



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

SEP 23 1985

Dr. Harold Hazelip
Dean
Harding Graduate School of Religion
1000 Cherry Road
Memphis, Tennessee 38117

Dear Dean Hazelip:

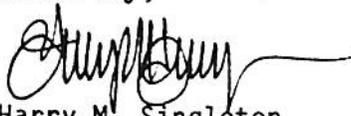
The Office for Civil Rights of the Department of Education (OCR/ED) is in the process of resolving a number of pending requests for religious exemption from Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. We have recently reviewed a request for religious exemption submitted by Dr. Clifton L. Ganus, President of Harding University in Searcy, Arkansas. President Ganus indicated that his request for religious exemption was intended to apply to Harding Graduate School of Religion (Tennessee) and Harding Academy (Arkansas) in addition to Harding University. You confirmed, in a letter forwarded to the Office for Civil Rights (copy enclosed), that Harding Graduate School of Religion is a branch school operated and controlled by Harding University in Arkansas. Therefore, the religious exemption granted to Harding University applies to Harding Graduate School of Religion where similar programs are offered. Thus, Harding Graduate School of Religion is granted exemption to the following sections of the Title IX regulation: 34 C.F.R. § 106.31 (education programs and activities); § 106.32 (housing); § 106.34 (access to course offerings); § 106.37 (financial assistance); § 106.40 (marital or parental status of students, including pregnancy); § 106.41 (athletics to the extent that this section covers athletic apparel); and § 106.57 (marital or parental status of employees, including pregnancy). This exemption is limited as explained in the letter granting exemption to Harding University (copy enclosed). Also enclosed for your reference is a copy of the regulation implementing Title IX.

Page 2 - Dr. Harold Hazelip

I regret the inordinate delay in responding to the original request. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Dallas Regional Office for Civil Rights. The address is:

Taylor D. August
Regional Civil Rights Director
Office for Civil Rights, Region VI
Department of Education
1200 Main Tower Building, Suite 400
Dallas, Texas 75202

Sincerely,



Harry M. Singleton
Assistant Secretary
for Civil Rights

Enclosures

cc: Taylor D. August, Regional Civil Rights Director, Region VI
William H. Thomas, Regional Civil Rights Director, Region IV