UA Little Rock Policy Management Board
Annual Report for Academic Year 2026
Date Approved by PMB: October 16, 2026
Date Submitted to Chancellor: October 19, 2026

Pursuant to LR 216.1, the Policy Management Board (PMB) provides the following "summary of the policies created, revised, and decommissioned, as well other relevant activities" of the PMB. This is the second annual report submitted to the UA Little Rock Chancellor following revisions to LR 216.1. Because the first such report covered Academic Year 2025 along with half of Academic Year 2026 (through December 2025), the current document refers briefly to previously reported policies and activities for AY26, followed by more detailed descriptions of AY26 policies and activities that have not yet been reported. Going forward, the PMB anticipates submitting an annual report that describes its work in the academic year just ended.

Administrative policies are summarized in chronological order based on the date of their consideration by the PMB. Following these are academic policies that were presented to the PMB as informational items, in order of policy number. Finally, other PMB activities from AY26 are summarized.

Academic Year 2026 (Previously Reported)

LR 201.1 (Non-Discrimination): Revisions to comply with Act 721 of 2025 and a model policy updated by the System Office.

LR 216.1 (Policy on Policy Management): Revisions to update the procedures for approving UA Little Rock-wide policies academic or administrative in nature, consistent with the revised UA Little Rock Constitution.

LR 401.7 (Title IX Policy): Revisions to comport with amendments to the Arkansas Student Due Process and Protection Act and a model policy updated by the System Office.

LR 402.3 (Career Service Recognition Payments): Revisions to delete references to "classified and non-faculty" employees and correct the statutory source to the Higher Education Expenditure Restriction Act.

LR 402.7 (Non-Faculty Grievances - Employment Matters): Revisions to policy that authorizes non-faculty employees to grieve certain employment matters.

LR 402.5 (Catastrophic Leave Bank): Decommission of the campus policy in furtherance of the Catastrophic Leave Program previously available to all campuses.

UA Little Rock Constitution: The campus governance document approved by the Board of Trustees in May 2025 is now linked in the Policy Library. By following the link to the 2025 Constitution, related documents such as current Faculty Senate Bylaws may be viewed.

Meetings of the Chancellor's Working Group on Facilities Use were recapped as informational items. The Working Group had as its goals revisions to LR 703.4 on use of facilities and LR 518.3 on free speech.

Academic Year 2026 (Newly Reported)

LR 216.1 (Policy on Policy Management): This policy was further revised to add procedures for custodians to review "university policies" assigned to them. The PMB website alluded to review by custodians every three years. But Internal Audit noted that this was not a policy requirement. The revisions include the three-year requirement; distinguish between administrative and academic policies as far as involvement of the Faculty Senate; describe the custodians' report to be submitted to the PMB every three years; and state that more specific procedures will be developed separately.

LR 704.1 (Campus Design and Construction of Capital Projects): The name of this construction-related policy was changed (formerly Procedure for Capital Projects). References were added to the correct Board of Trustees policies, UASP's, and underlying statutory authority. The role of Facilities Management in capital construction projects was also clarified, along with updates to terminology and restatement of the policy purpose.

LR 704.2, 704.3, 704.4, 704.5, and 704.6, all Facilities Management policies related to capital and other construction projects, were decommissioned. These outdated policies were largely procedural in nature. They were also duplicative of Board of Trustees Policies 730.1, 730.2, 740.1, and 740.2, as well as UASP's 730.1, 730.2, and 740.1.

LR 202.4 (Contracting Authority and Review): This policy, which was last reviewed in 2002, was updated to reflect current Board and System policies in addition to campus practices. The revisions identified the campus officials authorized to sign contracts for UA Little Rock; outlined the process for subdelegations of signature authority; and detailed the steps to request, draft, and finalize a contract binding UA Little Rock.

LR 305.7 (Asset Management): This is a new policy governing the lifecycle of assets, as defined, from acquisition to disposal. The policy directs staff to account for assets in Workday in compliance with state regulations, applicable Board policies, and accounting industry standards. Once implemented, the policy will address certain Internal Audit recommendations and findings from the Capital Asset Audit completed in October 2025.

LR 603.13 (Documentation of Personnel Expenses): This policy, which was last updated in 2016, was revised to comply with federal Office of Management and Budget regulations, as well as Workday processes for tracking the time and effort of employees who receive funding through sponsored programs. The revised policy updated definitions and procedures for employees, supervisors, and Payroll staff in order to meet OMB Uniform Guidance.

LR 405.7 (Artificial Intelligence – Acceptable Use): This new policy establishes guidelines for acceptable and prohibited uses of AI as well as "automated decision tools" driven by

AI. UASP 285.2 on Responsible Use of AI, along with UASP 285.3 on AI and Automated Decision Tools, required campuses to form AI committees consistent with statutes from the 2025 legislative session. The new policy accomplishes this goal and calls for further action at departmental levels to create more specific AI-use policies. The new policy will be reviewed by the UA Little Rock AI Council at least once per year.

LR 302.7 (Tuition Waiver for Employees): Because UASP 445.1 was revised to allow campuses to "develop policies to limit the number of semester credit hours an employee can enroll in at reduced rates per semester," this campus policy on employee tuition waivers was reevaluated. The Cabinet considered potential financial impacts and determined that simply deleting the semester credit hour limit was preferrable to manually entering the credit hours subject to an employee discount, which was the practice.

LR 303.5 (Check Cashing): This outdated policy was decommissioned. UA Little Rock no longer cashes checks of any kind for employees or students. The policy had last been revised in 2016.

LR 403.8 on Faculty Excellence Awards was reported as an informational item. This academic policy was revised to update the descriptions of awards, particularly excellence in social justice. The School of Law was clarified in "college" level annual awards. Criteria for eligibility and frequency of nomination were also updated, along with requirements for nomination packets.

LR 501.13 and LR 501.6, on Academic Offenses and Grade Appeals, respectively, were reported as an informational item. These academic policies were revised based on changes in the Faculty Senate Bylaws and to clarify the steps in each procedure and the responsibilities of each party. The number of class days that a student has to make a grade appeal was changed.

A typo in LR 501.6 was reported as an informational item, after a sentence applicable only to academic offenses (LR 501.13) was mistakenly included in the revisions to the policy on grade appeals (LR 501.6). An academic offense may involve more than one student, but proceedings will be convened separately for each student respondent. This does not apply to grade appeals, which will involve only one student per appeal and final grade.

LR 502.6 on Undergraduate international Admissions; LR 509.3 on Graduate Admissions; and LR 509.9 on Graduate International Admissions; were reported as informational items. The Undergraduate International Admissions policy was revised to change the scoring range for the TOEFEL and add transcription processor to the list of options, with other minor clarifications. The Graduate Admissions policy was revised to reflect language recommended by the Graduate Council and clarify how repeat grades will be transcripted. The Graduate International Admissions policy was also revised on the recommendation of the Graduate Council, to clarify testing options, change deadlines, and clean up wording in other portions.

LR 502.8 on Concurrent Enrollment was reported as an information item. This academic policy was revised because existing admission standards, especially for first-year students, have diverged from concurrent enrollment standards. The revised policy aligns these standards, in line with requirements from ACCESS under state law.

LR 514.7 on Calendar and Schedules (formerly Final Exam Schedule) was reported as an informational item. This academic policy was revised to clarify that Monday-Wednesday-Friday from 3:05 to 4:20 is an open block with no classes scheduled.

The PMB engaged in an ongoing review of certain policies on signature authority, such as LR 202.4 on Contracting Authority and Review. Related policies that are still under consideration include LR 214.2 (Delegation of Authority/Processing Applications, Proposals, Grants); LR 217.1 (Signature Authority Delegation for University Financial Transactions and Documents); and LR 302.8 (Delegation of Signatory Authority Related to Research Administration Function/Grant Proposal Submission). These policies will continue to be reviewed in AY27, possibly with consolidations and decommissions.

Updates were provided throughout AY26 on changes to Board and System policies, such as policies on contracting authority, sick leave, leave without pay, anti-discrimination, artificial intelligence, and employee tuition waivers.

The PMB interfaced with the Chancellor's Facilities Working Group as the Working Group considered revisions to LR 703.4 (Use of University Facilities).

Finally, the PMB weighed options for sub-policy guidance on policy management, specifically communication to custodians regarding the policies assigned to them and potentially an FAQ document that summarizes recent changes to 216.1 (Policy on Policy Management), specifically custodian review and reporting on policies every three years.
