



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

ONE PETTICOAT LANE  
1010 WALNUT STREET, SUITE 320  
KANSAS CITY, MO 64106

REGION VII  
ARKANSAS  
KANSAS  
MISSOURI  
NEBRASKA  
OKLAHOMA  
SOUTH DAKOTA

September 13, 2023

Sent via electronic mail to: [REDACTED]

Dr. Mark Perry  
[REDACTED]

Re: University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
OCR Complaint No. 07232136

Dear Dr. Perry:

The U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights (OCR), received your complaint against the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (University), located in Lincoln, Nebraska, alleging discrimination based on race, color, or national origin. Specifically, you allege the University subjects students to discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin, by giving preference to applicants for the Dr. Kristie Hayes Visiting URiM Medical Student Externship in Dermatology, and/or the Karle Cordova Olnes UNMC Dermatology URiM Summer Medical Student Research Fellowship, who are Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, Native American, and Pacific Islander/Native Hawaiian.

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI), 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d *et seq.*, and its implementing regulation at 34 C.F.R. Part 100, prohibit discrimination based on race, color, or national origin in any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance from the Department of Education. As a recipient of federal financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Education, the University is subject to Title VI and to OCR's jurisdiction. Additional information about the laws OCR enforces is available on our website at <http://www.ed.gov/ocr>.

OCR will investigate whether the University subjects students to discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin, in violation of Title VI and its implementing regulations<sup>1</sup>, in its administration of the Dr. Kristie Hayes Visiting URiM Medical Student Externship in Dermatology, and/or the Karle Cordova Olnes UNMC Dermatology URiM Summer Medical Student Research Fellowship.

Opening the complaint for investigation in no way implies that OCR has made a determination on the merits of the complaint. During the investigation, OCR is a neutral fact-finder, collecting and analyzing relevant evidence from the Complainant, the University, and other sources, as appropriate. OCR will ensure that its investigation is legally sufficient and is dispositive of the

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<sup>1</sup> Including, but not limited to, 34 C.F.R. § 100.3.

allegation(s) in accordance with the provisions of Article III of OCR's *Case Processing Manual*, available at <http://www.ed.gov/ocr/docs/ocrcpm.pdf>.

Our goal is the prompt resolution of the complaint. Information on OCR's complaint processing procedures is available at <http://www.ed.gov/ocr/complaints-how.html>. Please note the section on resolution of a complaint prior to the conclusion of an investigation. If the recipient expresses an interest in resolving the complaint and OCR determines that resolution of the complaint prior to the completion of the investigation is appropriate, OCR may attempt to negotiate an agreement with the recipient pursuant to Case Processing Manual Section 302. Additionally, OCR offers, when appropriate, mediation to facilitate the voluntary resolution of complaints by the parties.

Please be advised that the University may not harass, coerce, intimidate, discriminate, or otherwise retaliate against an individual because that individual asserts a right or privilege under a law enforced by OCR or files a complaint, testifies, or participates in an OCR proceeding. Complaints alleging such retaliation may be filed with OCR.

Under the Freedom of Information Act, it may be necessary to release this document and related correspondence and records upon request. If OCR receives such a request, it will seek to protect, to the extent provided by law, personally identifiable information that could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy if released.

If you have any questions, please contact Ariane Armstrong, Attorney, at [REDACTED] (voice) or [REDACTED] (telecommunications device for the deaf), or by email at [REDACTED]

Sincerely,

Jennifer Brooks  
Supervisory Attorney