

# STANFORD UNIVERSITY NEWS SERVICE

STANFORD, CALIFORNIA  
ZIP 94305.  
(A/C 415) 321-2300, Ext. 2558

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Bob Beyers  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
STANFORD --

Associate Prof. H. Bruce Franklin of the Stanford English Department Thursday night, Feb. 25, demanded a precise statement of charges against him before indicating whether he would ask for a hearing before the Advisory Board, a group of seven full professors elected by the faculty.

On Feb. 12, President Richard W. Lyman suspended Professor Franklin with pay from all his professorial duties and informed him he faced possible dismissal from the University. President Lyman wrote Professor Franklin that "You have on several occasions. . . urged, incited, and led Stanford students and others to interfere with the operations of the University and conduct themselves in an unlawful manner and have yourself so acted, most notably on Wednesday, Feb. 10."

In his reply, delivered to the President's house by eight young persons wearing Venceremos buttons at 11:30 p.m. Thursday, Professor Franklin said: "You do not name the several occasions, you do not specify what kind of interference, . . . and you do not name one unlawful act I have allegedly either advocated or committed."

(University tenure policy states that "the individual shall first be notified—confidentially, if possible—of the charges against him and given an opportunity to reply. If the matter cannot be settled by agreement and if the individual wishes to contest the charges, he may demand a formal hearing before the Advisory Board. If such a demand is made, the President shall submit a formal statement of charges in writing to the chairman of the Advisory Board. . . .)

At 9:30 a.m. Monday, March 1, in the North County Building, Palo Alto, Professor Franklin and several others have been ordered to show cause why they should not be barred from campus under a temporary injunction being sought by the University. Under its terms, if granted by the court, Professor Franklin would be allowed on campus only by agreement with the President or order of the court to gather evidence or appear in disciplinary proceedings in which he is a party.

In his letter to the President, Profesr Franklin said the proposed injunction would bar "many of my witnesses" from the Advisory Board hearings. "One clear purpose of the proposed injunction is to prevent me from presenting a political case before the Advisory Board," he added. "But there is hardly any point anyhow in trying to keep my job at Stanford if a court, following your request, effectively fires me by permanently banishing me from campus."

Referring to 21 affidavits filed with the court by the University, Professor Franklin states: "Nowhere. . . am I even alleged to have engaged in any unlawful act, nor am I alleged to have made any unlawful speech. The case is nothing more than a tissue of insinuations and innuendos."

He adds that "You have been conducting my trial and convicting me in the press. . . Almost every day the Stanford News Service, which you control, issues new statements about the case and send [them] to every faculty member. . . the head of the News Service, Bob Beyers, is a prime witness in your case against me in civil court. . . .

"Your letter does not tell me what the charges against me are, but leaves them to my imagination and, more pointedly, to the imagination of all those who have been whipped up by the press. . . You are trying. . . to connect me by implication and innuendo with the shooting which occurred on campus" Feb. 10.

Early in his letter, Professor Franklin states he intends to exercise and defend all his rights under tenure policy. "We communists believe that job tenure should not be a privilege of a small minority, but the right of all working people, as it is today in the People's Republic of China. . . .

"I have a political, moral and even legal responsibility to the students and workers of Stanford University, present and future, not to allow you to deprive them of the ability to hear my ideas and those of other revolutionaries.

"It also seems to me to be important to resist by all means the wave of political repression, the new McCarthyism, now sweeping the campuses of the empire. . . . The firing of a tenured professor at Stanford will represent a big breakthrough for the forces of repression everywhere."

Later he notes that "Almost every day you and your lackeys try to open up a new front in your counterinsurgency campaign." Professor Franklin demands a precise statement of charges "other than being a revolutionary wholly dedicated to destroying the poliical, economic, and cultural power of your entire class and replacing it with all power to the people."

In an additional statement, he reserved the right to request an Advisory Board hearing "after you present me with precise charges, not before." "Death to all fascist pigs!" he concluded.