

STANFORD UNIVERSITY NEWS SERVICE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STANFORD —

Approximately 20 to 25 faculty and student pickets paraded in protest early Tuesday afternoon, Sept. 28, at the rear of the Physics Building, where public hearings before the faculty Advisory Board began for suspended English Prof. H. Bruce Franklin.

The group included chemistry Prof. Linus Pauling, twice winner of the Nobel Prize. They carried placards reading "Faculty Opposed to Political Firings."

They handed out literature to passersby and to about 40 to 50 persons waiting to enter the hearing room at 1 p.m.

By mid afternoon about 20 seats were vacant in the Physics Auditorium, Room 100, where the hearing was held. Proceedings were broadcast on campus radio station KZSU and carried by closed circuit television to nearby Rooms 270, Physical Science, and Room 320, Geology. Both rooms were less than half filled, with a combined audience of about 150.

The protest group's literature, similar to a paid advertisement published Tuesday in *The Stanford Daily*, said in part:

"As faculty members we feel we have a duty to protect the traditions of freedom in the academic community, to encourage study, research and the interchange of ideas, and to promote the dedication of the University to peaceful pursuits which will improve the quality of life for all peoples on this planet.

"At this time we feel it imperative that we protect our rights to pursue these aims by demanding that the Advisory Board refuse to make political conformity a condition of employment at the University, for professors or anyone else.

"Because you, even more than we, have a stake in the future of the University and the world, we ask you to join with us in this fight, first by informing yourself fully on the issues and then making your views known."

Their handbills also asserted that the Franklin hearings "will affect not only the quality of educational opportunities here at Stanford, but perhaps the future of education all over the United States."

Professor Franklin is charged with "significantly contributing" to a disruption which prevented Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge from delivering a scheduled address Jan. 11 and with intentionally urging and inciting students and others to engage in conduct calculated to disrupt activities of the University Feb. 10, when the Computation Center was occupied. He has been suspended with pay since Feb. 12.

Material handed out by the peaceful picketers included the following statements:

"The Advisory Board conducting this hearing is an unsatisfactory body for the purpose. It is acknowledged to be a poorly designed makeshift body for the conduct of any hearings of malfeasance by faculty. For a political trial its noteworthiness lies in how directly, how honestly, by its composition it reflects the kept nature of the University and particularly the faculty—white, middle-aged, middle class and male. Men of conscience, elected to such a board, would on presentation of such charges as in this case, resign, and return the charges to the President and the Trustees with the Biblical exhortation 'Thou Sayest...'

"The time and energy of the University should be directed toward the solution of the problems, not toward the punishment of the protestors.

"We consider Senator Lodge to be a war criminal. We consider the invitation to him to have been a misuse of University resources. The Nuremberg precedence may reasonably be interpreted to be a moral imperative to contain the machinations of Lodge; far more militant tactics were required to contain Rusk and Johnson....

"The charge against Professor Franklin directs attention away from the culprits—those who used—first 'legally' and then by subterfuge—the computer facilities in the planning of war related activities in Southeast Asia....

"The decision to fire Franklin, if upheld, could well mean that professors here and at universities all over the country will be discouraged from speaking and acting in ways that dispute the doctrines of those in power, thus further strengthening the trend toward conformity which is currently stifling creative thought."

Their literature also listed a meeting tentatively scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, October 5, in Dinkelspiel Auditorium to debate the issues raised by the Franklin hearing, and a four-part seminar scheduled for 7:30 p.m. in various campus meeting sites on October 10, 12, 14 and 15 to discuss American policy in Indo-China. These feature, in order: "Winter Soldier" testimony regarding war crimes in Vietnam; Prof. Richard Falk of Princeton University and Dorothy Forman of the International Commission of Enquiry into U.S. Crimes in Indo-China; Franz Schurmann, Orville Schell, and Peter Dale Scott, "well-known experts on Asia and U.S. foreign policy;" and the San Francisco Mime Troupe on the "New Opium War."