

STANFORD UNIVERSITY NEWS SERVICE

STANFORD, CALIFORNIA

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EDITORS: In view of the fact that several regular News Service staff members have been called as prospective witnesses in the Advisory Board hearings, Leonard Milliman, a retired veteran wire service reporter, has been employed to cover testimony in the Franklin case.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STANFORD -

A Faculty Advisory Board hearing into charges against Associate Prof. H. Bruce Franklin that could lead to his dismissal from Stanford University was brought almost to a standstill Wednesday, Sept. 29, by his suspicions that the University was "consciously withholding evidence" from him.

The session opened with the 37-year-old English professor charging the University with withholding a tape recorded during a Feb. 10 demonstration outside the computer center. "They not only knew we did not have the tape but were spending considerable effort to try to obtain it," he said.

The day ended with an hours-long identification of photographs, that in Franklin's words was "boring people to tears," and a hassle over whether the defense had been supplied all photographs taken by University photographers during a computer sit-in and later clashes. Franklin is accused of inciting.

During the argument over the tape, University attorney Raymond Fisher said "I don't know what Professor Franklin is squawking about." He said he thought Franklin had all the tapes and if he didn't the University would supply any that were missing.

"What we are talking about," Franklin said, "is how this case has been framed and framed is the right word."

Later Franklin moved for dismissal, or severance, of charges that he was guilty of "significantly contributing" to the clapping, chanting and shouting that prevented Henry Cabot Lodge, former U.S. ambassador to Vietnam, from addressing a audience Jan. 11 during a Stanford program on the 25th anniversary of the United Nations.

His motion came when the University abruptly discontinued presenting testimony about Franklin's part in the Lodge demonstration and switched to the Feb. 10 incidents, involving three other charges against the professor.

The University had presented three more witnesses, for a total of four, to tell of Franklin's part on January 11, although one of them couldn't identify him in the hearing room. Franklin insisted only one of the four witnesses "said I was doing anything more than heckling", which he has admitted all along.

That witness was Paul Hanley, associate director of the University's overseas services. He said Franklin was in one of several areas where "chants appeared to be organized."

The full seven-man board unanimously rejected Franklin's motions to dismiss or sever. It also turned down his objection to Chairman Donald Kennedy, professor of biological sciences, making procedural rulings without consulting other members of the board.

Earlier the board had admitted a pre-hearing brief submitted by the University, except for two paragraphs which placed Franklin in the proximity of violence on Feb. 10. Franklin had objected to the brief on the grounds it brought new charges of actually participating in violence he is accused of inciting. Two persons were shot, 10 injured and 12 arrested during the Feb. 10 protests against the invasion of Laos.

The board opened hearings Tuesday on formal charges filed by Stanford President Richard W. Lyman, who suspended Franklin, with pay, last February. The hearing, the first of its kind on the campus, is required under the tenure rules of the University. It was delayed until September at Franklin's request.

Professor Franklin, a self-described Communist and revolutionary, insists the University is trying to fire him for his ideas.

Among the handful of witnesses Wednesday, before the hearing got bogged down in photograph identification, was Mickey Suen, a Stanford student, who told about his part at the Lodge affair.

As Lodge stepped off the stage "There was a lot of uproaring," Suen testified. "I suppose I lost my temper and stood up."

He whistled twice until "the people quieted" and then he called out, "Are you people afraid to let us hear what he has to say?"

The hearings will continue from 1 to 6 p.m. daily, except Sundays, in Room 101 Physics Tank, until they are completed.