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Statement of W. Parmer Fuller III  
President, Stanford Board of Trustees  
April 13, 1969

At its April 8th meeting, the Board of Trustees announced that it planned to hold a committee hearing on campus as soon as possible after publication of the SRI Study Committee report. We are now informed that this report will be published on Tuesday, April 15. Accordingly, I shall try to set a date tomorrow for the hearing.

Within the next two days I also expect to name the trustees who will serve on the hearing committee. All trustees, of course, will be invited to attend. The hearing will follow normal judicial and legislative procedures, with opportunity for both oral and written testimony. As indicated in the Board's statement following the April 8th meeting, we expect to make arrangements to carry the hearings to a wider campus community by radio broadcast, closed circuit television, or both.

As recommended by the University Advisory Committee, the trustees also have expressed interest in obtaining information on the views of the several constituencies concerned about this relationship, both on campus and at SRI. Questionnaires for this purpose are being drafted and will be circulated shortly after publication of the report.

With respect to the question of University research policy, the Board took no action at its meeting of April 8th, as President Pitzer reported to the Academic Senate, because the trustees regarded this as primarily the responsibility of the faculty. I understand that the Academic Council's Committee on Research Policy has scheduled an open hearing for Monday and a regular meeting for Tuesday.

The trustees are aware of the urgency which some members of the Stanford community attach to an early resolution of these questions, and the Board has expressed its own concern that a fair and responsible solution be arrived at as soon as possible. However, for the Board to act upon campus research policy on Monday, as requested, would pre-empt any further faculty considerations of this issue. To act on the SRI relationship within two days of publication of the Study Committee report would provide practically no opportunity for reasoned consideration of this issue and the expression of opinions by individuals, on campus and at SRI, who are affected by its outcome.