

Council of Chief Academic Officers

Wednesday, October 19, 2011
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, October 19, 2011 in the Kathy Rupp Conference Room, Curtis State Office Building in Topeka, Kansas at 12:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Larry Gould, Provost, FHSU

Jeffrey S. Vitter, Provost and EVC, KU

April Mason, Provost, KSU

Lynette Olson, Provost, PSU

Randy Pembroke, VPAA, WU

Lynn Hobson for Tes Mehring, Provost, ESU

Keith Pickus, Interim Provost, WSU

Allen Rawitch, VCAA, KU Med Center

Gary Alexander, KBOR

Others Present:

Sara Rosen, KU; Ruth Dyer, KSU; Linnea Glenmaye, WSU; and Rusty Andrews, Andrews and Associates

Staff Present:

Jean Redeker, Jacqueline Johnson, and Joan Warren

Human Systems Consulting: Its Impact at Kansas State University

Rusty Andrews presented an overview of Human Systems Consulting and how it has benefited Kansas State University:

- “an efficient means of resolving workplace conflict from a relationship-system perspective”
- benefits
 - “higher level of productivity in the workplace
 - less time consumed by administrators in dealing with employee conflicts
 - fewer employees leaving the University (meaning less cost to replace employees)
 - employees who eventually leave the University doing so with a greater acceptance of their reasons for leaving
 - a reduction in the amount of time University attorneys spend defending the University in court over matters related to disgruntled employees and former employees”

Approve Minutes of September 21, 2011

Lynette Olson requested the Minutes be amended regarding PSU’s Regents Campus Visit as follows:

The Board Academic Affairs Standing Committee met with the Provost Leadership Council and the Fiscal Affairs and Finance Committee met with various groups.

Allen Rawitch moved and Jeff Vitter seconded the motion to approve the September 21, 2011 minutes as amended. Motion carried.

KBOR update

Credit Hour Definition

Julene Miller advised Gary Alexander that the University Attorneys have discussed the credit hour definition. Are the universities engaging their attorneys in the discussion of credit hour definition?

Discussion followed:

- Need clarification of the level of the credit hour – undergraduate, graduate, doctoral
- The federal definition incorporates all of the levels
- KBOR policy has a small amount on graduate credit hour
- HLC has asked for the definition from each institution

Provosts are consulting their attorneys, but do not consider it a legal issue. COCAO will hear reports from the campuses regarding credit hour at its November 2011 meeting.

Distance Education

The Council of Presidents has been encouraged/challenged to compete with the private for-profit sector regarding distance education. A report on distance education is due this Spring. The Regents are asking if the institutions are acting as aggressively as they could.

Discussion followed:

- Are we prepared to compete with a national business model
- How will quality control be managed
- If so, which institution will award the degree
- Will there be a system-wide degree
- What will not be funded in order to fund distance education

KBOR Data Research and Planning will have a list of distance education courses from Program Inventory available for the campuses by December.

A distance education report is due to the Board in Spring 2012.

Core Outcomes Project – Direction and Expectations

The Core Outcomes Project needs to have more definition and clear expectations. There needs to be a tie in with the Transfer and Articulation Advisory Council (TAAC). Currently TAAC is working on general education.

Program Requests

PSU - Request Approval to Merge the departments of Curriculum and Instruction with Special Services & Leadership Studies into the Newly Named Department of Teaching and Leadership

Keith Pickus moved, and Larry Gould seconded the motion, to approve Pittsburg State University's request to merge the departments of Curriculum and Instruction with Special Services and Leadership Studies into the newly named Department of Teaching and Leadership. Motion carried.

KU - Request Approval for the Creation of a Joint Degree Program Between the Existing JD in Law (CIP 22.0101) and the Existing MA in Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies (CIP 05.0110)

Keith Pickus moved, and Allen Rawitch seconded the motion, to approve the University of Kansas' request for the creation of a joint degree program between the existing JD in Law (CIP 22.0101) and the existing MA in Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies (CIP 05.0110). Motion carried.

Other Business

COCAO discussed the Wednesday morning meeting schedule. September and October meetings times have not been long enough. The Councils will start at 8:00 a.m. in November.

Agenda items:

- Discuss student credit hour
- Discuss the proposed Performance Agreement model – input from campuses

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Sincerely,

April Mason
Provost for Academic Affairs
Kansas State University