

## LINCOLN UNIVERSITY

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June 10, 2024

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**Board of Curators** 

President, Lincoln University of Missouri National Alumni Association

As you are aware, the Lincoln University of Missouri Board of Curators and the Lincoln University (LU) leadership have ongoing concerns about the finances, management, and operations of the Lincoln University of Missouri National Alumni Association (LUAA).

During the last three years, we have made efforts to engage the LUAA constructively in the interest of 1) developing a more productive relationship that best serves LU's students and alumni, 2) ensuring the role and purpose of the LUAA aligns with the honorable mission of LU and our founders to educate the underserved African-American community, and 3) entering into a Memorandum of Understanding to memorialize the relationship between the LUAA and LU. Unfortunately, our efforts have been unsuccessful.

Therefore, effective immediately, LUAA's affiliation with LU is suspended and LUAA must perform the following at the timelines set forth below in order to be reinstated as an affiliated constituent group of Lincoln University:

- 1) Contract with an independent CPA firm to perform an audit of the LUAA for its two most recent fiscal years, under generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The audit must be completed and provided to the University no later than September 1, 2024.
- 2) Reach full agreement with the University and its representatives on a Memorandum of Understanding by no later than December 1, 2024, which shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
  - a. The establishment of an independent mailing address for all LUAA business, external of the University by no later than July 1, 2024.
  - b. The use of an independent financial management system that will allow LUAA to receive payments and donations online, external of the University by no later than July 1, 2024.
  - c. Any actions taken by the LUAA, its members on behalf of LUAA, and LUAA's officers will be consistent with the federal tax-exempt status of a 501(c)3 charitable organization effective immediately.
  - d. Neither the LUAA, nor any of the members of LUAA's governing body or officers will publicly disparage the University or its representatives effective immediately. This is not to discourage frank discourse between the LUAA or members of LUAA's governing body or officers and appropriate representatives of the University.

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Noncompliance with any of these expectations by the aforementioned timeframes will result in LUAA's immediate failure to be reinstated as an affiliated constituent group of the University. Unless LUAA is an affiliated constituent group of the University, LUAA will not be allowed to use LU's name or any of its logos or emblems.

We want our alumni to know that our differences with the LUAA does NOT impact individual alumni chapters and we are more committed than ever to creating a framework which will ensure that every voice is heard, and every opinion is valued. Moving forward, LU will continue to explore ways of developing more meaningful relationships with our more than 19,000 proud alumni. Beginning immediately, the Board of Curators will work with LU's administration to develop a Lincoln University of Missouri Alumni Council. The Council will consist of representatives from across our individual alumni chapters, as well as those that may not currently be participating in an established chapter, ensuring that our dialogue with alumni is both broadened and strengthened.

In addition, any existing alumni chapter that wishes to work directly with the University will be extended an opportunity to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding, establishing a formal relationship with LU. The University's representatives will be working with geographical chapters, while also seeking to establish new relationships with affinity groups such as ROTC Alumni, Band Alumni, Athletic Alumni, School of Education Alumni, School of Business Alumni, etc.

While we appreciate your passion for LU and past service, we are setting this expectation for the LUAA in the best interests of the entire LU community and the future of this great institution of higher education.

Sincerely

Lincoln University Board of Curators