

KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS
SYSTEM COUNCIL OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICERS
VIRTUAL MEETING AGENDA
Wednesday, January 14, 2026
8:30 – 9:00 a.m.

The System Council of Chief Academic Officers (SCOCAO) will meet virtually via Zoom. An in-person option will be available at the Curtis State Office Building at 1000 SW Jackson, Suite 530, Topeka, Kansas, 66612.

I.	Call to Order		Name	
	A.	Roll Call and Introductions	Mickey McCloud, Chair	
	B.	Approve Minutes from December 17, 2025		
II.	Systemwide Updates			
	A.	TAAC Update	Marc Malone	
III.	Other Matters			
	A.	Reduced Credit Baccalaureate Degree Update	Rusty Monhollon	
	B.	Academic Affairs Updates	Academic Affairs Staff	
IV.	Announcements			
		Next SCOCAO Meeting- February 11, 2026		
V.	Adjournment			

Date Reminders:

- Updates to Systemwide General Education Master Course Lists – due January 16, 2026 (email to jbondsraacke@ksbor.org)
- Dual Credit Report – due January 31, 2026 (email to jbondsraacke@ksbor.org)

KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS
System Council of Chief Academic Officers
MINUTES
December 17, 2025

The December 17, 2025, meeting of the System Council of Chief Academic Officers was called to order by Chair Mickey McCloud at 8:30 a.m. The meeting was held in the Curtis State Office Building, 1000 S.W. Jackson, Suite 530, Topeka. *Proper notice was given according to law.*

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Brandon Galm, Cloud County CC	Barbara Bichelmeyer, KU	John Fritch, Washburn
Mickey McCloud, JCCC	Marc Malone, GCCC	Monica Lounsbery WSU
Brent Thomas, ESU	Susan Bon, PSU	Lisa Kirmer, FHTC
Jill Arensdorf, FHSU	Luke Dowell, Seward CC	Rusty Monhollon, KBOR (<i>ex officio</i>)
Jesse Mendez, KSU		

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jill Arensdorf moved to approve the minutes of the 11/19 meeting. Brent Thomas seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Chair Mickey McCloud noted that “Systemwide Associate Transfer Degrees- Additional Considerations,” listed as Item A under “Other Matters,” will now be addressed after “TAAC Updates”

Systemwide Updates

TAAC Updates

Director for Academic Affairs Dr. Jennifer Bonds-Raacke shared that BAASC will be reviewing the five new courses from KCOG at their meeting today. If approved, Council members will receive an email with directions for certifying these new courses. The deadline for certification will be January 23.

Next, Jenn reminded Council members of an email she sent to CAOs requesting that faculty discipline representatives confirm their participation in a spring follow-up meeting to the October KCOG conference for CSC1050 Introduction to Digital Design and MAT2040 Discrete Structures.

Finally, Jenn reminded Council members that institutions wishing to offer existing systemwide transfer courses that they have not previously offered must submit the new course approval form for TAAC review. The annual deadline for this submission is March 1, and the form should be sent to Jenn in advance of the deadline.

Systemwide Associate Transfer Degrees- Additional Considerations

Jennifer Bonds-Raacke recapped that five transfer associate degrees have been approved to date. KBOR staff and TAAC have encountered challenges regarding implementation. Vice President for Academic Affairs Rusty Monhollon will use the input received from this council and TAAC to make recommendations to BAASC in January.

Dr. Scott Tanona, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Planning in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at KSU, shared that the Computer Science degree was approved with three systemwide transfer course placeholders before articulation. Two of those courses (CSC 1050 and MAT 2040) were not approved at the KCOG. The KCOG raised questions about alignment and articulation. Further discussion made it apparent that there are no equivalent procedures for revising Systemwide Associate Transfer Degrees.

Dr. Sarah Robb, Vice President for Student Learning at Neosho County Community College, shared that TAAC is currently charged with overseeing systemwide transfer and articulation. The model of this oversight will be helpful in determining how to manage systemwide associate degrees. TAAC is interested in collaborating with SCOCOA so that all perspectives can be considered.

Barbara Bichelmeyer, Provost at the University of Kansas, highlighted the need for oversight from SCOCOA to assist in meeting accreditation standards. Marc Malone, Vice President for Instructional Services at Garden City Community College, asked for clarification between oversight and framework management. Dr. Bichelmeyer responded that she would support TAAC taking on the framework management piece and providing recommendations to SCOCOA. The discussion concluded with agreement that TAAC and SCOCOA should work collaboratively on the degrees moving forward and this recommendation will be presented to BAASC in January.

Reduced-Credit Bachelor's Degrees

Vice President Rusty Monhollon shared that the workgroup for reduced-credit baccalaureate degrees met on December 8. The workgroup is seeking to identify the elements of a policy framework including academic integrity, mission alignment, and clear learning outcomes. He noted concerns from the two-year sector regarding transferability. Other concerns included preserving the value of a traditional baccalaureate degree. The workgroup has suggested another title for reduced-credit degrees such as "Workforce Specialist." The workgroup plans to meet twice in January before Vice President Monhollon's retirement.

Lisa Kirmer, Vice President of Student Services at Flint Hills Technical College, asked if the HLC had any comments regarding the reduced-credit baccalaureate degrees. VP Monhollon responded that the HLC has outlined the expectations for proposal and has approved approximately nine programs from other states. The Council discussed the possibility of a pilot program and noted concerns such as the continuation to graduate studies, competing values, and industry support.

Academic Affairs Updates

Vice President Monhollon announced that Dr. Jennifer Bonds-Raacke will assume the role of Vice President for Academic Affairs upon Dr. Monhollon's retirement. Sam Christy-Dangermond added that there is an open Director for Academic Affairs position at KBOR.

Adjournment

Marc Malone moved to adjourn the meeting. Jesse Mendez seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:32 a.m.