

Harding College
Searcy, Arkansas
72143

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Journals
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OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
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January 3, 1977

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL
CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION

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Mr. Martin H. Gerry, Director
Office for Civil Rights
Department of Health, Education and Welfare
Washington, D. C. 20201

Dear Mr. Gerry:

Thank you for your letter of October 14, 1976, which responded to my letter of July 21. In your letter, you asked that I complete HEW Form 639 and send it to you. I wrote you to the effect that this form had already been sent to you on September 30. As yet, I have not heard from you as to whether or not you have received this form. If not, then I will be happy to complete another copy for you. We appreciate the good spirit of your letter and the exemptions which you have already granted. We have no objection to having women in gymnastics and weight lifting and will provide sections for them as we do for the young men.

You asked when the phasing out of smoking for men will be completed. The answer is that it will be phased out at the end of this school year, in August of 1977. After that, the regulation will be the same for both men and women.

You asked for a description of our current policies concerning curfew and security rules as well as our proposed modifications and when these would be completed. Presently, our policy is that our women students must be in by 10:30 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and by midnight on Friday and Saturday. Freshmen and sophomore men must be in by 11:00 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and by midnight Friday and Saturday. Junior and senior men now are only encouraged to be in at the same hours and are admonished if they have a pattern of being out late.

In the 1977 school year, junior men will be under the same regulation as underclassmen and in 1978 all men will be so regulated. This gives the men time to get the young ladies to their dorms and to be in appropriately. Moreover, the girls are off campus before the young men are, which we deem to be safer for our young ladies.

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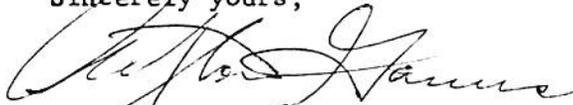
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You state that we apparently do not need religious exemption in the area of intercollegiate sports for women because we could set standards of dress for visiting teams. I am afraid that this is impossible. No visiting team is going to have two sets of uniforms-- one for the Harding campus and one for their other contests. Schools are already complaining about added expenses. We see no problem of dress in areas such as golf, bowling and archery for our young ladies but do in those sports that utilize brief shorts for women. For this reason we request a religious exemption in this area and would appreciate your reconsideration.

I am writing in behalf of the College, the Graduate School and the Academy in Searcy despite the fact that they operate at different levels. If you have any other questions, I shall be happy to answer them for you. Please let me know whether or not you have received the completed HEW Form 639.

Sincerely yours,



Clifton L. Ganus, Jr.
President

CG:ep