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Administrative Notes, December 4th, 1978

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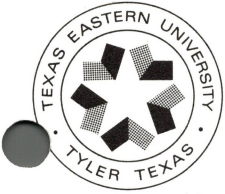
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TEXAS EASTERN UNIVERSITY
3900 UNIVERSITY BOULEVARD • TYLER, TEXAS 75701 • 214/566-1471

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

December 4, 1978

To: Board of Regents, Texas Eastern University
From: James H. Stewart, Jr.
Subject: Administrative Notes

I. Comments and Suggestions Concerning a Grievance Policy

As you will recall, Regent B. H. McVicker, M.D. announced at the October 18, 1978 Board of Regents meeting that further study and consideration would be required before the Academic and Personnel Committee presented a recommendation relative to Procedures for Resolving a Grievance and requested that the committee receive advice from legal counsel and the Legal Committee, as well as input from each individual board member, on the grievance policy.

Following Dr. McVicker's report on this matter, Board Chairman David K. McKie requested that I remind board members through Administrative Notes (see October 23, 1978 Administrative Notes) to provide comments and suggestions about a grievance policy to me in order that I might pass them on to Dr. McVicker and the Academic and Personnel Committee.

In a conversation with Chairman McKie during the past week, we discussed mentioning this matter again. Therefore, if you have comments or suggestions about the grievance policy, it would be helpful for the committee to have this information as early as possible prior to the January 10, 1979 Board of Regents meeting. Comments and suggestions which I receive from board members, of course, will be promptly passed on to the Dr. McVicker and Academic and Personnel Committee members.

II. Conflict of Interest Question Regarding Regents' Membership on Foundation Board

Each of you will recall that a question was raised by the state auditor during the annual Texas Eastern University audit pertaining to a possible conflict of interest relative to members of the Board of Regents serving concurrently

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on the Texas Eastern University Educational Foundation, Inc. Board of Directors. I remind you that I communicated information about this matter through October 16, 1978 Administrative Notes indicating that the attorney general had reviewed the item about which the auditor had concern (Roberts School contract) and had concluded the contract was not contrary to public policy.

Subsequent to my October 16, 1978 communication to you, I was contacted by the Attorney General's Office on Friday, October 27, 1978 and was advised that the state auditor would likely submit a request for a formal Attorney General's Opinion concerning matters throughout the state which are similar--or at least have some relationship--to our situation. Upon receiving this information I communicated with Board Chairman David K. McKie and Legal Committee Chairman Dean W. Turner in order that they would be aware of the latest development, i.e., the possibility of the state auditor's requesting a formal Attorney General's Opinion on the "conflict of interest" question.

During the past week I received a copy of State Auditor George W. McNiel's letter to Attorney General John L. Hill which formalized the state auditor's request for an opinion on several questions relating to state agencies and institutions involved in various activities and services provided under contracts by affiliated nonprofit foundations and organizations. Upon receiving State Auditor McNiel's letter, which I attach for your information, General Hill referred the letter to Commissioner of Higher Education Kenneth H. Ashworth requesting that Commissioner Ashworth send the letter to institutions of higher education in Texas for information and indicating that the attorney general would welcome briefs from any interested party. The communication stated that briefs should be submitted by December 1, 1978. Upon receiving this information I conferred with Chairman McKie, and we concluded that the very short time frame would make it virtually impossible for our institution to submit a brief regarding this matter. Chairman McKie did indicate that the matter would be discussed at the January 10, 1979 Board of Regents meeting.

III. Report from Resident Engineer

Attached is a report from the director of physical plant and resident engineer for the week ending December 1, 1978.

JHS:rc

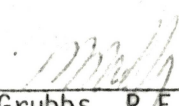
Attachments

CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS REPORT
PHASE II
Week Ending: December 1, 1978

SCIENCE/MATH: The most evident work during the week was the installation of laboratory casework which is in progress on both floors. Plumbing of gas, water, and air lines for the laboratories continues to parallel the casework satisfactorily. Ceiling grid work has started in the first floor hallway and is in progress in offices and classrooms throughout the building. The electrical subcontractor is making good progress installing electrical control panels and overhead light fixtures. The primary electrical power line from the existing HPR transformer pit to the Sciences and Mathematics Building was successfully tested Monday.

BUSINESS: Masonry work is nearing completion. Masons are at the roof level on the north and west walls. Window frames have been placed throughout the building in preparation for installation. Drywall work is concentrated in the second floor faculty office complex. Tape and bedding work is progressing well throughout. Electrical conduit work is satisfactorily paralleling drywall progress.

SITework: A portion of the sidewalk immediately south of the Business Building was poured. Some curbing along Road "B" has been poured. Other curb framing is in progress.



L. J. Grubbs, P.E.
Director of Physical Plant
and Resident Engineer

LJG/dlw

cc: Dr. James H. Stewart, Jr. ✓
Mr. John R. Sawyer