

Council of Chief Academic Officers

**Wednesday, March 16, 2011
9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
Kathy Rupp Conference Room
Curtis State Office Building
Reconvene at
12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.
Kathy Rupp Conference Room
Curtis State Office Building
1000 SW Jackson Street Suite 520
Kansas Board of Regents**

MINUTES

The Council of Chief Academic Officers met on Wednesday, March 16, 2011 in the Kathy Rupp Conference Room, Curtis State Office Building in Topeka, Kansas at 9:30 a.m. and reconvened in the Kathy Rupp Conference Room at 12:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Larry Gould, Provost, FHSU
Jeffery S. Vitter, Provost and EVC, KU
April Mason, Provost, KSU
Lynette Olson, Provost, PSU
Allen Rawitch, VCAA, KU Med Center

Tes Mehring, Provost, ESU
Rick Muma for Gary Miller, Provost, WSU
Nancy Tate for Randy Pembroke, VPAA, WU
Gary Alexander, KBOR

Others Present:

Ruth Dyer, KSU; Barbara Romzek, KU; and Keith Pickus, WSU

Staff Present

Jean Redeker, KBOR, Jacqueline Johnson, KBOR, Dianne Glass, KBOR, and Joan Warren, KBOR

Approve Minutes of February 17, 2011

April Mason moved, and Tes Mehring seconded the motion, to approve the Minutes of February 17, 2011, as submitted. No discussion followed. Motion carried.

Program Requests

ESU Request to Change the name of the Bachelor of Integrated Studies degree to the Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies

Allen Rawitch moved, and April Mason seconded the motion, to approve Emporia State University's request to change the name of the Bachelor of Integrated Studies degree to the Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies. Motion carried.

KU Request to Change the Name of the Special Studies graduate degree program to Interdisciplinary Studies

Allen Rawitch moved, and Tes Mehring seconded the motion, to approve the University of Kansas' request to change the name of the Special Studies graduate degree program to Interdisciplinary Studies. Motion carried

Informational Items

KSU – A New Minor in Aerospace Studies in the College of Arts and Sciences in the Department of Aerospace Studies and College of Technology & Aviation - Department of Aviation - Reorganize Bachelor of Science in Aeronautical Technology by:

- Adding Options in:
 - Air Traffic Control Management (BATN-ATC)
 - Avionics Systems and Management (BATN-AVIO)
 - Airport Management (BATN-APMG)
 - Aviation Maintenance Management (BATN-AMAP)
 - Professional Pilot (BATN-PPILB)
 - Unmanned Aerial Systems (BATN-UAS)
- Dropping:
 - Drop: Bachelor of Science in Aeronautical Technology Aviation Maintenance (AVMB)
 - Drop: Bachelor of Science in Aeronautical Technology Professional Pilot (PPILB)

PSU - Electronic Embedded Systems Emphasis within BSET Electronics Engineering Technology Major (CIP: 15.0399)

The items listed above are for information and do not require action.

Student Learning Outcomes Assessment

Gary Alexander distributed copy of Strategic Goal #4 of Foresight 2020 (Student Learning Assessment). COCAO members will provide information on their assessment plans for discussion in April.

Strategic Goal #4

“Ensure that students earning credentials and degrees across the higher education system possess the foundational skills essential for success in work and in life.”

Objectives

- 4.1 During the 2010-11 academic year, the Board of Regents' system-wide learner outcomes task force, in consultation with the university Chief Academic Officers, shall make recommendations regarding the identification and measurement of foundational skills (such as oral and written communications, technical and numerical literacy, critical thinking and problem-solving) which institutions will report to the Board.
- 4.2 By June 2011, the Board of Regents will adopt a framework that enables each institution to report on the measurement of the foundational skills identified as essential to success in work and in life.

4.3 By September of 2012, the Board of Regents will receive its first report on the measurement of foundational skills across the higher education system.

Points

- 4.1 - related to undergraduates – COCAO will develop a list of recommended foundational skills that institutions will report to the Board
- 4.2 – each institution is to report on
 - Areas currently assessed on campus
 - Mechanism that is being used for assessments
- 4.3 – a progress report is needed and in September of 2012 a first report should be made to the Board

Discussion:

- COCAO needs to determine what the foundational skills are and how they will be assessed
- No data at this time
- Goal is to have a draft document ready to discuss at the April 20 meeting

Meeting recessed at 10:10 a.m.

Meeting reconvened at noon in the Kathy Rupp Conference Room.

Other Business

Low Enrollment Programs Update

Gary Alexander reported that no further requests have been received.

Learner Outcomes Clarification

Gary Alexander needs a paragraph from each university regarding what they assess at this time and how that assessment is accomplished. He will compile a draft discussion document for the next COCAO meeting April 20, 2011.

The Council pointed out that many of the universities are preparing for institutional accreditation and would like to merge the foundational skills with the outcomes needed for accreditation.

Transfer and Articulation Update

Gary Alexander reported that progress is being made on the issues regarding transfer and articulation. The Task Force will be meeting on Thursday, March 17 and the community colleges have provided input.

The Core Outcomes Project was discussed as a starting point for the general education courses that could be used for the transfer and articulation policy.

Discussion followed:

- Board policy has a transfer and articulation policy located in Chapter IV section 22
- 45 credit hours of general education
 - “A minimum of 45 credit hours of general education with distribution in the following fields will be required. General education hours totaling less than 45 will be accepted, but transfer students

must complete the remainder of this requirement before graduation from the receiving institution, which may require an additional semester(s).”

- Some institutions have transfer agreements for technical programs
- Advising can often be a part of the problem
- The value of a transfer and articulation advisory council and/or ombudsman

Library Consortium

- a. Benefits of a formal library consortium with dedicated staff to collaborate with academic institutions in selecting and negotiating information resources.**
- b. Benefits (beyond licensed databases) of an academic library consortium as a shared resource in the state of Kansas.**

COCAO discussed the lack of progress of the library consortium. A few questions were asked: 1) Should there be a group to deal with subscriptions? 2) Are there needs this group could address? 3) Concerns that joint licensing could raise the costs – who will pay for it? 4) A tiered method with case by case negotiating was mentioned. Who will manage the process? 5) Who will provide oversight and direction to the group?

Gary Alexander will inform (Council of Deans and Directors of Libraries) CODDL of the Council of Chief Academic Officers input. COCAO would like a proposal that includes who will be in charge; what databases will be used; and approximate costs (savings).

Council of Student Affairs Officers - COSAO

The Vice Presidents for Student Life want to re-energize the Council of Student Affairs Officers and open up communications. They have met a few times and have discussed a variety of issues, such as: retention, graduation rates, systemic solutions, safety response and disaster response.

Discussion followed:

- COCAO asked which issues overlap with them
- Joan Warren will provide a list of their agenda topics
- COSAO – do they have a business continuity plan
- Purpose of safety and disaster responses – equip faculty to respond

Meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Sincerely,

Jeffery S. Vitter
Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor
University of Kansas