

KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS
SYSTEM COUNCIL OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICERS
VIRTUAL MEETING AGENDA
Wednesday, November 19, 2025
8:30 – 9:00 a.m.

The System Council of Chief Academic Officers (SCOCAO) will meet virtually via Zoom.

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| I. | Call to Order | Mickey McCloud |
| | A. Roll Call and Introductions | |
| | B. Approve Minutes from September 17, 2025 | |
| II. | Systemwide Updates | |
| | TAAC Updates | Jennifer Seymour &
Jennifer Bonds-Raacke |
| III. | Other Matters | |
| | A. Next Cycle Performance Agreement- Focus Group Summary | Jennifer Bonds-Raacke |
| | B. Academic Affairs Updates | Academic Affairs Staff |
| IV. | Announcements | |
| | Next SCOCAO Meeting- December 17, 2025 | |
| V. | Adjournment | |

SYSTEM COUNCIL OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICERS

The System Council of Chief Academic Officers (SCOCAO), established in 2002, is composed of the six chief academic officers of the state universities, four chief academic officers selected by the nineteen community colleges, one chief academic officer selected by the six technical colleges, and the chief academic officer of Washburn University. The Board's Vice-President for Academic Affairs serves as an ex officio member. The Committee meets in person on the morning of the first day of the monthly Board meeting. Membership includes:

Brandon Galm	Cloud County CC
Marc Malone	Garden City CC
Mickey McCloud, Co-Chair	JCCC
Luke Dowell	Seward CCC
Lisa Kirmer	FHTC
Brent Thomas, Co-Chair	ESU
Jill Arensdorf	FHSU
Jesse Mendez	KSU
Barbara Bichelmeyer	KU
Susan Bon	PSU
John Fritch	Washburn
Monica Lounsbery	WSU
Rusty Monhollon	KBOR

System Council of Chief Academic Officers AY 2026 Meeting Schedule

<i>SCOCAO Academic Year 2025- 2026 Meeting Dates</i>		
Meeting Dates	Location (virtual or in-person)	Institutional Materials Due
September 17, 2025	Virtual	August 27, 2025
November 19, 2025	Virtual (no in-person option)	October 29, 2025
December 17, 2025	Virtual	November 24, 2025
January 14, 2026	Virtual	December 22, 2025
February 11, 2026	Virtual	January 21, 2026
March 11, 2026	Virtual	February 18, 2026
May 20, 2026	Virtual	April 29, 2026
June 17, 2026	Virtual	May 27, 2026

SCOCAO meets at 8:30 a.m. unless otherwise noted.

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

The September 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

Marc Malone moved that the minutes of the June 11, 2025, meeting be approved. Following the second of Luke Dowell, the motion carried.

Systemwide Updates

2025 KCOG Conference and TAAC Update

Jennifer Bonds-Raacke, Director for Academic Affairs, reminded the committee that the 2025 KCOG conference will take place on Friday, October 10. Registration will close September 26. There are currently 270 faculty registered. She asked Council members to encourage their faculty to volunteer for discipline co chair roles.

Reduced-Credit Baccalaureate Degrees Update

Vice President for Academic Affairs Rusty Monhollon shared that there are approximately 60 institutions nationwide that either currently offer or are developing reduced credit baccalaureate programs. The Higher Learning Commission has approved nine programs ranging from 90 to 99 credit hours in various discipline areas. He expressed the need to develop a policy for reduced credit baccalaureate degrees, noting the possibility of modifying the current policy for baccalaureate degrees. He noted that BAASC has already directed Academic Affairs staff to move forward with the initiative.

Chair McCloud opened the floor to discussion. Provost Mendez shared that in conversation with other institutions, there has been no implication of students in these programs attending graduate school. Programs are workforce-oriented and cover subject areas not currently offered as a bachelor's degree.

Monica Lounsbery inquired about the number of credit hours required for a three-year degree. VP Monhollon responded that the HLC has set the minimum at 90 credit hours. Dr. Lounsbery noted that WSU would welcome the opportunity to participate in a workgroup to work through issues such as general education requirements. Brandon Galm mentioned that other institutions who have created reduced credit baccalaureate degrees have reduced the number of required upper level hours.

Chair McCloud emphasized the importance of discussing the intent of a reduced credit bachelor's degree and how it differs from a traditional bachelor's degree. Lisa Kirmer, FHTC added that the committee should also consider the difference between an associate degree and a reduced credit bachelor's degree. Marc Malone added that reduced credit bachelor's programs were an area of interest for the two-year sector and emphasized the importance of ironing out policy around these programs.

VP Monhollon noted intent to bring together representatives from both 4-year and 2-year institutions to begin further discussion.

Other Matters

Update on Online Proctoring Contract

Director for Academic Affairs Sam Christy-Dangermond shared that the current contract with HonorLock is set to expire at the end of November, and that KBOR will be negotiating a new contract. She added that KU, WSU, FSCC, and SCCC have expressed interest in the contract and to let her know if any other institutions are interested.

Announcements

Academic Affairs Updates

VP Monhollon shared that the next meeting will be held virtually on November 19th.

Adjournment

Monica Lounsbery moved to adjourn the meeting. Following the second of Jill Arensdorf, the meeting was adjourned at 9:22 a.m.