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# **State Board of Regents • DES MOINES, IOWA 50319**

GRIMES STATE OFFICE BUILDING

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R. WAYNE RICHEY, *Executive Secretary*

## **A Statement from The State Board of Regents**

In recent months this Board has given, and will continue to give, intensive consideration to campus unrest. We have noted that throughout the nation recent events, including campus disorders, have raised serious questions about the ability of universities to continue to serve as effective centers of learning. The conditions which have produced these events are national, and even international, in scope. The causes are multiple and the solutions not simple. While we work as a nation toward the solution of the underlying problems of our society, we must also insure that our universities remain open as centers of free inquiry. This Board, charged by law with the responsibility for the governance of the public universities of Iowa, reaffirms the following beliefs and intentions which will continue to serve as bases for the discharge of the Board's responsibilities.

1. The citizens of this State have established and supported the state universities in order to make higher education available at reasonable cost. It is the responsibility of this Board to insure that this purpose is not subverted.
2. Neither violence nor the threat of violence has any place in a university.
3. Freedom of inquiry and freedom of expression are indispensable elements of academic life.
4. The freedom to express dissent by lawful means, including peaceable assembly and petitions to authorities, is no less important on a university campus than elsewhere in our society.
5. The exercise of this freedom to dissent must not interfere with the rights of others.
6. Adaptation and change are necessary processes by which an institution renews and preserves itself.

In line with these beliefs, the Board adopted at its July, 1970 meeting a Code of Personal Conduct and also two formal policy statements relating to 1) a prohibition against the universities' becoming instruments of political action and 2) university closings. These statements follow.



# **Uniform Rules of Personal Conduct at Universities Under the Jurisdiction of The State Board of Regents**

(Adopted by Board of Regents, July, 1970)

(1) *Definitions.* For purposes of these rules, the following words shall have the meaning set forth unless the context requires otherwise:

- (a) "Board" means the State Board of Regents, State of Iowa.
- (b) "University" means an institution of higher learning under the jurisdiction of the board. When used in the plural, the word means all institutions of higher learning under the jurisdiction of the board.
- (c) "President" means the president (or acting president) of the university or any person or persons designated by him to act on his behalf for purposes of these rules.
- (d) "Campus" includes all property owned or used by the university.
- (e) "Student" means a person who is currently registered as a student at the university in an undergraduate, graduate or professional program on the campus.
- (f) "Member of the faculty or staff" includes all employees of the university.
- (g) "Visitor" means any person on the campus who is not a student or a member of the faculty or staff.
- (h) "Person" means any student, member of the faculty or staff, or visitor.
- (i) "Admission" means admission, re-admission, re-entry, registration, and re-registration as a student to any educational program of the university.
- (j) "Dismissal" of a member of the faculty or staff means that, during the period of the dismissal, the member of the faculty or staff is not eligible to continue as an employee of the university or to resume his employment status or to be granted admission as a student.
- (k) "Suspension" of a student means that during the period of suspension, the student shall be denied admission to the university and as a condition precedent to admission following the period of suspension, the student must satisfy the president of the university that he is unlikely to disrupt the orderly processes of the university in the future.

(2) *Rules of Personal Conduct.* Any person—student, member of the faculty or staff, or visitor—who commits or attempts to commit any of the following acts of misconduct shall be subject to disciplinary procedures by the university as hereinafter provided:

- (a) Intentional obstruction or disruption of teaching, research, administration, disciplinary procedures, or other university or university-authorized function or event.
- (b) Unauthorized occupation or use of or unauthorized entry into any university facility.
- (c) Physical abuse or the threat of physical abuse against any person on the campus or at any university authorized function or event, or other conduct which threatens or endangers the health or safety of any such person.
- (d) Theft of or damage to property of the university or of a person on the campus.



- (e) Intentional interference with the right of access to university facilities or with any other lawful right of any person on the campus.
- (f) Setting a fire on the campus without proper authority.
- (g) Use or possession on the campus of firearms, ammunition, or other dangerous weapons, substances, or materials (except as expressly authorized by the university), or of bombs, explosives, or explosive or incendiary devices prohibited by law.
- (h) Aid others in committing or incite others to commit any act of misconduct set forth in (a) through (g) above.

(3) *Sanctions.* Any person who, after appropriate hearing\*, is found to have violated any of the foregoing rules of personal conduct shall be subject to the following sanctions:

- (a) Any student or member of the faculty or staff who is found to have violated any of the rules of personal conduct set forth in (2) above may be sanctioned up to and including suspension, expulsion or dismissal. If the violation is found to be of a serious nature or to have contributed to a substantial disruption of the orderly processes of the university, then such student or member of the faculty or staff shall, at a minimum, be suspended or dismissed from the university immediately following such finding for one academic year. If a suspension or dismissal is ordered after the start of a semester or quarter, however, the time period of the suspension or dismissal shall be deemed to run from the beginning of the semester or quarter rather than from the actual date of the order. A faculty or staff member who is dismissed shall receive no salary during the period of his dismissal; provided, however, that he shall be paid for work done prior to the date of the dismissal order.
- (b) A visitor to the campus who is found to have violated any of the rules of personal conduct set forth in (2) above may be permanently denied admission to or employment by the university. If the violation is found to be of a serious nature or to have contributed to a substantial disruption of the orderly processes of the university, then such visitor shall, at a minimum, be denied admission or employment for twelve months immediately following the violation.
- (c) Any sanction imposed under (a) or (b) above shall have operative effect at all universities, and a person not eligible for admission to or employment by one university shall be barred similarly at the other universities.

(4) *Temporary Bar from Campus.* The president of the university is authorized to bar from the campus any student or member of the faculty or staff who, in the president's judgment, has committed an act of misconduct in violation of the rules of personal conduct set forth in (2) above and whose continued presence on the campus constitutes a clear and present danger to the orderly processes of the university.

- (a) The president's order barring such a person from the campus may be made without prior hearing and may permit access to the campus for such limited purposes as attending or teaching classes, or preparing for and attending the hearing of the charges against him. In any case where the president's order permits a person access to the campus for limited purpose, the president may impose appropriate conditions in such right of access.

\*This means pursuant to existing hearing procedures in effect at the university for students and members of the faculty and staff.



(b) A member of the faculty or staff temporarily barred from the campus shall continue receiving his pay until the disposition of the charges against him by the university and the board.

(c) An appropriate hearing on the charges shall, if at all practicable, be held within ten days after the date of the president's order barring the person from the campus but in no event more than twenty days thereafter.

(d) Despite a finding at the hearing that a person temporarily barred from the campus did not commit an act of misconduct in violation of the rules of personal conduct set forth in (2) above and, thus, is not subject to sanction on that basis, such person may be sanctioned up to and including expulsion or dismissal upon a finding that he violated the president's order barring him from the campus. Upon such a finding, such person shall, at a minimum, be suspended or dismissed from the university immediately following such a finding, for one academic year, as provided in (3) (a) above. This sanction shall have the operative effect provided in (3) (c) above.

(5) *Constitutional Rights.* The foregoing rules shall be construed so as not to abridge any person's constitutional right of free expression of thought or opinion, including the traditional American right to assemble peaceably and to petition authorities.

#### **REGENTS' POLICIES ON CAMPUS INTEGRITY**

1. No state university shall be or become an instrument of political action. The expression of political opinions and viewpoints will be those of individuals and not of institutions, since the official adoption of any political position, whether favored by majority or minority, tends to substitute one-sided commitment for the continuing search for truth.

2. Major proposed changes of the university calendar and the consequences of such changes will be brought with recommendations to the Board of Regents for final decision.



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY  
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
Ames, Iowa 50010

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

July 22, 1970

Dear Iowa State Student:

As you perhaps know, Iowa State University, the University of Iowa at Iowa City, and the University of Northern Iowa at Cedar Falls are governed by the Iowa State Board of Regents.

At its meeting on July 9, 1970, the Board of Regents adopted a set of "Uniform Rules of Personal Conduct" which applies to all students and staff members of the three universities under the Board's jurisdiction. In accordance with the Board's instruction, I am enclosing a copy of these rules.

In reading these rules, I hope you will keep several important facts in mind:

(1) The Board of Regents has previously affirmed--and now re-affirms in the enclosed statement--its unwavering support of academic freedom. It again asserts that "freedom of inquiry and freedom of expression are indispensable elements of academic life."

(2) The rules which the Board has approved do not deny or abridge the fundamental freedom to express dissent by lawful means.

(3) Although the "new rules" have been labeled by the press as a "get tough" policy, these rules are not intended to be repressive, and they, in fact, are not. Furthermore, for the most part, they are not really "new." They are mainly an amplification of the basic anti-disruption policy adopted by the Board of Regents in 1968. In addition, practically all of these rules--although sometimes stated differently--are already a part of the rules at Iowa State University and are contained in The Chart. The purpose of the Board of Regents was to ensure that these basic rules are uniformly stated at all three universities under the Board's jurisdiction.

(4) What is new about the enclosed rules is the feature of a mandatory minimum sanction--suspension from the university for one academic year--for violation of any of the stated rules.

TO STAFF AND FACULTY:

Inasmuch as this letter addressed to students and the enclosure which accompanies it apply equally to staff and faculty, I am sending this material directly to you for your information. W. R. P.



(5) The Board of Regents makes it clear, however, that this minimum penalty is not mandatory for a slight or minor infraction of any one of the stated rules. The mandatory minimum penalty applies only when the violation of any one of the stated rules "is found to be of a serious nature or contributed to a substantial disruption of the orderly processes of the university . . . ."

(6) You will note that each university will use its own existing hearing procedures. And you can be sure that in the future--as in the past--every Iowa State student accused of the violation of any rule or regulation will be given a fair hearing for the purpose of determining his guilt or innocence.

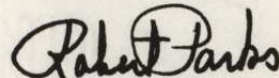
I know that you will agree that it is necessary for a university community to have rules of conduct. I think you will also agree that the enclosed rules are reasonable as long as they are reasonably interpreted and enforced, and I can assure you that this will be the case here at Iowa State.

It is my belief, however, that, in the long run, the life of this University and the welfare of all of the groups who compose it depend not so much upon the negative operation of a set of rules as they do upon our continuously maintaining a broad area of common understanding, common concern, and mutual respect among the students, the faculty, and the administration.

I believe that, here at Iowa State, we have this spirit of cooperation, concern, and mutual respect to an unusually high degree. I was deeply gratified last year by the mature and sympathetic interaction of our students, faculty and administration during a period of crisis in which many other universities across the nation were being left in various stages of serious disarray. If we can maintain--and, hopefully, even enhance--that spirit of cooperation, understanding and mutual respect in our academic community, there will be little need for disruption rules of any type, from any source.

I hope that you have a good summer, and that the coming year at Iowa State will be a happy and very worthwhile experience for you.

Sincerely yours,



W. Robert Parks  
President

WRP:jvp

Enc.