

December 10, 1973

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Edward J. Boling

As you may know, a relatively small group of students known as the Gay People's Alliance petitioned some time ago for official recognition as a student organization at our Knoxville campus. The group has stated that the "purpose of the organization is to end repression of area homosexuals."

The request was denied by the UTK Administrative Council, a decision which has been upheld on appeal by Chancellor Reese and subsequently by me. The Alliance has now directed its appeal to the Board of Trustees. We feel that the deliberations to date have provided full due process.

It is our intent to review the matter with you in Executive Session at the January meeting and recommend that the Board appoint a special committee from its membership to hear the appeal at Knoxville at a later date convenient to all concerned. I wanted to call the matter to your attention at this time so that you will have opportunity to give some thought to it prior to our meeting.

We shall keep you informed of developments.

EJB:sws

cc: Mr. John C. Baugh
Dr. Joseph E. Johnson
Dr. Jack E. Reese
Mr. Charles E. Smith

January 4, 1974

Ms. Karen R. Hoffman
Mr. James Bede Fleenor
1210 Forrest Avenue
Knoxville, Tennessee 37916

Dear Ms.Hoffman and Mr. Fleenor:

When the Board of Trustees meets in Chattanooga on January 17, 1974, the appeal of the Gay People's Alliance will be discussed with the Board. We plan to request the Board to appoint a special committee of its members to hear the appeal in Knoxville at a later date convenient to all concerned. This procedure was discussed with Mr. McDaniel on two occasions. He indicated that the proposed procedure was wholly acceptable to the Gay People's Alliance. I assumed that you concurred.

If there should be any objection to the proposed procedure, please inform me as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,

John C. Baugh
General Counsel and Secretary

JCB/hj

December 5, 1973

Dr. Edward J. Boling
President
The University of Tennessee

Re: Appeal by Gay People's Alliance

Dear Ed:

I have received today a letter from James Bede Fleenor and Karen R. Hoffman which appeals to the Board of Trustees the decision denying recognition of the Gay People's Alliance.

It is my recommendation that on January 17, 1974, the matter be brought before the Board with the request that the Board appoint a special committee to hear the appeal at Knoxville at a later date convenient to all concerned. The Board could empower the committee to act for the Board.

This procedure apparently is satisfactory to the Gay People's Alliance. I was so informed by a young man named McDaniel who delivered the letter to my office. He said the group did not want a hearing as early as January 17 and would prefer a later date.

Please let me know whether the proposed procedure meets with your approval.

Sincerely yours,

John C. Baugh
General Counsel and Secretary

JCB/hj

cc: Dr. Joseph E. Johnson
Dr. Jack Reese
Dr. Howard Aldmon
Mr. Charles Smith