The February 19, 2020, meeting of the Council of Chief Academic Officers was called to order by Chair David Cordle at 9:09 a.m. The meeting was held in Suite 530, located in the Curtis State Office Building, 1000 S.W. Jackson, Topeka, KS.

In Attendance:
Members:  David Cordle, ESU  Jill Arensdorf, FHSU  Charles Taber, K-State
           Howard Smith, PSU  Rick Muma, WSU  JuliAnn Mazachek, Washburn
           Carl Lejuez, KU  Robert Klein, KUMC

Staff:  Daniel Archer  Sam Christy-Dangermond  Amy Robinson
        Karla Wiscombe  Erin Wolfram

Others:  Kathleen Kottas, Barton CC  Lori Winningham, Butler CC  Michelle Schoon, Cowley CC
         Adam Borth, Fort Scott CC  Marc Malone, Garden City CC  Marlon Thornburg, Coffeyville CC
         Cindy Hess, Hutchinson CC  Michael McCloud, JCCC  Erin Shaw, Highland CC
         Brian Niehoff, K-State  Jean Redeker, KU  Beth Ann Krueger, KCKCC
         Mike Calvert, Pratt CC  Matt Pounds, NWK Tech  Joe McCann, Seward County CC
         Linnea GlenMaye, WSU  Stanton Gartin, Salina Area Tech  Chandler Kirkhart, Seward County CC
         Duane Whitbeck, PSU  Mary Carol Pomatto, PSU  Ken Trzaska, Seward County CC

Chair David Cordle welcomed everyone.

Approval of Minutes
Howard Smith moved to approve the minutes of the January 15, 2020 meeting and Chuck Taber seconded the motion. With no corrections or discussion, the motion passed.

First Reading
Chuck Taber provided a summary of K-State’s proposal to offer an EdD in Community College Leadership. This program is designed to address a national need, was first developed at the University of Texas, migrated to National American University, and will be affiliated with the John Roueche Center for Community College Leadership at K-State. The EdD in Community College Leadership will be housed in the Department of Educational Leadership in K-State’s College of Education. Students who migrated with the program are currently housed within the EdD in Adult Learning and Leadership but will be moved to the new program.

Howard Smith provided a summary of PSU’s proposal for a BSE in Early Childhood Unified: Birth through Kindergarten. Howard noted the Committee would hear about the discontinuation of their BSE in Early Childhood Unified: Birth through Third Grade later in the meeting. When PSU changed its elementary education program to a unified approach, the birth through third grade was no longer needed and offered. The new program will be housed in Family and Consumer Sciences and they are basically keeping the early childhood piece. Dr. Duane Whitbeck, Chair/Professor of Family and Consumer Sciences at K-State discussed the creation and need for this program. Howard Smith clarified the former PSU Child Development program was not a licensure program; however, the new program at PSU will be.
Second Reading
Last month the Committee heard the first reading of K-State’s proposal to offer a Bachelor of Science in Integrative Physiology. The Committee posed no further questions. Howard Smith motioned to approve the BS in Integrative Physiology proposal, and Carl Lejuez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. David noted this proposal will be forwarded to COPS for approval later in the morning.

Council of Faculty Senate Presidents
Greg Schneider, ESU, presented an update. Greg stated they had two items on their agenda: the Free Expression Resolution and the Statement on Shared Governance. Greg noted he did not believe the Free Expression Resolution will pass. The Committee posed no questions.

Other Matters
Rick Muma, WSU, stated they are in the beginning stage of conversations about starting a location in Chihuahua, Mexico. This will focus around their expertise in advanced manufacturing, materials, and engineering. Rick also stated WSU may be looking at starting up a dental school again.

Jill Arensdorf, FHSU, stated they are looking at starting an online MS in Computer Science.

David Cordle, ESU, stated they have a proposal by the School of Business for a Bachelor of Arts in Entrepreneurship. He noted that interest in this possible program comes out of Fine Arts, Performing Arts and Humanities who are looking at this as a second major option for students. He believes this will have wide support on the ESU campus.

Chuck Taber, K-State, stated their campus OER initiative was selected for the “All In for K-State Day”, which is a fundraising event. He anticipates this will create additional funds for the initiative.

Carl Lejuez, KU, stated their new budget model for the Lawrence campus is done. It has a unique feature where around 15-20% of the budget is determined by peer-reviewed strategic priorities which aligns with Board priorities. The new model will be implemented in July 2020. He can provide extensive documentation if anyone is interested.

Howard Smith, PSU, stated they had three donors step forward to build a simulation hospital for their nursing program. This will be added to the PSU campus shortly.

Jill Arensdorf, FHSU, stated they have a large student base in China where FHSU faculty teach face to face. With recent events they have not been able to deploy their faculty, so they are going to start the semester the following week online. They redeveloped 30 courses in the last 5 weeks to adapt to this change.

PSU Discontinuation of the Early Childhood Unified: Birth through Third Grade
Howard Smith, PSU, discussed their plan to discontinue this program earlier in the meeting when he presented the program request to add a BSE in Early Childhood Unified: Birth through Kindergarten.

Academic Calendars AY 2022-2025
Daniel Archer provided background on public universities submitting academic calendars for Board approval. He noted they will be approved by the Board next month and are being provided to COCAO as informational. The Committee posed no questions.

Topics for Regent and COCAO Breakfast
David Cordle provided the Committee a list of potential topics for the breakfast meeting between COCAO and the Board. David asked for any additions or changes to this list and to prioritize topics.
Rick Muma asked if strategic program alignment will be included in discussions. David responded that it recently came up and is an important topic to the Board; however, he believes this topic could be broader than the strategic program alignment process. David stated program review may be a more appropriate way to word the topic. The Committee discussed if the 8-year cycle was too long, and many universities noted they have internal reviews more often.

Committee members discussed budget priorities and their importance. They would like to know what the Board thinks in terms of communication strategies, advocacy and coordination plans, and the relationship between tuition and restoration.

David Cordle asked about transfer and articulation being a topic because the Presidents discussed this last month. It was noted that Regent Bangerter has a passion for this topic, and program articulation has been a popular topic in general. David commented that amongst community college Presidents he believes there is a desire to do more. It has been discussed whether 2+2 programs are the way to go, if there is any opportunity for system level program articulation, and how does the course articulation work feed into this picture.

Carl Lejuez asked what the goals of the Board are when looking at elimination of programs: efficiency, redundancy, or finances. Daniel noted that at the January Board meeting, program data was requested for the last 10 years. Committee members discussed the variety of reasons for keeping programs and the variety of ways to evaluate program effectiveness. It was noted that the minima data does not show the whole picture.

The Committee narrowed down priorities in order of importance:
1. Budget Priorities
2. Program Review/Strategic Program Alignment
3. Program Articulation
4. Deferred Maintenance

Recess
Jill Arensdorf motioned to recess the meeting until lunch, and Rick Muma seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting recessed at 9:45 a.m. The meeting was reconvened at 12:03 p.m.

Additional Discussion
Carl Lejuez, KU, discussed several items on their horizon:
1. The Tilford Conference had a surplus budget, so dues were not collected in 2019. The budget has about $5,000 left so dues will be charged in the future.
2. The KU English Department would like to revisit raising AP scores for English Comp 1 exam.
3. The University Press has created a mid-year report to look at their surplus. They are expected to see continued revenue progress.

The Committee briefly discussed the Senate Faculty President topics of wanting input in the elimination of programs and a Free Expression Resolution.

The Committee recognized Carl Lejuez for all his work on COCAO. The new Provost of KU will start before the next committee meeting, but Carl noted the transition will not be complete until the new academic year and he will still be available until then.

Adjournment
Howard Smith motioned to adjourn the meeting, and Carl Lejuez seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 12:38 p.m.