

**KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS
SYSTEM COUNCIL OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICERS
MINUTES
MARCH 12, 2025**

Luke Dowell, Vice President for Academic Affairs at Seward County Community College, chaired the meeting in place of Dr. Mickey McCloud. Mr. Dowell called the March 12, 2025, meeting of the System Council of Chief Academic Officers to order at 8:30 a.m. The meeting was held virtually through Zoom, with an in-person option available in Suite 530, located in the Curtis State Office Building, 1000 S.W. Jackson, Topeka, KS 66612.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Brandon Galm, Cloud County CC	Jason Sharp, Labette CC	Monica Lounsbery, WSU
Brent Thomas, ESU	Susan Bon, PSU	Jennifer Seymour, WSU Tech
Jill Arensdorf, FHSU	Luke Dowell, Seward CC	Rusty Monhollon, KBOR (<i>ex officio</i>)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jason Sharp moved that the minutes of the February 12, 2025, meeting be approved. Provost Barbara Bichelmeyer seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

SYSTEMWIDE UPDATES

OPEN UP LEARNING KANSAS STEERING COMMITTEE UPDATE

Heather MacBean, Open Education Librarian for the University of Kansas, shared that the committee is comprised of two and four-year college faculty representatives. Their mission is to increase access to education by raising awareness and support for open educational resources (OER) and associated practices and pedagogies. Their vision is to improve student outcomes and access by integrating high-quality OER into teaching and learning across the KBOR system. Details about this committee can be found on the [KBOR website](#).

Heather also shared that the committee has submitted a budget request to the legislature for 2026, amounting to \$200,000. The funds will be used to purchase a LibreTexts OER subscription for all KBOR institutions; investigate a systemwide OER reporting structure; award grants; and create a staff position to coordinate, expand, and report on OER initiatives. In the fall, the committee will conduct a student survey to gather data on student views on OER to advocate for state support.

FIRST 15

Vice President for Academic Affairs Rusty Monhollon reported that KBOR staff are collecting data to calculate student need for low-to-no-cost concurrent enrollment. Chief Academic Officers have received a table outlining the service areas of Community and Technical Colleges and are asked to review it for accuracy and provide any necessary corrections.

Brandon Galm asked how the data collection would impact the timeline for implementation. Vice President Monhollon responded that the workgroup still plans to make a recommendation to the Board in May.

REVERSE TRANSFER ANNUAL REPORT

Associate Director for Academic Affairs Mistie Knox outlined the Reverse Transfer procedures and shared data on reverse transfer for AY 2020 through 2024. The data showed an increase in reverse transfer referrals but a decline in the number of associate's degrees awarded. The Reverse Transfer Working Group has been meeting regularly to analyze and streamline the process. They approved the use of the National Student Clearinghouse as the free reverse transfer data exchange service.

Monica Lounsbery asked about the volume of students meeting reverse transfer thresholds. Mistie responded that the workgroup will gather the data for WSU and send it to her.

OTHER MATTERS

ACCUPLACER, HONORLOCK, AND ALEKS

Vice President Monhollon asked that institutions interested in obtaining any of these products should contact him or Samantha Christy-Dangermond within the next week or two to be included.

NEXT THREE-YEAR CYCLE PERFORMANCE AGREEMENTS

Vice President Monhollon announced that KBOR staff are discussing plans for the next three-year performance agreement cycle, which will begin after the current cycle ends in AY2026.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next SCOCOA meeting is scheduled for April 16 at Pittsburg State University. Luke Dowell reminded the committee that performance reports are due July 1st.

ADJOURNMENT

Susan Bon moved that the meeting be adjourned, and Provost Barbara Bichelmeyer seconded. The motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 9:09 a.m.