

**Council of Chief Academic Officers
MINUTES**

Wednesday, January 20, 2021

The January 20, 2021 meeting of the Council of Chief Academic Officers was called to order by Chair Shirley Lefever at 9:03 a.m.

In Attendance:

Members:	Shirley Lefever, WSU Chuck Taber, K-State Barbara Bichelmeyer, KU	Jill Arensdorf, FHSU David Cordle, ESU Howard Smith, PSU	Robert Klein, KUMC JuliAnn Mazachek, Washburn Daniel Archer, KBOR
Staff:	Sam Christy-Dangermond Karla Wiscombe	Amy Robinson Tara Lebar	Marti Leisinger Cindy Farrier
Others:	Erin Shaw, Highland CC Corey Isbell, NCK Tech Brian Niehoff, K-State Greg Belcher, PSU Jean Redeker, KU Jason Sharp, Labette CC Kim Krull, Butler CC Ryan Ruda, GCCC Mickey McCloud, JCCC Scott Lucas, WSU Tech Rochelle Rowley, ESU	Jerry Pope, KCKCC Aron Potter, Coffeyville CC Aleks Sternfeld-Dunn, WSU Brent Thomas, ESU Cindy Hoss, Hutchinson CC Heather Morgan, KACCT Kim Morse, Washburn Kim Zant, Cloud County CC Steve Loewen, FHTC Shelly Gehrke, ESU Michael Smith, ESU	Sarah Robb, Neosho County CC Lori Winningham, Butler CC Aleks Sternfeld-Dunn, WSU Brad Bennett, Seward County CC Elaine Simmons, Barton CC Jane Holwerda, Dodge City CC Linnea GlenMaye, WSU Michelle Schoon, Cowley CC Lua Yuille, KU Luke Dowell, Seward County CC

Shirley Lefever welcomed everyone. Roll call was taken for members and presenters.

Approval of Minutes

Jill Arensdorf moved to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2020 meeting, and JuliAnn Mazachek seconded the motion. With no corrections, the motion passed.

1st Reading

- David Cordle presented the first reading for a Master of Arts in Applied Sociology at ESU. He noted this program is different from a traditional Sociology graduate program. It is specifically directed at preparing students for work in the service sector and is an accelerated online program with 7-week courses and multiple entry points throughout the year. Dr. Rochelle Rowley, Professor of Sociology; Michael Smith, Chair of Social Sciences Department; and Brent Thomas, Dean of College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, provided additional information and were available for questions. Dr. Rowley noted this program does not require a thesis and will serve students who need to continue working while finishing their degree. As an accelerated model, a motivated student can complete the degree in one year. According to the American Sociologic Association, there is increasing workforce demand for sociologists with an applied focus, and the ESU program's entire focus is on application. Michael Smith noted there is not a similar program in Kansas. Brent Thomas pointed out this program ties in nicely with KBOR's future Workforce Development goals.

Shirley Lefever asked if they planned to seek accreditation. Dr. Rowley responded they would seek accreditation from the Commission on the Accreditation of Programs in Applied and Clinical Sociology (CAPACS). The program must be in operation for two years with enrolled students before applying.

There were no further questions. This program will be up for a second reading at the next COCAO meeting.

2nd Readings

- ESU is requesting approval for a Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Entrepreneurship. David Cordle noted he had not received any additional questions since the first reading in December.

Jean Redeker moved to approve the Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Entrepreneurship, and Chuck Taber seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously through a roll call vote. This program will go to COPS for approval later in the day.

- PSU is requesting approval for an Associate of Applied Science in Career & Technical Education. Greg Belcher, Director of the Kansas Center for Career & Technical Education, provided a summary and was available for questions. Howard Smith noted he had not received any additional questions since the first reading in December.

Jill Arensdorf moved to approve the Associate of Applied Science in Career & Technical Education, and Chuck Taber seconded the motion. With no discussion, the motion passed unanimously through a roll call vote. This program will go to COPS for approval later in the day.

Other Requests

Howard Smith presented six requests for program consolidations for PSU: 1) consolidate the BSE with a major in Biology and the BS in Biology, 2) consolidate the BSE with a major in Communication and the BS in Communication, 3) consolidate the BSE with a major in Family and Consumer Science and the BS in Family and Consumer Science, 4) consolidate the BME and the BM, 5) consolidate the BA with a major in Music and the BM, and 6) consolidate the BSE with a major in History/Government and the BA in History which will result in a BS in History. Howard stated these requests are all in response to PSU's study of low enrollment programs. In each case, they have consolidated or discontinued the BSE, and will move the emphasis into content areas.

Barbara Bichelmeyer moved to approve the six requests for program consolidation from PSU, and David Cordle seconded the motion. With no questions or discussion, the motion passed unanimously through a roll call vote. These program requests will go to Blake Flanders, CEO and President of KBOR, for final approval.

Council of Faculty Senate Presidents Update

Aleksander Sternfeld-Dunn, WSU Faculty Senate President, provided an update from the Council. Aleks stated the Council would meet later in the day. They had concerns from faculty on a new policy being considered by the Board around suspensions, terminations, and dismissals of tenured faculty and staff. The council is concerned this policy could result in negative national attention, there could be potential legal ramifications, and the policy may be coming from universities who may not have managed finances well before the pandemic. COCAO members discussed these concerns briefly, and it was noted that the policy was created for temporary purposes and is optional.

Other Matters

Howard Smith shared that PSU is discussing several programs. They are looking into a Healthcare Innovation emphasis out of their School of Nursing, and their Kelce College of Business is discussing programing around Computer Science and an Applied General Business degree.

Adjournment

Shirley reminded everyone that Program Review reports are due January 29, and Program Accreditation reports are due February 12. Both reports should be sent to Sam Christy-Dangermond at schristy@ksbor.org.

The next COCAO meeting will be on February 17, 2021. Howard Smith moved to adjourn the meeting, and Jill Arensdorf seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 9:33 a.m.