



## MEMO

**TO:** Concordia University Texas Community  
**FROM:** Donald Christian, President & CEO, Concordia University Texas  
**SUBJECT:** Update on the Governance Change and Pending Litigation  
**DATE:** Thursday, December 14, 2023

In September 2023, The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS) initiated legal action by filing a lawsuit against Concordia University Texas, its president, Dr. Donald Christian, and its Board of Regents chair, Chris Bannwolf. This legal action stemmed from the University's Board of Regents' decision in November 2022 to become the sole governing body of the institution. Subsequently, the parties agreed to engage in a mediation in November 2023.

**On Wednesday, December 13**, representatives from Concordia University Texas and The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod participated in a mediation in an attempt to settle the lawsuit. Despite the University's genuine efforts to find common ground, an agreement could not be reached during the mediation. Consequently, Concordia Texas will now proceed by having its legal representatives file pleadings in response to the lawsuit initiated by the LCMS.

In addition to the ongoing legal proceedings, it is important to emphasize that the leadership of Concordia University Texas continues to work tirelessly to secure the best possible outcome for its students, faculty, staff, and community. The University is dedicated to safeguarding its future while remaining true to its Lutheran identity and tradition.

The University is committed to transparent communication and will continue to navigate these legal matters with the utmost integrity and consideration for its stakeholders. For ongoing updates, visit the University's Lutheran Identity webpage at [concordia.edu/lutheranidentity](https://concordia.edu/lutheranidentity).