Phyllis J. Vetter  
General Counsel and Vice President

August 13, 2020

Re: Incorporation and Legal Status of the University of Utah

To Whom It May Concern:

The University of Utah is a public institution of higher education located in Salt Lake City, Utah. The University was established on February 28, 1850, by the General Assembly. Utah Code Title 53B (State System of Higher Education) addresses the University’s establishment, mission, status, and governing board. Section 53B-1-102 designates the University part of the Utah System of Higher Education and states that the University is “empowered to sue and be sued and to contract and be contracted with.” Section 53B-2-101 includes the University among the state’s designated “bodies politic and corporate with perpetual succession and with all rights, immunities, and franchises necessary to function as such.” Section 53B-2-101 empowers the University to “have and use a corporate seal” and to “take, hold, lease, sell, and convey real and personal property as the interest of the institution requires.”

Given the nature of the University, its creation, and its statutory powers, the University does not have traditional articles of incorporation or bylaws and is not required to register with the Utah Division of Corporations and Commercial Code.

The University is also a non-profit organization recognized under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Sincerely,

Phyllis J. Vetter  
General Counsel and Vice President

Office of General Counsel  
201 S Presidents Cir Rm 309  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84112-9018  
(801) 585-7002  
Email: phyllis.vetter@legal.utah.edu