan to increase the total project cost for the Woodman Center (formerly Woodman Alumni Center) interior remodel project. The project was initially approved at the September 2022 Board meeting. Since then, the project scope expanded to include additional deferred maintenance items including a fire alarm system upgrade, electrical switchgear replacement, and an upgrade of the temperature control system. This additional scope, combined with higher-than-estimated construction costs for the remodel project, result in an overall project cost of \$2.5 million (\$800,000 higher than the initial project approvals). The remodel portion of the project (\$2.1 million) will be funded by the WSU Foundation. The deferred maintenance portion (\$400,000) will be paid for with university general use funds. Construction is anticipated to begin in May 2023 and to be complete in Spring 2024.

#### **AMEND WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY FY 2023 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN AND APPROVE REVISED PROGRAM STATEMENT FOR NIAR TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION BUILDING**

Wichita State University received authorization to modify the capital improvement plan to expand the scope and budget for the NIAR Technology & Innovation Building (TIB) on the Innovation Campus at Wichita State University. The Board initially approved the project in September 2022 as a \$36.5 million, single-story, 85,000-square-foot building. The project has been revised to a 150,000-gross-square-foot building split over two floors (including 17,000 square feet of shelled growth spaces on the second floor). The revised total project cost is \$60.62 million. The building project has been developed as part of a larger federal EDA grant received by WSU. The project will be with financed with EDA Grant funds supplemented with additional funds from the WSU National Institute for Aviation Research (NIAR), revenue bonds, and additional grant funds.

#### **ACT ON JOHNSON COUNTY RESEARCH TRIANGLE (JCERT) FY 2024 BUDGETS – KU, KUMC AND KSU**

The Board approved FY 2024 JCERT budgets for the operation of the Business, Education, Science and Technology (BEST) Building and degree programs at KU's Edwards Campus in Overland Park; the Clinical Research Center at the KU Medical Center in Fairway; and the International Animal Health and Food Safety Institute at K-State's Innovation Campus in Olathe.

INITIAL DISCUSSION OF THE BOARD’S UNIFIED FY 2025 BUDGET REQUEST PREPARATIONS

The Kansas Higher Education Coordination Act directs the Board to present a unified budget request for postsecondary education. The statutory deadline for submission is October 1. Capital improvement requests, as embodied in the five-year plans, are submitted July 1 and are also included in the fall budget submission. Staff recommended that the Board begin to develop its budget proposals for FY 2025 with the typical schedule to allow for input and discussion. The Postsecondary Technical Education Authority’s priorities will be included. The Board’s official approval of the unified request will occur at its September meeting.

**Unified Appropriation Request Schedule**

April 2023 Board Meeting	Board’s first read of five-year capital improvement plans
May 2023 Board Meeting	Board acts on five-year capital improvement plans
June 2023 Board Meeting	Board receives institutions’ budget requests (Proposals are to be submitted to the Board Office by <b>Friday, June 2.</b> )
Summer 2023 Board Retreat	Board conducts budget workshop to discuss requests from across the System and indicates preference for inclusion in the FY 2025 Budget Request.
September 2023 Board Meeting	Board approves FY 2025 unified budget request
October 1, 2023	Board staff submit FY 2025 unified budget request

ACT ON KANSAS COMPREHENSIVE GRANT PROGRAM DISTRIBUTIONS

The Board approved allocating Kansas Comprehensive Grant state aid to participating institutions for FY 2024 and FY 2025 using the same methodology for the three segments of KCG funding as was used for FY 2023. Using the same methodology for distribution will avoid major, unexpected shifts in institutions’ allocations.

ACT ON KANSAS NURSING INITIATIVE GRANT

The Board approved the following grant awards. Remaining funds will be devoted to the statewide Nurse Educator conference for all programs.

<b>Institution</b>	<b>Project Summary</b>	<b>Award</b>
<b><i>Accreditation Support</i></b>		
North Central Kansas Technical College – Beloit	Faculty professional development Accreditation and site visit fees Stipends for faculty to assist with accreditation activities	\$13,628
WSU Tech	Faculty professional development Accreditation consultant Support for the accreditation visit Stipends for faculty to assist with accreditation activities	\$29,500
<b><i>NCLEX score improvement</i></b>		
Fort Scott Community College	NCLEX preparation software	\$15,000
Highland Community College	Faculty professional development Development of new faculty training Test preparation resources for students Teaching resources for faculty	\$14,600
North Central Kansas Technical College – Hays	Faculty professional development Test preparation resources for students Subscription to NurseTim webinars for faculty	\$6,498
Seward County Community College	Curriculum revision and development Faculty professional development Test preparation resources for students	\$39,435
<b>Institution</b>	<b>Project Summary</b>	<b>Award</b>
<b><i>Full Application</i></b>		
Baker University	Teaching resources for faculty Consumable laboratory supplies Curriculum development support Multipurpose adult simulator Glucometers, injection trainers, blood pressure cuffs, etc.	\$70,737
Barton Community College	Professional development for faculty Curriculum revision and development Consumable laboratory supplies Maternal simulator	\$71,175
Benedictine College	Curriculum development Faculty professional development Test preparation resources for students Medication dispensing system	\$71,585
Bethel College	Consumable laboratory supplies	\$33,091

	SimMom nursing simulator	
Butler Community College	Faculty professional development Consumable laboratory supplies	\$12,000
Cloud County Community College	Professional development for faculty Curriculum revision and development Test preparation resources for students Consumable laboratory supplies Pediatric patient simulator and headwall	\$74,687
Colby Community College	Curriculum revision and development Faculty professional development Test preparation resources for students	\$50,790
Dodge City Community College	Test review and preparation services for students Consumable laboratory supplies	\$10,000
Emporia State University	Faculty professional development Test review and preparation services for students Consumable laboratory supplies Pediatric simulator	\$40,144
Fort Hays State University	Test review and preparation services for students Consumable laboratory supplies Obstetric simulator	\$88,747
Hesston College	Curriculum development Consumable laboratory supplies Male patient simulator Meta Oculus VR units with UbiSim program	\$44,703
Hutchinson Community College	Test preparation resources Modular nursing skills trainers	\$32,149
Johnson County Community College	Professional development for faculty Gaumard HAL simulator	\$65,543
Kansas City Kansas Community College	Professional development Tutoring and support for at-risk students Consumable laboratory supplies Laerdal Ann simulator	\$54,711
University of Kansas	Faculty salary support Professional development Consumable laboratory supplies Catheterization tools, birthing simulator and supplies	\$128,717
Kansas Wesleyan University	Salary support for nursing faculty Faculty professional development NCLEX review resources Consumable laboratory supplies Realistic pregnancy simulation supplies Catheterization trainers, obstetrics models, injection simulator, IV trainer, chest tube trainer, etc.	\$56,512

Labette Community College	Faculty professional development Test preparation resources for students Consumable laboratory supplies Automated medication dispensing system	\$41,345
Manhattan Area Technical College	Professional development for faculty Curriculum development support Teaching resources for faculty Test review and preparation resources for students Consumable laboratory supplies IV trainers and simulators, venipuncture, and injection arms Oculus units with UbiSim program	\$66,464
Neosho County Community College	Faculty professional development Test review and preparation resources for students Consumable laboratory supplies Medication administration systems	\$91,905
Ottawa University	Professional development for faculty Test review and preparation resources for students Curriculum revision	\$73,700
Pittsburg State University	Salary support for new faculty Professional development for faculty Live review for pre-licensure students Consumable laboratory supplies Medication cabinet, hospital bed, Alaris pumps	\$143,699
University of St. Mary	Professional development for faculty Subscriptions to teaching resources Test review and preparation resources for students Consumable laboratory supplies Simulation medication cart and cabinet	\$147,683
Washburn University	Faculty professional development Simulation scenarios development Faculty-led individual and group support for students Consumable laboratory and simulation supplies	\$83,000
Wichita State University	Faculty salary support Faculty professional development Consumable laboratory supplies	\$ 76,150
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,747,898</b>

*Workforce Development*

ACT ON REQUESTS FOR DEGREE AND CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS SUBMITTED BY NORTH CENTRAL KANSAS TECHNICAL COLLEGE AND NEOSHO COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

North Central Kansas Technical College received approval to offer an Associate of Applied Science, 70 credit hours, in Respiratory Care (51.0908). The College plans to begin the proposed program in the Fall of 2024 (Academic Year/FY2025) and estimates the total initial cost at \$566,500. Funding will be provided from the institution general fund and donations.

Neosho County Community College received approval to offer a Technical Certificate A (19 credit hours), a Technical Certificate B (39 credit hours), and an Associate of Applied Science (64 credit hours) in Automotive Technology (47.0604). The College plans to begin the proposed program in the fall of 2024 (for Academic Year/FY 2025) and estimates the total initial cost at \$530,700. Funding will be provided from the Kansas Higher Education Challenge grant.

#### ACT ON PROMISE ACT PROGRAM SUBMITTED BY NORTH CENTRAL KANSAS TECHNICAL COLLEGE

North Central Kansas Technical College received approval for its Respiratory Care Therapy (51.0908) program to be a Kansas Promise Scholarship-eligible program in the Mental and Physical Healthcare field of study.

#### ACT ON EXCEL IN CTE FEES FOR PROGRAMS SUBMITTED BY NEOSHO COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND INDEPENDENCE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

The following Excel in CTE fees were approved:

- Neosho County Community College: Automotive Technology total \$333. Fees include \$13 for safety equipment, \$8 for OSHA exam, \$220 for test prep manual, and \$92 for ASE Certification testing.
- Independence Community College: Welding Technology total \$555. Fees include a \$35 graduation fee, and \$520 for personal protective equipment.

#### Other

#### ACT ON APPOINTMENTS TO THE RETIREMENT PLAN COMMITTEE

The Board re-appointed Doug Ball and Dr. Dipak Ghosh to the Retirement Plan Committee to serve three-year terms ending June 30, 2026.

#### ACT ON REQUEST TO APPROVE CONTRACT FOR RETIREMENT PLAN INVESTMENT CONSULTANT

The Board approved awarding a 5-year, \$66,000-per-year contract to Advanced Capital Group, Inc., beginning on July 2, 2023, to serve as its retirement plan investment consultant.

### **DISCUSSION AGENDA**

#### Fiscal Affairs

#### PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSION OF UNIVERSITY TUITION AND FEE PROPOSALS FOR FY 2024 (FIRST READ)

Elaine Frisbie, Vice President for Finance and Administration, referred the Board to page 75 of the agenda materials for context regarding university general fund budgets. She noted a table on page 76 of the materials provides a history of tuition rate changes since FY2019. She stated that the universities are asked to present their proposals using a standard structure, which is provided on pages 77-78 of the materials. She noted the Board received a separate book that contains the universities' proposals and was posted on the Board's website for public viewing. Table 1 on page

3 of the separate book shows proposed rates of standard tuition for various categories for each of the campuses. Table 2 reflects proposed required fees. Table 3 shows the revenue that would result from the tuition proposals.

The university CEOs presented their FY 2024 tuition and fee proposals. Many of the universities plan to invest the funds for the institutions to address increased costs, maintain programs and initiatives, and increase salaries to retain and attract quality faculty and staff. The CEOs discussed the impact of inflationary costs over time for items like insurance premiums and utility costs and thanked their respective staffs for their work involved in preparing the proposals. Regarding the fee proposals, the CEOs reviewed their campus mandatory, program, course, and student fee requests. Regent Ice stated the Fiscal Affairs and Audit Committee reviewed the proposals closely and discussed increased costs, enrollment assumptions, and the involvement of students in preparation of the proposals and he thanked them for their work. Regent Winter discussed keeping the perspective of the students, Governor, Legislature, and donors in mind when considering the proposals. Regent Harrison-Lee commended the CEOs and students for the presentations' thoroughness. Chair Rolph thanked Fiscal Affairs and the universities for their communication throughout the year on this topic. The Board will act on the proposals at the June meeting.

(University FY 2024 Proposals filed with Official Minutes)

Chair Rolph recessed the meeting for a break until 3:15 p.m. Regent Ice reconvened the meeting at 3:20 p.m.

### Academic Affairs

#### CONCURRENT/DUAL ENROLLMENT REPORT

Karla Wiscombe, Director of Academic Affairs, presented the Concurrent and Dual Enrollment Report. She noted all the information is available on the Board's Kansas Higher Education Statistics reporting tool. Director Wiscombe explained that the distinction between concurrent and dual enrollment comes from who is teaching the class. With concurrent enrollment courses, it is the high school teacher. With dual courses, it is postsecondary institutional faculty teaching, whether it is online, at a campus, or at a high school. The data is from all 32 of the public postsecondary institutions. Director Wiscombe thanked the Data, Research and Planning team for their work in creating the reports and putting the information on the website. In AY 2013, 22,720 high school students were taking courses. This year, 33,520 high school students took a concurrent course, a dual course, or CTE at our institutions. Community colleges provided 66% of these courses, universities provided around 8%, and technical colleges provided 26%. Credit hours earned broken down by race and ethnicity were reported, as were retention and completion rates. Approximately 30% of Kansas high school students are taking college courses. Regent Lane asked what stands out to Director Wiscombe that the Board should focus on. Director Wiscombe replied that focusing on access and which high schools offer which courses could increase the numbers. President Flanders discussed the Board's agreement with the State Board of Education to encourage courses taken by high school students at institutions to count toward graduation for the course taken as opposed to counting as an elective credit.

(Presentation filed with Official Minutes)

## PERFORMANCE FUNDING AND MATH REFORM

Daniel Archer, Vice President of Academic Affairs, presented on performance funding and math reform, including a proposed timeline and policy changes. He noted the vast majority of students in our system are taking college algebra—it is the third highest enrolled course in our system. College algebra was created to prepare students for calculus. However, only about 20% of majors require calculus. The goal at the heart of math pathways is to restructure this, refine it, and concentrate it down to those majors that require calculus. Research and feedback from our institution shows that other courses, including quantitative reasoning and statistics, provide far more relevant math skills for most majors. Surveys were conducted in March and April in which participants were asked to identify the math skills critical in their respective disciplines. For the social science discipline, college algebra skills were ranked very low while nine statistics skills were ranked very highly. Social science discipline representatives consulted a few weeks ago unanimously agreed a statistics course should be the general education option for social science majors. Other disciplines' representatives will be consulted soon—for example, arts and humanities and health sciences—to identify the math skills that are needed and identify courses relevant to those fields.

Vice President Archer then discussed corequisite remediation. Traditional remediation often involves students taking two or three remedial classes before they can qualify for the credit bearing course. That traditional prerequisite model has been largely ineffective in Kansas and nationally. A foundation course model in which a student takes one semester of remediation followed by the credit bearing course the next semester has been a little bit better. But corequisite remediation has produced significantly better results. This model is based on integrating remedial content into the credit bearing course. The corequisite remediation strategy will be scaled for our system going forward. Georgia did this and achieved significant success. This is the policy lever that achieves equity in action.

Vice President Archer next discussed course placement measures. He stated the data shows that using a high school performance standard is a far better predictor of success than the ACT, SAT, or a standardized test. One goal is to work more collaboratively with K-12 on college readiness standards to simplify them and create more common ones.

The last project Vice President Archer highlighted was academic degree maps which are term-by-term schedules detailing milestones, courses, and special requirements. They are good advising tools to promote on-time graduation.

Vice President Archer discussed the timelines for the various projects. Regent Kiblinger commented that she likes what is being done with the performance funding model. Regent Ice noted that adjustments can be made if necessary. Regent Benson asked about corequisite remediation models and whether students will get to choose, or if that will be selected by the institution. Vice President Archer replied that it would be up to the institution. President Flanders said the corequisite remediation model will work. He noted it is already in our system, pointing out that that Regents had seen it in use when they toured the KU athletics center. Regent Harrison-Lee thanked Vice President Archer for the impressive work and noted each year that adoption of the changes Vice President Archer presented is delayed has a significant impact on affordability and access. She asked the university CEOs whether this can be accomplished sooner to meet

student needs. President Muma stated Wichita State supports this. Chancellor Girod thanked the Board and noted it will take time to complete the work to change prerequisites, create courses and get alignment with degrees. Regent Lane said she appreciates building capacity but emphasized the need to measure along the way. Vice President Archer noted existing performance agreements impact the timeline. Vice Chair Ice asked for a motion on the performance funding and math reform policy changes. Regent Lane moved to approve and Regent Kiblinger seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

(Presentation filed with Official Minutes)

## RECEIVE UPDATE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STUDENT SUCCESS RECOMMENDATIONS – WSU, FHSU & ESU

### ESU

Dr. Shelly Gehrke, Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Success at Emporia State University presented the University's update. She noted ESU had been working on a strategic enrollment management plan which was rolled out a month before NISS presented its recommendations to ESU. Since then, ESU has been making sure its plan and the NISS recommendations complement and overlap. NISS' recommendations to ESU are similar to everyone else's: structured pathways on the academic journey, improvements in collaborations with academic advising, financial aid collaborations and proactive outreach, actionable data reactions and efficient student communication.

Dr. Gehrke highlighted the move to a professional academic advising model for all undergraduate students, which provides the greatest benefit to the most students. This resulted in an approximately 40% increase to ESU's advising staff. ESU has a collaborative centralized training for all these advisors under the leadership of their Senior Director for Academic Advising, Kathy Landwehr. The advisors are moving toward providing a consistent student experience. ESU launched a pilot program, Summer Bridge, last August. The University aims to double number of students who attend this August, including some new incoming transfer students. ESU has developed a recruitment-to-career funnel. It complements the structured pathways and helps support the value of higher education. ESU also has a program called Classroom-to-Career Suit in which students go through a series of exercises and initiatives and receive tailored suits. ESU increased the number of students participating in that program by 62%. The implementation of student success customer relationship management (CRM) will complement all these initiatives. ESU hopes to have Dropout Detective up and running this academic year, and to have EAB Navigate in place by Fall 2024. ESU is also rolling out My Majors this summer, which is another platform to compliment the classroom-to-career funnel. ESU awarded its financial aid letters three months earlier than typical this last year. That was an iterative process, so students got new letters as more data or awards came in. ESU's data strategy team built centralized reporting with information such as cashiering, financial aid, student success, and transcript information, which enables advisors to do proactive outreach. ESU audited its enrollment management and student success communications and are hiring a marketing director to make communication more efficient next year.

An emergency aid network is being developed that will include the completion grants and some retention grants. An app to help with communication to students and make sure they are all on the same page regarding different events and opportunities across campus. This year will serve as the baseline as ESU measures success toward implementation of the recommendations.

### FHSU

FHSU Provost Dr. Jill Arensdorf reported that FHSU is finishing up year four of its university strategic plan. Goal 2 of that strategic plan was student success. The NISS playbook initiatives dovetailed perfectly into Goal 2 of FHSU's strategic plan as well as some of the initiatives FHSU was already planning and implementing. Dr. Arensdorf recognized two chairs of that strategic plan, Dr. Andrew Feldstein and Dr. Taylor Kriley. Dr. Arensdorf then highlighted three items that were completed before NISS. FHSU already had an academic advising committee, which it transitioned to more of a professional development and training opportunity. It had also already implemented a centralized advising model. And it had begun drafting degree maps with Workday, FHSU's new enterprise resource planning (ERP) system. FHSU has fully implemented its advising model, with 24 professional advisors who are serving all its online and on-campus students. Dr. Arensdorf reported that FHSU is the first institution implementing Workday Student's financial aid module, which is currently being deployed. Along with that, dashboards are being created and should be implemented by August. The financial aid module will provide more opportunity for FHSU to see data and reports and have engagements with students that are more robust, timely and focused on student needs regarding financial aid communication. NISS Goal 3 involved restructuring the University's course design, planning and review process to include data on course demand, DFW rates, success by modality and bottlenecks. This year FHSU has been working on deploying more academic support for students who are struggling. The University has deployed peer tutoring on-campus and Smart Thinking, a platform for their online students. NISS Goal 4 is better connecting online students to their university experiences. FHSU is using its Tiger-to-Tiger platform and culture of belongingness course to help faculty better understand how to connect with their online students. It is an area FHSU is closing the gap on and in which it is seeing some great returns.

Opportunities that will be continuing into year two include standardizing early alert usage and ensuring financial aid alerts are visible to academic advisors and registrar staff. FHSU had been using Starfish but abandoned that and tried Blackboard Analytics this year, which was met with some success. The University is excited to continue utilizing this tool. Some additional strategies that were not in FHSU's initial timeline include implementing the systemwide general education framework in 2023, implementing a faculty mentoring model, Workday refinement, and implementing an interim grade policy for all 16-week FHSU online courses. Regent Winter asked if there has been a surprise to FHSU in the development of NISS. Provost Arensdorf's response was how badly a student success analytics platform was needed.

### WSU

Wichita State University Provost Dr. Shirley Lefever presented the WSU NISS Initiative update. WSU has had a strategic enrollment management plan for a number of years and two of the goals focused on retention. The University's NISS work has allowed it to zero-in and elevate those two goals. WSU has made it a priority to have a campus-wide commitment and effort. President Muma and Provost Lefever have sent out video messages, done a university town hall, hosted

college town halls and tried to promote communication about what they are doing around student success and engaging every single person in the work. The President's executive team identified three strategies: 1) fostering a culture of empowerment, leadership, and ownership; 2) taking an equity first mindset and student-centered approach that leads to increased graduation rates; and 3) providing strategic education on and promoting of financial wellness. The infrastructure that has been put in place starts with a student success and persistence coalition, which has representation from all colleges and units across campus. WSU had an open assistant vice president position, which was restructured to focus on student success and persistence. WSU has been hosting student success lunches. It has monthly academic forums at which the topics focus on student success. Every Monday WSU's strategic enrollment management leaders meet to look at enrollment reports and discuss strategies to ensure student success.

Turning to the WSU NISS recommendations, the first is systematizing the use of academic data for course retention. Dr. Lefever reported that WSU created a student success scorecard, each college has a retention plan, and the University has been broadening its summer bridge program. WSU has implemented strategies to improve courses with high non-pass rates. WSU plans to expand summer launch programs, including Herencia bridge, which is a program for high school seniors, and it plans to launch a leadership series this summer. WSU's second NISS recommendation is standardizing academic advising for consistent support. WSU hosted its first academic advising fair in Shocker Hall this Fall which was very successful. Next summer, it will open its Shocker Success Center. The third recommendation is having intentional academic pathways for retention. WSU partnered with Maize school district and will host a Shocker Academy on the district's West Campus. Students will go to high school half the day and complete college credit the other half. WSU is continuing to increase its use of EAB Navigate and wrap-around services. It has mandated degree plan templates for every major. It is piloting an English co-requisite experience called "OZ," for "Opportunity Zone," that will start this summer. Lastly, on financial outreach, WSU has increased need-based aid and is focusing on educating students about how they manage their resources. The faculty has been energized in doing this work.

(Presentations filed with official minutes)

#### ACT ON CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT REQUESTS FOR FY 2025 AND FIVE-YEAR PLANS

Chad Bristow, Director of Facilities, highlighted changes since the first read in April resulting from the Board acting on the April consent agenda. The total project count decreased from 154 projects to 153, which Director Bristow said was reflected near the bottom of page 79 of the agenda materials. The projects are outlined by category on pages 81 and 82 of the materials, followed by a 14-page tabular summary of all the projects. The changes from the consent agenda today will be added before the information is formatted and submitted to the Division of the Budget on July 1. Regent Ice provided context on the process for capital improvements and plans. Regent Winter moved to approve the requests for FY2025 and the five-year plans, followed by the second of Regent Benson. The motion carried.

#### UPDATE ON MASTER PLANS

##### ESU

President Hush stated his appreciation for the Board and the Legislature's funding of various demolition projects. He thanked Chad Bristow for his work. President Hush introduced Cory

Falldine who is ESU's Executive Vice President of Operations and Economic Development, and Bill McKernan who is ESU's Assistant Vice President of Infrastructure and University Facilities. ESU has been moving forward on its campus master plan and recent accomplishments were highlighted. The University has increased accessibility to physical assets and online technologies. Aging infrastructure is a challenge. The average age of ESU's buildings is 64 years. ESU has \$100 million in backlogged deferred maintenance just in its mission critical buildings. Adding in other assets, the figure is close to double that amount. ESU has adapted its master plan to address this issue. One method is reducing the aging footprint. By 2026, ESU will reduce its mission-critical footprint by a gross of 15% by selling or razing all its remaining D-rated buildings. ESU continues to consolidate its existing footprint and make space utilization improvements. The University is spending a larger amount of its limited resources on fewer spaces and to reduce deferred maintenance. By razing structures, it can eliminate current and future deferred maintenance costs. It will begin developing a new campus master plan in FY2025.

### WSU

President Muma introduced Emily Patterson, WSU's Executive Director of Facilities Planning. Executive Director Patterson discussed changes to WSU's campus since 2014. WSU's master plan was amended in 2017 to account for its Innovation Campus. Like other campuses, WSU's campus' challenges include an aging infrastructure. Opportunities include the density of WSU's campus. WSU looks to strengthen the core of campus and improve the edges. Executive Director Patterson discussed the master plan project process and timeline along with the engagements that have occurred to date.

### FHSU

President Mason thanked Dana Cunningham, Director of Facilities Planning; Dr. Andrew Feldstein, Assistant Provost for Teaching Innovation and Learning Technologies; FHSU's senior leadership team; and the members of FHSU's master plan committee. FHSU focused its plan on maximizing the teaching and learning ethos. Its ten-year planning process occurred in 2021. FHSU supplemented its campus plan with a digital master plan due to the high number of online students it serves. It developed four priorities for the ten-year plan: 1) improve pedestrian safety at primary travel routes; 2) incrementally redesign campus landscaping to lower maintenance efforts and irrigation requirements; 3) systematically reduce the deferred maintenance backlog at aging facilities; and 4) no new academic construction is anticipated in the ten-year plan. FHSU's mission critical deferred maintenance is \$198 million. The Forsyth Library renovation will address \$25 million of that. For the Forsyth project, \$19 million will be recovered by federal funds with the remaining \$6 million from their deferred maintenance budget. The Gross Memorial Coliseum HVAC project will address \$7.6 million of the University's deferred maintenance. FHSU received \$5 million in ARPA funds for this project and the balance will be paid from its deferred maintenance fund. Additional deferred maintenance projects were highlighted. President Mason discussed the three stages of developing FHSU's digital master plan, which she anticipates will be completed by early August.

(Presentations filed with Official Minutes)

### Governance

## DISCUSS BOARD MEMBER CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE AND ACT ON ACTUAL OR APPARENT CONFLICT

General Counsel John Yeary stated Regent Harrison-Lee has reported a new potential conflict: she has been accepted to the Wichita State University Graduate School as a Doctoral Student and will begin her studies this summer. General Counsel Yeary stated that, in accordance with Board policy, the Board must include the reported interest in the minutes of the Board meeting and provide direction to Regent Harrison-Lee as to her participation in Board actions involving the reported transaction. The Governance Committee reviewed the disclosure at its meeting last month and concurs with the staff recommendation, which is to direct Regent Harrison-Lee to excuse herself from participating as a Regent in any Board action directly impacting the program in which she is enrolled, such as program review or approval of those specific program fees. For the minutes, General Counsel Yeary requested that Vice Chair Ice ask for abstentions from the vote on this matter for anyone that might want to abstain from this vote. Regent Dicus moved to adopt the Governance Committee recommendation, seconded by Regent Kiblinger. The motion passed with Regent Harrison-Lee abstaining.

### *Other Matters*

## RECEIVE LEGISLATIVE AND BUDGET UPDATE

Vice President of Finance and Administration Elaine Frisbie announced Jack Thomas Casey was born May 17, 2023, and she therefore presented the report in place of Matt Casey. Vice President Frisbie stated the legislative session had come to an end. The Legislature returned on Wednesday, April 26 to begin its veto session. It concluded its work that Friday, April 28 after conference committee reports and numerous veto override votes. In an unusual move, the Legislature adjourned *Sine Die* at the end of the veto session. Typically, it returns for one day after the Governor issues her vetoes, particularly on the omnibus bill, but it elected to not do that this year. The omnibus appropriation bill does have some items for higher education in addition to those contained in the mega budget bill that was passed before first adjournment. These additional items include: \$8.5 million for NISS playbooks for the student success initiative and \$1 million to Washburn for its student success initiative; a \$13 million salary pool for state university employee pay increases; \$700,000 in additional funding for the Kansas Hero Scholarship Act; \$13 million to be divided between Wichita State University and KU Medical Center for the Health Science Center; \$2 million each for Pittsburg State's new Center for Emerging Technologies, and for the new Global Center for STEM and Technical Education; \$6 million for Fort Hays State University to eliminate the student fee for the Center for Student Success; \$1.2 million for K-State Polytechnic's turbine transportation program; and \$10.5 million for the technical colleges to increase capacity for high demand, high wage and critical need workforce efforts. House Bill 2060 will make changes to the A-OK to work program to allow payment for books, tools and personal materials for students participating in the program.

The bill to reorganize the TEA did not pass this year, but Matt Casey indicates it might be a good idea to have discussions before the next session begins to get some feedback from business and industry and other stakeholders. The DEI provision in the budget was vetoed. The Legislature did not secure enough votes for an override but did introduce House Bill 2460 that will carry over as a bill for the next session. There has been an audit authorized by the Legislative Post Audit Committee on DEI that will be related only to the state universities and will also review foreign

gifts and contracts. The timeline for when that audit will be conducted is not known. House Bill 2290 passed, authorizing affiliation between Fort Hays State University and Northwest Kansas Technical College and North Central Kansas Technical College. Senate Bill 123 created the Adult Learner Grant Act. House Bill 2292 creates the Engineering Higher Education Matching Grant program, providing more funding for engineering program. That bill also includes an Educator Apprenticeship Program for KSDE and Commerce to work on. Vice President Frisbie stated that, all in all, it was a very successful session.

Regent Ice suggested the agenda be amended for tomorrow to consider a policy change for private housing first. A motion to do so was made by Regent Dicus and seconded by Regent Benson. The motion carried.

### **RECESS**

Chair Rolph recessed the meeting at 5:05 p.m.

### **RECONVENE**

Chair Rolph reconvened the meeting at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 18, 2023.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Jon Rolph, Chair
- Carl Ice, Vice Chair
- Blake Benson
- John Dicus
- Cheryl Harrison-Lee
- Shelly Kiblinger
- Cynthia Lane
- Diana Mendoza
- Wint Winter

### **ACT ON REQUEST TO AMEND THE BOARD'S PRIVATE HOUSING POLICY**

General Counsel John Yeary provided a proposed amendment to the Board's private housing policy (Board Policy Manual Chapter II.E.9), which currently allows the Board's President and CEO to allow or approve on the recommendation of the Director of Facilities an agreement relating to private housing for a term of less than one year. The proposal is to change the one-year limit to three years. General Counsel Yeary explained that it is thought that the extra flexibility may allow for more advantageous and affordable deals to be struck. Regent Lane asked for clarity on the meaning of a term of less than three years and whether that meant anything up to but not beyond three years. General Counsel Yeary confirmed that understanding. Regent Ice moved that the policy be amended as proposed followed by the second of Regent Lane. The motion carried.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Regent Ice moved that the Board of Regents recess into executive session in the Kathy Rupp conference room to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel. The subject of this executive session is a regular annual university CEO evaluation and preparation for one or more other CEO evaluations, and the purpose is to protect the privacy of the individual Board employees involved. The session should last approximately one hour and shall include the following persons

who are either members of the body or will aid in the discussion: members of the Kansas Board of Regents, President and CEO Blake Flanders, President Linton, for a portion, General Counsel John Yearly, and Project Specialist Julene Miller. Regent Kiblinger seconded the motion and the motion carried. The open meeting of the Kansas Board of Regents reconvened at 9:35.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 9:47, Regent Ice moved, followed by the second of Regent Benson, that the Board of Regents recess into executive session in the Kathy Rupp conference room for 75 minutes to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel. The subject matter of this executive session was consultation with a university CEO as to the performance of the CEO's work for the Board, the conduct of a university CEO's evaluation, and preparation for one or more other CEO evaluations, and the purpose was to protect the privacy of the individual employees involved. At 11:02 Regent Ice moved to extend the executive session for 32 minutes until 11:34, followed by a second by Regent Lane. The motion passed. At 11:34 Regent Ice moved to extend the executive session 15 minutes to 11:49, seconded by Regent Kiblinger. The motion carried. At 11:49 a.m. Regent Ice moved to extend the executive session for 3 minutes to 11:52, seconded by Chair Rolph. At 11:52 the open meeting of the Board resumed and was adjourned by Chair Rolph.

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Blake Flanders, President and CEO

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Jon Rolph, Chair