



# LINCOLN UNIVERSITY

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## BOARD ACTIONS

TO: Faculty, Staff and Students

FROM: John B. Moseley, President *JBM*

DATE: September 9, 2022

SUBJECT: Action Items - Board of Curators

During its meeting held on Thursday, September 8, 2022, the Lincoln University Board of Curators approved the following:

1. Academic Minors in (1) Communications; and (2) Project Management. (For additional information contact Dr. Michael Self, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs.)
2. The attached changes in the Policy on Academic Probation and Academic Suspension. (For additional information contact Dr. Michael Self, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs.)
3. The attached Policy on Faculty Requirements for Online Course Instruction. (For additional information contact Dr. Michael Self, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs.)
4. A contract with Hollis & Miller to develop the Campus Master Plan. (For additional information contact Mr. Jeff Barlow, Vice President for Administration and Finance.)
5. A contract with Walters-Storyk Design Group (WSDG) as the design consultant for relocating the radio station – KJLU. (For additional information contact Mr. Jeff Barlow, Vice President for Administration and Finance.)
6. Tabled the discussion on Facilities Management Outsource. (For additional information contact Mr. Jeff Barlow, Vice President for Administration and Finance.)

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7. Named the Art Gallery in Richardson Fine Arts Center the "Dorothy Steward Art Gallery."

The next meeting of the Lincoln University Board of Curators will be held on Thursday, November 10, 2022

## Lincoln University Educational Policies ARC Proposal (April, 2022)

The Educational Policies Committee received a proposal from the Academic Routine Committee via Dr. Bryan Salmons (Chair). The proposal asks for modification to the rule regarding student suspension from the university, in particular duration of suspension.

Background Information from ARC chair Dr. Bryan Salmons:

It was pointed out by representatives from Financial Aid that federal money runs out for students after six years of use. The committee felt, therefore, that a certain and non-negotiable clock, as it were, is built into the system. Given two years of separate suspension, it is unlikely that a student could afford a third transgression. On the other hand, it is self-defeating for Lincoln to banish students for three years if the goal is to encourage reapplication. The advantage of a uniform, one-year suspension policy is that it is more punitive initially, when the student may well need more time for reflection and reform, yet more forgiving subsequently when a student may well still be inclined to finish.

Currently, Lincoln University suspends students for poor academic performance for one full semester (the equivalent of six months) in the first instance, then *three* years for a second instance.

The Educational Policies Committee believes the standard should be altered as follows:

### RECOMMENDATION ONE

**A student whose cumulative GPA falls below a 2.0 for one full term will be sent a notification letter which warns her/him that they have been placed on academic probation. Course enrollment will be limited to no more than 13 credit hours during the probationary period.**

**Special academic advisement and counseling sessions will be made available to the student on probation, and she/he will be encouraged to repeat those courses in which failures may have occurred. Also, the student will be apprised of the impact which failing to make satisfactory progress can have on financial aid eligibility and her/his status as a student in good standing.**

**A student placed on academic probation after one full term of study must either raise her/his cumulative GPA to at least a 2.0 by the end of the probationary semester or earn at least a 2.5 GPA in that same semester.**

Students who still fall below these benchmarks for a second consecutive semester will be suspended for one full year. At the point of discharge, suspended students shall be provided specific guidelines to gain readmittance.

Students who have been readmitted and again fall under the provisions of academic probation are likewise suspended for one year and special academic advisement and counseling sessions shall repeat.

## **Lincoln University Faculty Requirements for Online Course Instruction** **(April, 2022)**

Any individual teaching hybrid or fully online courses at Lincoln University are required to complete professional development for teaching asynchronous or synchronous online and/or hybrid courses before their first online teaching experience to ensure implementation of best practices. Effective Fall 2023, individuals teaching online and/or hybrid courses must complete, or have previously completed relevant and up-to-date professional development.

New teaching hires will be given a one-semester grace period to complete professional development if they are assigned to teach an online and/or hybrid course during their first semester, and if they do not meet the certification requirements listed above.

Approved professional development is required and must be completed every 7 years from the date of the last completion. Individuals teaching online and/or hybrid courses may complete relevant and up-to-date professional development sooner than every seven years, and the clock will start over at that point.

The office of the Vice President of Academic Affairs will be responsible for establishing and maintaining a comprehensive and continually updated list of approved professional development for online instruction. The office of the Vice President of Academic Affairs will collaborate with the Coordinator of Online Learning in the interest of facilitating these professional development activities. This collaboration will ensure that resources are provided to support online instructional quality.

Individuals teaching online and/or hybrid courses may petition the Office of the Coordinator for Online Learning for alternative training/professional development to be approved and added to a comprehensive list of relevant and up-to-date development opportunities that strengthen online skillsets and prioritize improvements to Lincoln University online courses. Petitions must be sent no later than six months prior to the training requirement.

### **RECOMMENDATION ONE**

**Adoption and implementation of “Lincoln University Faculty Requirements for Online Course Instruction.”**