Missouri Department of Higher Education

Building Missouri's future…by degrees

April 29, 2011

Carolyn Mahoney, President
Lincoln University
820 Chestnut
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear President Mahoney:

This acknowledges that on April 29th, this department received notice of your institution's intent to change tuition for academic year 2011-12. The notice indicates a tuition increase of 4.9%. Lincoln's base tuition is $6,175.00. Therefore, a 4.9% increase amounts to $303.00.

As my letter of January 18th indicated, the maximum increase permitted for your institution under the Higher Education Student Funding Act (HEFSA) is $93.63. Because your increase of $303.00 will exceed that amount, it triggers the penalty provisions of the HESFA.

If you wish to request a waiver of the HESFA penalty, we must receive that request with your justification and supporting documentation no later than May 31, 2011. If you submit a penalty waiver request, please address the criteria described in the attachment to the extent that they are appropriate to your institution.

Deputy Commissioner Paul Wagner is available at (573) 751-1794 to respond to any questions that you or members of your staff may have regarding this process.

Regards,

David R. Russell, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Higher Education

Attachment as stated

www.dhe.mo.gov • info@dhe.mo.gov
205 Jefferson Street, P. O. Box 1469, Jefferson City, MO 65102 • (573) 751-2361 • (800) 473-6757 • Fax (573) 751-6635

CRITERIA TO BE ADDRESSED IN SUBMITTING REQUESTS TO WAIVE A HESFA PENALTY

1. State operating appropriation for FY 2010 per FTE student for academic year 2009-10 compared to the state operating appropriation for FY 2011 per FTE student for academic year 2009-10.

2. Mandatory costs that have increased at a rate that exceeds the increase in the CPI, including but not limited to increased costs incurred in connection with the implementation of new mandates or legal requirements.

3. Historical trends in the institution's operating appropriations, tuition policy and other financial issues and relationships.

4. Costs related to your institution's mission that require growth in revenues in excess of the increase in the CPI.

5. Costs related to other initiatives designed to meet specific needs of the State of Missouri that require growth in revenues in excess of the increase in the CPI.

6. The current and/or historical structure of the institution's total budget, including the institution's allocations for faculty and non-faculty salaries, institutional financial aid, student support, research, physical plant maintenance and other operational activities.

7. Damage, destruction, or deterioration of facilities, infrastructure, property or other physical assets of an institution for which there are insufficient funds from state appropriations or insurance proceeds to repair or replace.

8. Actions your institution has taken to reduce costs and become more operationally and financially efficient. Examples may include, but are not limited to, any elimination or restructuring of academic programs or reductions in administrative structure or staff.

9. Any other extraordinary circumstances.

10. Public comments about the material posted on the MDHE website pertaining to the institution's waiver request.