

KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS
BOARD ACADEMIC AFFAIRS STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
FEBRUARY 26, 2025

Chair Diana Mendoza called the February 26, 2025, Board Academic Affairs Standing Committee meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. The meeting was held via Zoom.

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

INTRODUCTIONS

Dr. Julio Guerrero, who filled in for Barry Robinson at Butler CC, and Angela Pool-Funai, who filled in for Jill Arensdorf at FHSU, introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regent Parasker moved that the minutes of the February 12, 2025, meeting be approved. Following the second of Regent Johnston, the motion carried unanimously.

BOARD DISCUSSION AGENDA ITEMS

BS DATA SCIENCE

Jen Roberts shared a summary of the program proposal. This proposal was originated because KU received a National Science Foundation grant, which has provided funding for the Kansas Data Science Consortium, which is working to enhance the data science capabilities of the Kansas workforce. Dr. William Duncan shared an overview of the program content and structure. Regent Johnston moved to approve the program proposal. Following the second of Regent Parasker, the motion carried unanimously.

ACT ON KANSAS FREE APPLICATIONS DAY FOR AY 2025-2026

Associate Director of Academic Affairs Mistie Knox shared that based on the stakeholder feedback, it was recommended that the 2024 dates set for the second week in October, which would be October 6-8, 2025, continue and remain consistent. Maintaining this timeline would allow for continuity in data collection. The KHEDS AY report, anticipated in October, will provide further insight into the initiative's impact. At the last meeting, provosts expressed appreciation for the spirit of the initiative. They suggested collaborating and exploring ways to streamline the processes for students applying and, reduce the burden faced by admissions departments, and reduce costs. Vice President of Academic Affairs Rusty Monhollon shared that the provosts have been meeting and working on gathering the data for their institutions. There is a meeting of enrollment managers later in the week. He also provided a reminder that at the last meeting, there was a motion to table this discussion until the March Board meeting and recommended that this timeline be followed to allow the provosts to provide the data they receive from the enrollment managers. Regent Parasker made a motion to move this discussion to the March meeting. Following the second of Regent Mendoza, the motion carried unanimously.

OTHER MATTERS

REDUCED CREDIT BACCALAUREATE DISCUSSION

Vice President Monhollon asked the committee to provide feedback on how to proceed with their recommendation to be presented to the Board. The regents suggested gathering information on what the policy changes would look like, data on industry needs, and what the requirements and criteria for the institutions requesting to offer these degree programs would be. Regent Johnston moved that the Board be charged with gathering information to

determine what it would take for the institutions to be able to propose degree options for the 90-hour bachelor's degree. Regent Parasker seconded the motion. Vice President Monhollon will move forward with working with Board staff to gather information on what the policy updates will look like, the approval process for these programs, and the criteria that will be used to assess these programs.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next BAASC meeting will be held in Topeka at the KBOR office on March 12.

ADJOURNMENT

Regent Johnston moved that the meeting be adjourned. Following the second of Regent Parasker, the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:32 a.m.