MINUTES

PUBLIC HEARING
GRIMES STATE OFFICE BUILDING
DES MOINES, IOWA
JUNE 23, 1970

The State Board of Regents held a public hearing on the subject of student unrest and campus disorders on June 23, 1970 in the Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa.

President Stanley Redeker opened the hearing at 9:00 a.m. Those present were:

BOARD MEMBERS

Ray V. Bailey
Casey Loss
Thomas A. Louden
Ned E. Perrin
Mrs. H. Rand Petersen
William B. Quarton
Stanley F. Redeker
Donald H. Shaw

ABSENT: Ralph H. Wallace

BOARD OFFICE

R. Wayne Richey
Paul V. Porter
Mrs. Dominic Maga

President Redeker stated that the Board of Regents had been and is conducting an intensive study of campus disorders and student unrest. He stated that definitive recommendations were due to the Board for its July, 1970 meeting, and it was expected the Board would take action on the subject at the July meeting. He said the Board of Regents is a public body and is therefore most interested in public opinion on the matter under consideration, hence it scheduled this public meeting to hear from citizens and groups who cared to present their views. Because of the shortness of time and the size of the group involved (approximately 150 people), President Redeker announced four rules of procedure which would govern the hearing:
1. The Board's purpose is not to engage in dialogue, to pass
judgment or to reach conclusions, but simply to hear the opinions of
citizens and groups.

2. No questions are to be directed to the Board.

3. Each speaker is limited to five minutes.

4. A written copy of remarks made should be delivered to the Board.

The persons listed below, in the order shown, made statements to the
Board:

Darwin F. Denman, Des Moines
Dr. Bernard Vinograde, President, AAUP, Iowa State University, Ames
Peter Aran, Student Senate, University of Iowa, Iowa City
Kenneth Thatcher, Executive Secretary, Iowa Farm Bureau Federation, Des Moines
Stow Persons, Faculty Senate, University of Iowa, Iowa City
Mark Larson, Student Body Government, University of Iowa, Iowa City
William B. Olney, President, Reserve Officers Association, Iowa City
K. Robert Kern, Chairman, Faculty Council, Iowa State University, Ames
Jerry Schnoor, President, Student Body, Iowa State University, Ames
Verne M. Higens, Winterset
Mrs. Lesley Scherrer, Keokuk
James Sutton, Student, University of Iowa, Iowa City
Edmond Dantes, Waterloo
Gary K. Widmer, Instructor, Iowa State University, Ames
James Narveson, Association of Campus Ministers, University of Iowa, Iowa City
William N. Plymat, West Des Moines
Larry Wood, Student, University of Iowa, Iowa City
Marvin E. Haugebak, Cedar Falls
David Schoenbaum, Professor, University of Iowa, Iowa City
Gerald North, Student Union Board, University of Iowa, Iowa City
Don Harmeyer, Department Commander, American Legion, West Point
Darrell Ebelen, Concerned Parents of SUI Students, Atlantic
Daniel Aten, American Friends Service Committee, Iowa City
Harry C. Andrews, Ames
John Vogel, Student Body, Iowa State University, Ames
Wayne Bryan, Iowa Council of Churches, Des Moines
Ben Summerhill, Chamber of Commerce, Iowa City
Mark Rutledge, United Campus Christian Ministry, Iowa State University, Ames
Herbert Kelly, Iowa Civil Liberties Union, Des Moines
Eric Bergsten, College of Law, University of Iowa, Iowa City
David Metzler, Professor, Iowa State University, Ames
Dr. Peter Van Zante, Pella
Mrs. Betty Wurtz, Women's International League for Peace & Freedom, Des Moines
David Yeepsen, Assistant to Student Body President, University of Iowa, Iowa City
William Dennis, Beulah, Iowa
Steve Conway, Graduate Student, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls
E. L. Sheldon, Grinnell
Ted Stillwell, Graduate Student, Drake University
A copy of the remarks of each of the above individuals is attached to and made part of these minutes.

Speaker of the House William H. Harbor informed the Board in a letter of June 18 that three members of a forthcoming legislative liaison committee would attend the meeting in an informal capacity for information purposes only. Representatives Dale L. Tieden, Harold O. Fischer, and Vernon N. Bennett attended the hearing but made no remarks.

Mrs. Lesley Scherrer of Keokuk presented to the Board a petition signed by 3,500 residents of Southeast Iowa. The petition reads as follows:

WHEREAS we support freedom of speech, discussions and lawful dissent;
WHEREAS the faculty of the University of Iowa has voted to cancel the curriculum in ROTC this May, 1970 by yielding to demands of a minority group of students;
WHEREAS there is a strong possibility that radical groups will demand that other courses be discontinued by the universities;
WHEREAS some members of the faculties are in sympathy with the student protesters or too weak in character to resist them;
WHEREAS the demands of the radical minority are enforced by intimidating the faculties and administrators by repeated riots;
WHEREAS bonafide students should not be denied the right to take courses protested by violent minority groups;

We, therefore, as taxpayers and/or citizens paying tuition, respectfully petition the Board of Regents that no curriculum be changed by student demands, but by the proper procedure established by the Board of Regents and administrators for adding and deleting courses.
We further respectfully petition the Board of Regents that students who participate in rioting, destruction of property, or other unlawful activities, be expelled from the Universities. Faculty members who support such actions be likewise disciplined.

Mr. Don H. Harmeyer of West Point, Iowa, Department Commander, American Legion, presented to the Board a petition signed by several thousand citizens of Eastern Iowa. The petition reads as follows:

We, the undersigned, do hereby support the following proposal:

1. The purpose of a university is to provide facilities for education and not turmoil.

2. Students have an obligation to themselves and their university to attend classes and receive an education.
3. The lives and the future of the majority of students are being adversely affected by the actions of a few.

4. Administrations have not fully exercised their right to expel lawbreaking students on the various campuses.

5. The people of this state have a right to expect their tax money to be spent wisely, but not on reconstruction of willfully destroyed property.

6. This state will not tolerate rioting by any group, including students. Those found guilty by due process of law should be punished according to law. Students found guilty should be expelled.

7. No student expelled for any cause from any campus should be granted permission to enroll in any school in Iowa receiving state aid.

8. We petition the Board of Regents to set standards for our state supported colleges and universities which will bring about assurances of the foregoing without delay.

The following persons who had asked for time to speak either asked to be deleted or did not appear prior to adjournment of the hearing:

Thomas Higgins, Des Moines
Charles Pinch, Waterloo
Judson Kruse, Student, Iowa State University, Ames
Allen Beck, Ames
Frank Johnson, YMCA Director, Ames
Miss Claire Andrews, United Campus Christian Ministry, University of Iowa, Iowa City
Walter Dupea, Ames
Mrs. Frank Stroh, Des Moines

Written statements were subsequently received from Pinch, Kruse, Beck, Johnson and Andrews and are included in these minutes. President Redeker stated that requests for speaking time were granted as they were received by the Board Office and that no attempt was made to bar anyone from making a statement.

After all speakers had been heard, President Redeker asked if anyone else present cared to make a statement to the Board. There being no response, President Redeker adjourned the hearing at 3:30 p.m., June 23, 1970.

R. Wayne Richly, Executive Secretary