

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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August 2, 2012

**Dr. Connie B. Hamacher Named Interim President and
Mr. Jerome Offord, Jr. Named Interim Provost at Lincoln University**

Jefferson City, MO- The Lincoln University Board of Curators announce today Dr. Connie B. Hamacher will serve as Interim President and Mr. Jerome Offord, Jr. will serve as Interim Provost of Lincoln University effective August 16, 2012. They will serve during the transition phase until the new president is named.

Following the announcement of President Carolyn Mahoney's retirement, the University hired The Hollins Group to assist with the search for the 19th President of Lincoln University. The Board of Curators also appointed a search committee comprised of varying campus and community stake holders. The initial meeting of the Presidential Search Committee was held on July 24th and they are on an aggressive timeline to hire the next president.

Dr. Hamacher and Mr. Offord will help facilitate continued and uninterrupted operations on campus. While the search is being conducted, the duties of the current president will be divided. Their combined experience, connection with students, faculty, and staff, will provide the university with great leadership and prepare the institution for a transition in presidential leadership. Both Dr. Hamacher and Mr. Offord have agreed they will not be candidates for the position of President.

The Interim President is appointed by and serves at the discretion of the Board of Curators, and shall have general supervision of all business and financial operations of the university. The Interim Provost will report directly to the Interim President and will share responsibility for the overall operation of the university. In the absence of the Interim President, the Interim Provost shall serve on her behalf.

Dr. Hamacher's responsibilities will include the areas of Academic Affairs; Administration; Legal Affairs, the Controller's Office, the Budget Office, the Office of Internal Auditor and the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment. Mr. Offord's responsibilities will include the areas of Student Affairs, Advancement, Athletics, the Police Department, and Information Technology - ERP/OIT.

Dr. Hamacher is currently Professor of Nursing and Head of the Nursing Science Department at Lincoln University. She has been employed at the University for thirty-two years. During her tenure at Lincoln University, Dr. Hamacher has served as Instructor, Assistant Professor, Associate Professor and Professor in the Department of Nursing Science. She became Head of the Department of Nursing Science in 1998.

In addition to her service in the Department of Nursing, Dr. Hamacher serves as the co-chair of the North Central Association Self Study Steering Committee; chairs the Employee Compensation and Benefits Committee; and is a member of the Budget Review, Enrollment Management, and the Lincoln University Technology Committees.

Dr. Hamacher earned the B.S.N., from Central Missouri State University; the M.S.N. and the Ph.D. in Higher and Adult Education from the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Mr. Offord currently serves as Dean of Library Services and University Archives at Lincoln University. He has been employed at the University since 2010 when he was hired as University Librarian. Prior to 2010, Mr. Offord served as Diversity Officer and Corporate Inclusion Manager for OCLC Online Computer Library Center, Inc., in Dublin, Ohio; Director of Diversity Initiatives at the Association of Research Libraries in Washington, DC; Director of Finance and Development for Us Helping Us, Inc. in Washington, DC; Area Director and Judicial Affairs Complaint Coordinator at American University in Washington, DC; and a Resident Director for American University and George Washington University in Washington, DC.

In addition to his service as the Dean of Library Services and University Archives, Mr. Offord serves as chair of the Intellectual Property and Copyright Committee; chair of the Xerox Print Assessment Project Ad Hoc Committee and is a member of the North Central Association Self Study Steering Committee; the Commencement, Special Occasions and Convocation Committee, Lincoln University Technology Committee; Strategic Planning and Budget Review Committee; and Enrollment Management Committee.

Mr. Offord was recently elected as the 2013-2016 Vice President of the Lincoln University Alumni Association and serves as the President of the Jefferson City Alumni Chapter. In addition, Mr. Offord is highly engaged in issues impacting HBCU libraries and has been involved with organizations that support libraries and the library profession.

Mr. Offord received the Bachelors of Science degree in Agriculture from Lincoln University; the Masters of Science in Student Affairs in Higher Education from Colorado State University; the Masters of Science in Library Science from Catholic University of America; and is completing the Ph.D. in Library Science – Managerial Leadership in the Information Professions at Simmons College.

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Enclosure