The System Council of Chief Academic Officers (SCOCAO) will meet virtually via Zoom. An in-person option will be available at the Curtis State Office Building at 1000 SW Jackson, Suite 530, Topeka, Kansas, 66612. Meeting information will be sent to participants via email, or you may contact arobinson@ksbor.org.

I. Call to Order
   A. Roll Call and Introductions
   B. Approve Minutes from May 17, 2023

II. Transfer and Articulation Council (TAAC) Update
    Jane Holwerda

III. Other Matters
   A. Systemwide Transfer Associate Degree in Elementary Education Discussion
      Paul Adams, FHSU
   B. Discuss Fiscal Impact for Kansas Free Application Week
      Tara Lebar

IV. Next SCOCAO Meeting – September 20th, 2023

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:

Mickey McCloud, Co-Chair JCCC
Barbara Bichelmeier, Co-Chair KU
Aron Potter Coffeyville CC
Jane Holwerda Dodge City CC
R. Brent Thomas ESU
Jill Arensdorf FHSU
Charles Taber K-State
Sarah Robb Neosho County CC
Howard Smith PSU
Laura Stephenson (Interim) Washburn
Shirley Lefever WSU
Scott Lucas WSU Tech
Daniel Archer KBOR

System Council of Chief Academic Officers
AY 2024 Meeting Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tentative SCOCAO Academic Year 2023-2024 Meeting Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Meeting Dates</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 20, 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 18, 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 15, 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 20, 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 17, 2024</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 14, 2024</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 20, 2024</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 17, 2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 15, 2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 19, 2024</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*SCOCAO meets at 8:30 a.m. unless otherwise noted.*
The May 17, 2023, System Council of Chief Academic Officers (SCCOAO) meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Mickey McCloud at 8:40 a.m. The meeting was held virtually through Zoom with an in-person option at the KBOR offices.

In Attendance:

Members:  
Mickey McCloud, JCCC  
Barbara Bichelmente, KU  
Aron Potter, Coffeyville CC  
Chuck Taber, K-State  
Howard Smith, PSU  
Jill Arensdorf, FHSU  
Brent Thomas, ESU  
Sarah Robb, Neosho County CC  
Laura Stephenson, Washburn  
Shirley Lefever, WSU  
Jane Holwerda, Dodge City CC  
Daniel Archer, KBOR  
Scott Lucas, WSU Tech

Staff:  
Amy Robinson  
Karla Wiscombe  
Sam Christy-Dangermond  
Tara Lebar  
Charmeine Chambers  
Marti Leisinger

Others:  
Andrew Hippisley, WSU  
Andy Howe, ESU  
Angela Pool-Funai, FHSU  
Ashlie Jack, WSU  
Brett Whitaker, FHSU  
Cheryl Giefer, PSU  
Elaine Simmons, Barton CC  
Janice Stover, Cowley CC  
Jason Sharp, Labette CC  
Jean Redeke, KU  
Jennifer Ball, Washburn  
Jennifer Callis, SATC  
JoLanna Kord, ESU  
Karen Johnson, PSU  
Kim Zant, Cloud County CC  
Kristen Kremer, K-State  
Linnea GlenMaye, WSU  
Luke Dowell, SCCC  
Melanie Wallace, Allen CC  
Monette DePew, Pratt CC  
Mary Carol Pomatto, PSU  
NWKTC Representatives  
Robert Klein, KUMC  
Seth Kastle, FHSU  
Sharon Kibbe, Highland CC  
Tanya Gonzalez, K-State  
Taylor Crawshaw, Independence CC  
Tom Nevill, Butler CC  
Tricia Gonzalez, K-State  
Victor H. Gonzalez, KU  
Susan Dumler, FHSU  
Brad Bennett, SCCC  
Susan Castro, WSU  
Steven Skinner, WSU  
Seth Carter, Colby CC  
Amber Knoettgen, Cloud County CC  
Vincent Bowhay, Indy CC

Roll call was taken for members and presenters.

Approval of Minutes
Steve Loewen moved to approve April 19, 2023, meeting minutes, and Jill Arensdorf seconded the motion. With no corrections, the motion passed.

Transfer and Articulation Council (TAAC) Update
Jane Holwerda presented the TAAC update. The Council did not meet in May. An email has been sent to Chief Academic Officers requesting to submit preliminary course information for four new courses for the October 6, 2023, Kansas Core Outcomes Groups Conference. TAAC recommends that each institution checks the Transfer Portal to ensure the accuracy of the current 116 Systemwide Transfer (SWT) courses.

Other Matters
- Karla Wiscombe presented the Concurrent/Dual Enrollment Report found at https://www.kansasregents.org/academic_affairs/dual-credit-cooperative-agreements/high-school-enrollments. This report previously consisted of only concurrent enrollment, and it has evolved to include concurrent, dual, and CTE enrollment information. She reviewed data on Kansas high school student enrollments in public higher education available on the Kansas Higher Education Statistics.
Tara Lebar summarized the 2022 Advanced Placement (AP) reports. The 2022 AP Summary Report for both 2-year and 4-year institutions can be found at [https://www.kansasregents.org/academic_affairs/credit_for_prior_learning/ap-clep-exams](https://www.kansasregents.org/academic_affairs/credit_for_prior_learning/ap-clep-exams). Tara noted the following:

- Data show increases in sectors for the number of test-takers, exam scores reported, and scores of three or above
- College Board changed its AP Summary Report format to include new data points and may be interesting for institutions to review

Sam Christy-Dangermond provided a reminder on the AY 2022 Performance Reports. The AY 2022 performance reports were emailed to institutional contacts on April 17, with a due date of June 30. If an institution hasn’t received theirs, please get in touch with Sam at schristy@ksbor.org.

Mickey McCloud presented a KCIA update. They have had conversations over the year with high school partners on dual credit and ways to mitigate the loss of HLC-qualified staff who deliver these courses. They also support the 4-year institution’s interest in the importance of an AA degree and look forward to working with them to make reverse transfer more deliverable. The KCIA summer retreat is scheduled for June 8-9th, where they will look at ways to work with the system towards positive improvements.

**Adjournment**

The next SCOCAO meeting is scheduled virtually for June 14, 2023, at 8:30 a.m.

Barbara Bichelmeyer moved to adjourn the meeting, and Brent Thomas seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:59 a.m.
Act on Systemwide Transfer Associate Degree in Elementary Education

Daniel Archer
VP, Academic Affairs

Summary

Systemwide associate-to-baccalaureate program transfer provides an avenue to simplify the transfer process for students and academic advisors, reduce cost of degree, decrease time to degree, and increase baccalaureate completion. Background information on the benefits of systemwide transfer associate degrees and a copy of the first systemwide transfer associate degree in Kansas, an Associate in Arts/Science Degree in Elementary Education, is detailed herein. 

June 14, 2023

➢ Affordability – On Time Graduation
➢ Success – Degrees and Certificates Earned
➢ Access – Enrollment Equity Gaps

Background

A systemwide program transfer approach is intended to preserve credits and establish a clear transfer pathway between community colleges and universities.\(^1\) As a result, this approach creates a concrete trajectory in which all courses completed within an earned associate degree transfer and apply toward the completion of specific baccalaureate degree requirements. Implementing a systemwide associate-to-baccalaureate transfer model is advantageous to students, states, universities, and community colleges for a multitude of reasons. Among others, the benefits include:

**Benefits to the Student**
- Provides a shorter path to completion, thereby reducing time-to-degree\(^2\)
- Decreases the cost of the degree\(^2\)
- Creates more flexibility and increases options for students\(^3\)

**Benefits to the State**
- Increases efficiencies and reduces course redundancy\(^3\)
- Saves state costs associated with excessive credits\(^2\)
- Aligns with the KBOR Strategic Plan – Promotes affordability, retention, and completion

**Benefits to the University**
- Provides an opportunity to attract more non-traditional students as universities adapt to recruiting from smaller high school graduating classes\(^4\)
- Establishes an opportunity to have a larger population of junior transfer students, which could increase the demand for upper-division coursework\(^4\)
- Simplifies transfer student advising and streamlines degree audits because the transferability has previously been determined\(^5\)

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• Creates opportunities to increase baccalaureate degree completion (transfer students who have an associate degree are more likely to earn a baccalaureate degree)\(^6\)

**Benefits to the Community College**

• Creates opportunity to increase associate degree completion\(^7\)
• Simplifies transfer student advising\(^6\)

**Core Components in a Systemwide Associate-to-Baccalaureate Transfer Framework**

A review of practitioner and scholarly literature revealed that three components are commonly cited when establishing a systemwide associate-to-baccalaureate program transfer model.

• Developing a common general education (GE) package\(^2,3\)
• Examining associate and/or baccalaureate degree credit limits\(^3\)
• Creating a framework in which program courses transfer as a block without the loss of credit\(^1,2\)

The Board approved the systemwide GE package in June 2022 that will take effect in Fall 2024, so the wheels are in motion to implement the first bullet. Additionally, credit hour limits were also examined in 2020 and 2021, and policy was subsequently revised to allow a university to increase the total number of credit hours that it can accept from two-year colleges.

**Creating a framework in which program courses transfer as a block without the loss of credit**

In Kansas, transferring a block of program courses has primarily been based upon a university establishing a set of bilateral agreements with community colleges. Thus, if a university wishes to establish a program transfer agreement with each community college in the state, it must develop 19 individual agreements. This is cumbersome for universities and community colleges and necessitates ongoing oversight because any program change made by either party triggers a need to re-examine and revise the agreement.

In addition to bilateral agreements with community colleges, universities also have transfer guides that specify program-specific courses from community colleges that will transfer. While this is a helpful resource, a transfer guide does not guarantee that community college credits will transfer because it may change between the point at which the student took the course at the community college and the date in which he/she is admitted to the university.\(^8\)

On account of the challenges and limitations associated with transferring program-specific courses, multiple states have established systemwide associate degrees in which a block of program-specific courses transfer and apply toward the completion of baccalaureate degrees in like programs.\(^3\) This has been executed by using pre-major and early-major courses to 1) fulfill the program portion of associate of arts/science degrees and 2) satisfy specific baccalaureate degree course requirements, without the loss of credit. This model aligns program-specific courses across community colleges and universities, which, in turn, reduces course overlap and eliminates the need to repeat similar courses at the university. This has occurred in states such as Colorado, Tennessee, and Ohio.

**First Systemwide Transfer Associate Degree in Kansas**

In 2022-2023, education deans at the six state universities and Washburn University collaborated on creating the first systemwide transfer associate degree, an Associate in Arts/Science Degree in Elementary Education. This degree will take effect Fall 2024.

This is a program that meets both student demand and employer need. Elementary education is the number one transfer program selected by Kansas community college students transferring to Kansas public universities. Additionally, teacher shortage is becoming increasingly more challenging, particularly in rural areas. Creating

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\(^8\) Schudde, L. (2019). *Why Texas should mandate that associate degree credits can be readily transferred from two- to four-year colleges*. Retrieved from https://scholars.org/contribution/why-texas-should-mandate-associate-degree-credits-can-be-readily-transferred-two-four
more direct transfer pipelines for community college students – many of which grew up in rural communities that have been adversely impacted by teacher shortage – will help support efforts to meet this important need. A copy of the Systemwide Transfer Associate in Arts/Science Degree in Elementary Education is included on the next page. Additional systemwide transfer associate degrees will be added in future years.
60-student credit hour transfer program in elementary education framework
06/05/23

Elementary AA/AS 60 Credit Hour Program to KBOR Transfer (PK-6 Pathway)

Overview

The intent of the plan is to provide an expedited pathway from any community college to any KBOR Institution Elementary Program for individuals desiring to become an elementary teacher. The pathway identifies sixty credit hours to be taken at the community college level and reflect the KBOR General Education plan “buckets” (https://www.kansasregents.org/academic_affairs/general-education/seven-bucket-framework) and recommended education coursework.

These sixty hours are transferred to any KBOR institution as the first sixty hours towards a 120-hour degree program. The remaining sixty hours at the KBOR Institution are the required courses to complete an elementary degree. Adoption and implementation of the plan will require frank and deep discussions between the KBOR schools and community colleges to move this effort from conception to implementation to assure coherence and fidelity of elementary teacher preparation in Kansas.

**KBOR General Education Program (34-35 Credit Hours)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bucket #1</th>
<th>English Discipline Area+</th>
<th>Credit Hours: 6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English Composition 1</td>
<td>ENG1010</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Composition 2</td>
<td>ENG1020</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bucket #2</th>
<th>Communications Discipline Area+</th>
<th>Credit Hours: 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fundamentals of Oral Communications</td>
<td>COM1010</td>
<td>OR 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpersonal Communications</td>
<td>COM1020</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bucket #3</th>
<th>Mathematics &amp; Statistics Discipline Area+ (Note: Future revision dependent on KBOR Math Pathway Project)</th>
<th>Credit Hours: 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>College Algebra</td>
<td>MAT1010</td>
<td>OR 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elements of Statistics</td>
<td>MAT1020</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bucket #4</th>
<th>Natural &amp; Physical Sciences Discipline Area+</th>
<th>Credit Hours: 4-5 from One Subject (must include a lab)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Life Science</td>
<td>Any life science within Bucket #4</td>
<td>4-5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bucket #5</th>
<th>Social and Behavioral Sciences Discipline Area+</th>
<th>Credit Hours: 6 hours in a least two courses from two subject areas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Bucket 5 options to come from two of the following areas: Anthropology, Economics, Geography, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bucket #6</th>
<th>Arts &amp; Humanities Discipline Area+</th>
<th>Credit Hours: 6 in at least two courses from two subject areas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States History to 1877 OR United States History Since 1877</td>
<td>HIS1010 OR HIS1020</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fine Art: Open Elective from Art, Music, or Theatre</td>
<td>Any ART, MUSIC, THEATRE, LITERATURE within the Bucket</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bucket #7</th>
<th>Elementary Designated Area+</th>
<th>Credit Hours: 6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Choose two courses from the identified list</td>
<td>As part of the Elementary Program Universal Transfer Plan this is a deviation from Bucket #7 Institutionally Designated Plan. The course cannot have been used in another bucket.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Government</td>
<td>POL1020</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural Diversity and Ethnicity</td>
<td>SOC2030</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Free Elective</td>
<td>One Free Elective from Buckets # 1-6</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL CREDIT HOURS</td>
<td>34-35</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Teacher Education Program (25 - 26 Credit Hours)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended Courses</th>
<th>Systemwide Transfer Designator+</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to Education</td>
<td>EDU1010</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children’s Literature</td>
<td>EDU2010</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Life Span/Developmental Psychology</td>
<td>PSY2020</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creative Expressions</td>
<td>Choose one that has not been used to fulfill general education requirements: ART2020 Art in the Elementary Classroom MUS2010 Music in the Elementary Classroom, OR HSC2020 Elementary School PE &amp; Health</td>
<td>2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Science/Physics Course</td>
<td>Any physical science/physics course within Bucket 4</td>
<td>4-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educating Exceptional Students</td>
<td>EDU2020</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology for Teachers</td>
<td>EDU2030</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free Elective in Education</td>
<td>Free Elective from any Education Course that has not been used to meet other requirements PREFERENCE FOR AN</td>
<td>2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EDUCATION COURSE or early childhood course BUT NOT LIMITED</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Elective** – to complete 60 Credit Hours</td>
<td>Open Elective within the System Wide Transfer List to complete a minimum of 60 credit hours for transfer</td>
<td>0 - 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>26</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRAND TOTAL (GE and EDUCATION)</td>
<td>60 - 61</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

+References for Systemwide transfer identification:


[https://www.kansasregents.org/academic_affairs/transfer-articulation](https://www.kansasregents.org/academic_affairs/transfer-articulation)

[https://www.kansasregents.org/academic_affairs/transfer-articulation/institutional-transfer-information](https://www.kansasregents.org/academic_affairs/transfer-articulation/institutional-transfer-information)

*Advising Note: Review local community college requirements for PSY2020 HUMAN LIFE SPAN/DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY to determine if PSY1010 INTRO TO PSYCHOLOGY is a prerequisite. If it is, take PSY1010 INTRO TO PSYCHOLOGY in Bucket 5.

**Depending on the courses taken and credit hours awarded, the student may need additional coursework to reach the minimum 60 credit hours for transfer.
1. **Kansas Free Application Days October 17-19, 2023**
   - **Access – Enrollment Equity Gap**
   - **Access – College Going Rate**

**Summary and Staff Recommendation**

Create Kansas Free Application Days during the month of October. For three days, October 17-19, 2023, Kansas residents regardless of age or income could apply to any baccalaureate, associate or certificate program at any of our Kansas Universities or Community Colleges for free and we would see if the Technical Colleges or Private Colleges would want to join the campaign. These dates coincide with the Apply Kansas Application month and occur before many of the scholarship priority deadlines for public universities. It would remove the cost barrier for high school seniors and adult Kansas residents who could be thinking about pursuing an undergraduate degree, associate degree or baccalaureate degree. With a marketing campaign, this could encourage Kansans to invest in their future through pursuing postsecondary education.

**Background**

Five years ago, Colorado started an Apply Free day for all residents. Starting with one day in October and by utilizing cable marketing spots advertising in both English and Spanish, residents were given the opportunity to apply free to all undergraduate programs at all state public and some private Colorado colleges and universities. In 2020 their third year, they saw a one-day total of 56,896 applications, a 28% increase over the first year, 44% of those applications were submitted by students of color, 28% submitted by first-generation students and almost 2,000 transfer applications. With the growth they had seen in the program and the madness of processing that many applications in one 24-hour period, Colorado changed to a 3-day window in 2021 and saw an increase in each category over the prior years.

**Staff Recommendation**

In conjunction with the Apply Kansas efforts, staff recommends creating Kansas Free Application Days this fall on October 17-19, 2023. All residents of Kansas who are applying for undergraduate programs at state public universities and community colleges would be eligible to submit their admission applications for free starting Tuesday, October 17, 2023 through Thursday, October 19, 2023. Undergraduate programs include undergraduate level certificates, associate, and baccalaureate degrees. This means all of the following applicants are eligible: First-time Freshmen, Transfer Students, Returning Students, and Applicants seeking a second bachelor’s degree. (Applicants for graduate-level programs are not eligible).

The actual admission application must be submitted through midnight on Thursday, Oct 19 to be eligible to have the application fee waived. However, applicants can and are encouraged to begin filling out the application before this time. The application just needs to be submitted during this three-day period. (All colleges and universities have application fee waivers for financial hardship during the entire year. As such, students with financial need may continue to submit fee waivers with their application before or after the Free Application Days.)

As the state continues to look for ways to increase the college-going rate and FAFSA completion, initiatives like this could inspire Kansans, of all ages, who have been thinking about continuing their education to take that first step. While this will benefit Kansans of all ages, Colorado’s data has shown that the biggest benefit will be seen from students of color, first-generation and transfer students. By removing barriers for students to pursue a credential, Kansas can create opportunities to increase the number of students who complete their programs and enter the workforce with a degree or competitive skills.

(Model based on [Colorado Free Application Days](#))
Student Advisory Committee Feedback

In March 2023 this proposal was shared with the Student Advisory Committee members soliciting their feedback. Staff received responses both via email and verbally at their meeting on March 22, 2023. Several members shared the proposal with their University President prior to the March 22, meeting. The overwhelming comments were positive regarding an initiative that encourages more access to higher education. The following comment was shared via email,

“My youngest brother, who wasn’t sure what he wanted to do after high school, filled out his first college application when FHSU hosted a free application day. He is now a Tiger, happy with his decision. I also trust the argument that this initiative will benefit students of color and first-generation college students, for which FHSU is home to many. This week would increase accessibility to higher education for Kansans, which I see as a benefit to both the students and the universities.”

While the conversation was mostly positive, the student representatives voiced some challenges their institutions had about lost revenue from these free application days. Would it be possible to replace this lost revenue? Would it be better to start with three days rather than a full week might be a better way to start the program. They encouraged staff to carry the program forward for further consideration.

Following the suggestion from the Student Advisory Committee and conversation from the Board of Academic Affairs Subcommittee meeting on May 17, 2023, the proposal has been adjusted from a five-day to a three-day free application program.