



Northwestern College

3003 North Snelling Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota 55113 (612) 631-5100

June 23, 1988

Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
United States Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20202

Re: Title IX Exemption Application

Dear Sir:

Northwestern College hereby requests an exemption from the requirement of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 ("Title IX") as herein defined, pursuant to Sections 901(a)(3) and 908 of Title IX and 34 C.F.R. 106.12(b). The College believes that it has in the past received, and currently receiving, indirect federal aid within our understanding of the Supreme Court opinion in Grove City College v. Bell, 465 U.S. 555(1984)

Northwestern College is a regionally accredited liberal arts college offering courses of instruction in the humanities, arts and sciences. The College is controlled by Northwestern College, Inc. (the "Corporation"), a non-profit religious corporation which was incorporated in the State of Minnesota in 1902 as a Christian institution of higher education under the control of a board of directors, and is exempt from federal income taxation as a not-for-profit religious institution under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The directors of the Corporation, faculty, students and employees of the College are all required to espouse a personal belief in the religious tenets of the Christian faith. The Charter of the Corporation, the catalogs and other official publications of the College contain explicit statements that the College is committed to the doctrines of the Christian religion, and the College is completely governed by and receives its entire financial support from the religious organization defined herein as the Corporation. The College maintains its religious tradition, standards and beliefs in accordance with the requirements of the Corporation.

The College adheres to biblical tenets for matters of faith and practice, following its religious tradition. It specifically utilizes a religious preference in employment practices to assure that faculty and staff adhere to a common religious understanding of the religious beliefs, values and purposes that guide the educational mission of the College. Accordingly, the personnel of the College accept religious standards in matters of moral behavior, dispute and grievance resolution and disciplinary matters, as well as in the performance of any religious role or office in which gender distinctions may be required.

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The College seeks to maintain its religious freedom to make certain gender distinctions in matters of moral behavior, marriage and residential living environments and standards. It specifically holds religious standards for personnel and students in matters conducive to the fostering of proper moral behavior and the discouragement of inappropriate behavior as understood by the religious tradition and tenets accepted by the College. The College adjudicates matters of moral behavior, including the misuse of human sexuality, in accordance with Scriptural teaching about sexual behavior. Such standards include matters relating to the expression of human sexuality, living environments, respect for the institution of marriage, social behavior, language and attire.

The College hereby requests exemption from the application of the Title IX regulations, to the extent that they conflict with the College's religious tenets as described above. Please refer to the enclosed letter dated May 25, 1973, from the U.S. Department of Education.

Sincerely,



Donald Ericksen
President

DE:gb
Enclosure