

### LINCOLN UNIVERSITY

of the Commonwealth System of Higher Education Lincoln University, PA 19352

## From my desk to yours...

Volume 2 Issue 11

The President's Newsletter

June 20, 2017



Richard Green, Ph.D. Interim President

### 2015-17 Lincoln University Accomplishments

During our time together, we have accomplished a great deal. Here's the good news... and the better news... as we continue to advance the Lincoln Legacy of Excellence!

Initially, we revised the 2013-2018 Strategic Plan and put strategic imperatives and action plans in place. Through this process and the resulting plan initiatives, we've made great progress together in furthering our commitment to this great and storied University and the values that we hold dear.

As a result of the dedication and commitment of University faculty and staff, the fall 2016 enrollment increased by 10% as compared to the fall 2015 and

15% as compared to the fall 2014 and enrollment is expected to continue to increase for the fall 2017. As the enrollment numbers continue to increase, the University's Student Loan Cohort Default Rate declined from 24.9% to 16.8% with the national rate at 11.3%. In anticipation of a greater need for on-campus housing to accommodate an increased freshman enrollment, the University will consider offering upperclassmen an off-campus housing option.

New articulation agreements were established with Westchester College in upstate New York, the California community college system, and <a href="Drake University">Drake University</a> in lowa. Lincoln University's study abroad program continues to thrive in creating a global presence for 40 students who have been placed in 10 countries. We also expanded our academic offerings with the <a href="museum studies">museum studies</a> program in partnership with The Barnes Foundation and the accreditation of the <a href="museum studies">bachelor in nursing</a> program through the nationally recognized Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). Lincoln continues to rank in the top 20 HBCUs in the country as reported by U.S. News & World Report.

The University achieved a balanced operating budget for the last four fiscal years. During this same period, Lincoln University received federal and state grants totaling \$9 million and completed campus renovation and construction projects, including the major renovation of Rendall Hall, totaling \$100 million. In addition, <a href="DGS facilities projects">DGS facilities projects</a> are under consideration for Azikiwe-Nkrumah Hall, Dickey Hall, and Amos Hall. The University entered into a lease agreement with Brandywine Realty to acquire additional space at University City and reached an agreement with Thompson Hospitality for construction of a food court in the Wellness Center.



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# Campus Kudos...

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Collaborative efforts between the Board of Trustees, administration, and faculty proved productive with the establishment of a <u>Faculty Council</u> and renewal of collective bargaining agreements with the Lincoln University Chapter of the American Association of University Professors and the District Council 88, American Federation Of State, County And Municipal Employees AFL-CIO Local 2377 through 2019.

Lincoln alumni have helped to stabilize families and communities through successful non-profit operations as well as through philanthropy and scholarship opportunities that benefit current Lincoln University students. In the spirit of giving back, more than 150 students of the 2017 graduating class established a fund to support students in need of financial assistance in addition to the traditional senior class gift to the University. Also to be noted is that many campus Greek and social organizations as well as faculty, staff, and alumni have contributed financially to the University's furtherance of Lincoln's mission. Many thanks to all for your continued support.

Among these successful efforts, we cannot forget the events that have had a resounding impact on us as citizens of the world. We have experienced natural disasters, political unrest, and unthinkable acts of violence and terrorism in Baltimore, Charleston, Cleveland, Ferguson, Madison, New York City, Orlando, San Francisco, St. Louis, St. Paul, and throughout the world. We were saddened during this same time by the loss of a beloved student Christopher Robinson, <u>Dr. Edgar Berry</u>, vice president of student affairs, and <u>Julian Bond</u>, civil rights activist and son of the late Dr. Horace Mann Bond, Lincoln's first African American president.

As you move forward this upcoming academic year, may this community continue to effect a campus climate of inclusiveness that embraces diversity, civility, respect, and freedom of expression. Let us think about what we can do to cause positive change in the lives of others through volunteering and community service. which will certainly positively impact our lives as well.

Dorothy and I have made many new friends and gladly accepted our designation as associate alumns. We have thoroughly enjoyed our stay as members of the Lincoln University family.

Sincerely,

Richard Green, Ph.D. Interim President