



COVENANT
COLLEGE

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

28 May, 2015

Catherine Lhamon, Assistant Secretary
U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights
Lyndon Baines Johnson Department of Education Building
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-1100

Re: Request for Religious Exemption from Certain Applications of Title IX

Dear Ms. Lhamon:

I hereby request, under 20 U.S.C. § 1681(a)(3) and 34 C.F.R. § 106.12, that the Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights acknowledge that Covenant College is exempt from Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and its accompanying regulations, to the extent that they are interpreted to curtail the College's freedom to respond to individuals in accordance with its religious convictions. As President of the College, I am the "highest ranking official of the institution," 34 C.F.R. § 106.12(b), and thus qualified to seek these exemptions.

Covenant College was founded in 1955 as a Christ-centered institution of higher education, emphasizing liberal arts. It is an agency of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA) and is governed by a Board of Trustees elected by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America. Within that ecclesiastical context, Covenant College exists to provide post-secondary educational services to the denomination and the wider public.¹ The College's motto is "In All Things Christ Preeminent [Colossians 1:18]." Acknowledging Christ preeminent as the creator of all things, as the redeemer of people fallen into sin, as the touchstone of all truth, and as the sovereign ruler over all areas of life, the College strives to discern and to unfold the implications of His preeminence in all things. To serve this end, we seek to appropriate the mind of Christ as the biblical perspective from which

¹ Bylaws of Covenant College, page 1.