

KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS
SYSTEM COUNCIL OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICERS
MINUTES
APRIL 16, 2025

The April 16, 2025, meeting of System Council of Chief Academic Officers was called to order by co-chair Mickey McCloud at 8:32 a.m. The meeting was held in the Meadowlark room on the Pittsburg State University Campus, Overman Student Center 302 E Cleveland Ave, Pittsburg, KS 66762, with a virtual option available.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Brandon Galm, Cloud County CC	Barbara Bichelmeyer, KU	John Fritch, Washburn
Mickey McCloud, JCCC	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>)
Jesse Mendez, KSU		

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Luke Dowell moved that the minutes of the March 12, 2025, meeting be approved. Jason Sharp seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

SYSTEMWIDE UPDATES

FIRST 15

Vice President of Academic Affairs Rusty Monhollon provided a brief update on the First 15 initiative. During the recent legislative session, there was some conversation about modifying the formula that provides funds to both high schools and concurrent enrollment providers for students taking concurrent enrollment courses. Although no action was taken to modify the formula, it will likely be a topic of discussion during the 2026 legislative session. The Regents' goal has been that some concurrent enrollment courses, which we refer to as the First 15, could be offered at no cost to the student by using existing funds in the system for concurrent enrollment students. Should the legislature modify that formula next year, however, there is potential that both colleges and high schools will not receive the full reimbursement for concurrent enrollment students. The Kansas Board of Regents remains committed to expanding early college learning opportunities to more Kansas high school students. However, because of the uncertainty surrounding the funding formula, it may be wise to discuss an interim step in providing affordable concurrent enrollment courses to students, perhaps not at no cost to the student.

Vice President Monhollon proposes that the First 15 Workgroup seek to develop a framework in which First 15 courses can be offered at low cost to students. "Low cost" means less than the full cost of tuition, fees, and books that institutions normally charge for a typical concurrent enrollment course. The timeline for development and implementation will be adjusted, so recommendations for the Board will be made by the end of the summer. As part of this effort, KBOR will publish the rates each concurrent enrollment provider charges for tuition, fees, and books on its website. Making this information easily available will give students and districts a clear picture of the cost of taking a concurrent enrollment course. Vice President Monhollon plans to reconvene the workgroup in the next couple of weeks.

Council members discussed questions surrounding how the lowering of costs would be executed, the tentative estimates of the projected costs published, and clarity on service area and enrollment options shared with the public. Vice President Monhollon stated that KBOR's goal is to work with the institutions by reconvening the workgroup to identify ways in which costs for a low-cost option could be met within

system resources. Institutions would be able to review published cost information prior to publication to ensure the data is as fair, accurate, and objective as possible.

TRANSFER AND ARTICULATION COUNCIL UPDATE

Jennifer Seymour provided a TAAC update. The council met on April 9 to finalize course selections for the 2025 KCOG Conference. Twenty-one review courses and seven new courses were approved for inclusion. The new courses are Data Structures, Introduction to Digital Design, Ceramics I, World Literature II, and Aural Skills I & II. KBOR staff will be sending information to the CAO's on identifying preliminary courses that align with these new additions.

KANSAS MICRO-INTERNSHIPS (KMI) PROGRAM AND PARKER DEWEY+ ONLINE PORTAL UPDATE

Tim Peterson provided an update on the Kansas Micro-Internships (KMI) Program. Kansas Employers and Entrepreneurs are the target audience of the current campaign in which information on joining the KMI program and expanding the internship opportunities for Kansas students is widely being shared. As of March 31, there are 3,263 Kansas students registered for the KMI program and only 388 Kansas Organizations & Entrepreneurs. Handouts and banners will be shared with institutions to be shared with local businesses and other Kansas organizations.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next SCOCOA meeting is scheduled for May 14, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT

Brent Thomas moved that the meeting be adjourned. Susan Bon seconded, and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:52 a.m.