



The University of Tennessee

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February 15, 1974

M E M O R A N D U M

CONFIDENTIAL

TO: Dr. Edward J. Boling ✓
Mr. John C. Baugh
Dr. Joseph E. Johnson
Mr. Charles E. Smith
Dr. Jack E. Reese

FROM: Ronald C. Leadbetter *RL*

SUBJECT: Proposed procedure and guidelines for use by the Special
Committee of the Board of Trustees for the appeal of the
Gay People's Alliance for recognition

The hearing of the appeal for recognition by the Gay People's Alliance is scheduled for February 20 at 9:00 A.M. in the Board room. It is entirely possible that the hearing will last all day. All members of the Special Committee of the Board of Trustees plan to attend.

I am proposing that the hearing be de novo. The Committee will thereby be able to reach a decision based solely on the evidence presented at the hearing and will not be bound by statements of any members of University committees or officials. A de novo hearing will reduce the amount of evidence to be considered by the Committee, will eliminate the need for the University to defend previous actions taken, and should eliminate the risk of University officials who previously participated in the recognition proceedings being named as parties Defendant in any future lawsuit filed to challenge a possible negative ruling by the Committee.

It is planned that the Alliance be permitted to offer into evidence any testimony or material they see fit. The Alliance may (and plans to) have an attorney or advisor present at all times during the hearing.

After the Alliance has presented its "case" for recognition the Committee members and I will ask such questions as may seem appropriate in order to thoroughly determine the plans and intentions of the Alliance regarding proposed activities on campus should it be recognized.

to be recorded.
The Commission will be responsible for the preparation of the minutes of the meetings and for the dissemination of the information contained therein.

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- MEMBER: [Name]
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Dr. Boling
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During the "cross examination" of the various witnesses those not being cross-examined will be requested to wait outside of the Board room. Upon the completion of the cross-examination the person being questioned will be asked to leave the hearing area without communicating with those witnesses waiting to be cross-examined.

It is further proposed that after all testimony and materials have been presented at the hearing, the Committee will adjourn and consider the evidence presented.

As soon as the evidence can be fully reviewed a written decision will be prepared and delivered to the Alliance.

During the consideration of the evidence by the Committee I will offer such advice as will insure that the decision reached is based to the greatest extent possible on evidence and reasoning that can be defended in Court should a lawsuit develop from either an affirmative or negative ruling of the Committee on the Alliance's appeal.

If I have left any questions unanswered please let me know.