



Central Wesleyan College

CENTRAL, SOUTH CAROLINA 29630

PHONE: 639-2453

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

CLAUDE R. RICKMAN

April 26, 1977

Director of the Office for Civil Rights
Department of Health, Education and
Welfare
Office of the Secretary
Washington, D. C. 20201

Dear Sir:

Central Wesleyan College has checked its policies for compliance with the provisions of Title IX. Steps have been planned to modify any practice or action necessary for compliance in all areas not covered by exemption.

Pursuant to the provision of section 86.12 of Title IX, it is requested that exemption be granted Central Wesleyan College from the provisions of sections 86:21 (c); 86:40 (a) and (b); and 86:57 to the extent that they may deal with pregnancy out of wedlock. It is believed that these sections of the act are inconsistent with the special directions and the general rules of the Wesleyan Church by which Central Wesleyan College is controlled.

The special directions of The Wesleyan Church for its members, published in the 1972 Discipline and the 1976 Discipline of The Wesleyan Church, require a standard of moral purity opposing sexual promiscuity and all factors and practices which promote it. (See The Wesleyan Discipline, p. 51, Paragraph 187 (5).)

Further, the general rules of the Church require (1). the preservation of the sanctity of the home (See The Wesleyan Discipline, p. 36, Paragraph 131 (11)) and (2). the high regard of marriage vows (See The Wesleyan Discipline, p. 36, Paragraph 131 (14)). The Church also requires appropriate discipline for violators (See Discipline, p. 37, paragraph 132.).

It is the expectation of Central Wesleyan College to apply College rules and regulations equally to men and women. There may be occasions in the instance of pregnancy out of wedlock

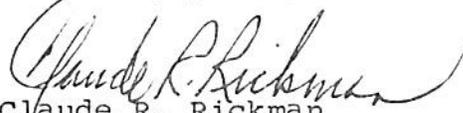
where the evidence against the father may be insufficient to meet due process requirements. To deal with neither party because we could not deal with both would be tantamount to sanction of a moral which violates a standard of the Church.

I also request exemption of Central Wesleyan College from the provision of section 86:31 to the extent that appropriate differences may be required between the sexes in regulations concerning dress. This tenet is found in the Discipline on general rules on dress (See Discipline, paragraph 131 (8)). The application of this tenet can be illustrated by the acceptable difference in style of swim suits for women and men.

We believe that Title IX permits separation of housing by sex (86:32 (b)), separation of restroom facilities (86:33), and special requirements for employment such as a woman to be resident director in a women's dormitory (86:61). If our understanding of these sections is in error or at any time these sections should be interpreted as prohibiting administration based on sex, Central Wesleyan College would desire the opportunity to request specific exemptions in these areas, also.

The provision of Title IX for the request of specific exemptions for religious beliefs is appreciated. Your favorable consideration of these beliefs and requests will be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,



Claude R. Rickman
President

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