

9-15-1970

Disruptive Activity

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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September 21, 1970

Professor Walter C. Mueller
Chairman, Faculty Senate
Watson House, Campus

Refer to: Faculty Senate Bill #70-71-1, title "Disruptive Activity."

Dear Walter:

I am returning to you, approved, the referenced Bill.

I feel it necessary to communicate to you the serious reservation I have as to the adequacy of this measure.

It is clear to me from certain recent events on our campus, as well as from the action by civil courts across the nation, that clear and precise definitions of "disruptive activity" are essential to serve as definite guidelines for all members of the University community. It should be clear to all that certain types of dissent are permitted, but that there are definable limits to these activities.

It may very well be that such legislation is not necessary in the sense that it will seldom or never be used. This is not the issue. In order to protect the rights of all and to insure the free expression of ideas, there must be guidelines set forth that will guarantee that these goals are met.

I urge you to expedite thorough consideration of more adequate legislation to deal with disruptive activities on campus. Failure on our part to provide adequate measures toward self-governance will only open the way to governance from without; this would be, to say the least, undesirable.

Cordially,



Werner A. Baum
President

hgo

cc: Vice President Archer
Vice President Hall
Vice President O'Connell
Vice President Wiley

Enclosure

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

FACULTY SENATE

BILL

Adopted by the Faculty Senate

TO: President Werner A. Baum

FROM: Chairman of the Faculty Senate

1. The Attached BILL, titled Disruptive Activity

is forwarded for your consideration.

2. The original and two copies for your use are included.

3. This BILL was adopted by vote of the Faculty Senate on September 15, 1970 (date)

4. After considering this bill, will you please indicate your approval or disapproval. Return the original or forward it to the Board of Trustees, completing the appropriate endorsement below.

5. In accordance with Section 8, paragraph 2 of the Senate's By-Laws, this bill will become effective on October 6, 1970 (date), three weeks after Senate approval, unless: (1) specific dates for implementation are written into the bill; (2) you return it disapproved; (3) you forward it to the Board of Trustees for their approval; or (4) the University Faculty petitions for a referendum. If the bill is forwarded to the Board of Trustees, it will not become effective until approved by the Board.

September 15, 1970
(date)

Walter C. Wheeler /s/
Chairman of the Faculty Senate

ENDORSEMENT 1.

TO: Chairman of the Faculty Senate

FROM: President of the University

1. Returned.

2. Approved with letter of elaboration. Disapproved _____.

3. (If approved) In my opinion, transmittal to the Board of Trustees is not necessary.

9/21/70
(date)

Werner A. Baum /s/
President

ALTERNATE ENDORSEMENT 1.

TO: Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

FROM: The University President

1. Forwarded.
2. Approved.

(date) _____ /s/
President

ENDORSEMENT 2.

TO: Chairman of the Faculty Senate

FROM: Chairman of the Board of Trustees, via the University President.

1. Forwarded.

(date) _____ /s/

(Office)

ENDORSEMENT 3.

TO: Chairman of the Faculty Senate

FROM: The University President

1. Forwarded from the Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

(date) _____ /s/
President

Original received and forwarded to the Secretary of the Senate and Registrar for filing in the Archives of the University.

(date) _____ /s/
Chairman of the Faculty Senate

That the Faculty Senate disapproves of any disruptive activity which interferes with or infringe upon the rights of any individual to speak on this campus. The Faculty Senate requests that the responsible authority, person, or body, take all appropriate action necessary to deal with any person or persons responsible for or involved in such disruptive activity whenever it may occur.