American Association of University Professors iowa conference

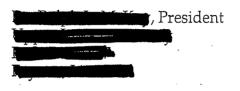
Committee A on Academic Freedom and Tenure

100 WARTBURG BOULEVARD

WAVERLY, IA 50677

Chair: GREGORY F. SCHOLTZ Wartburg College

6 January 2003



Dear President I

Professor I Assistant Professor of Music at I Assistant Professor of Music at I American Association of University Professors regarding the termination of her tenured appointment at I American Association and her subsequent efforts to obtain an appeal hearing before a faculty committee. Information about her case that Professor I American has provided to Iowa Committee A on Academic Freedom and Tenure has led us to question whether the university's actions have been consistent with the widely accepted academic standards articulated by the Association.

Regulation 4(d) of the AAUP's Recommended Institutional Regulations on Academic Freedom and Tenure (enclosed) stipulates that a decision to terminate a faculty appointment when programs are eliminated for reasons other than financial exigency should be "based essentially upon educational considerations" and should be "determined primarily by the faculty as a whole or an appropriate committee thereof." This same Regulation also specifies that the faculty member whose position is terminated is entitled to "a full hearing before a faculty committee" in which "the essentials of an on-the-record adjudicative hearing will be observed."

These standards are affirmed in the current edition of the faculty handbook, which declares that "University abides by the AAUP's current 'Recommended Institutional Regulations on Academic Freedom and Tenure'" (p. 28). The handbook also states that "in any instance of proposed termination of a tenured appointment, procedures for both faculty and administration shall be consistent with AAUP Guidelines" (p. 26).

According to the information that has been provided to us by Professor Jahren, the decision to discontinue the programs in music apparently was neither "determined primarily by the faculty" nor "based essentially upon educational considerations." Moreover, your letter of December 11, 2002, denies Professor Jahren 's request for a full hearing before a faculty committee, notwithstanding the university's commitment to adhere to AAUP-supported standards.

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We would welcome any further information or comments regarding the issues we have raised.

Sincerely,

Gregory F. Scholtz, Chair Committee A on Academic Freedom and Tenure Iowa Conference of the AAUP

Enclosure

Associate Vice President II.

Professor II.

Professor A. Frank Thomson, President, Iowa AAUP

Associate Secretary Jonathan Knight, AAUP