



Washington

WASHINGTON · UNIVERSITY · IN · ST · LOUIS

School of Medicine

Division of Atherosclerosis
Nutrition and Lipid Research

Department of Internal Medicine

March 25, 1996

Dr. Jeffrey Kurtzman
7605 Balson Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63130-2150

Re: Your requests for an academic freedom investigation

Dear Dr. Kurtzman:

I have your letter of March 20, 1996. Section VII.C of the Washington University Policy on Academic Freedom, Responsibility and Tenure provides in relevant part:

If . . . any faculty member alleges that considerations which violated his/her academic freedom significantly contributed to adverse decisions concerning such matters as salary, promotion, assignment of teaching duties, assignment of space or other facilities, termination of appointment, or penalties brought to bear against him/her for claimed improper conduct, the faculty member may petition the Advisory Committee on Tenure and Academic Freedom for redress. The petition shall set forth in detail the facts which form the basis of the grievance, against whom the grievance is directed, and on what grounds the grievance is alleged to be a violation of academic freedom. The Advisory Committee shall decide whether the facts alleged in the petition merit a detailed investigation.

Under section VII.C, it is for the petitioner to determine the contents of his petition and to obtain the necessary supporting materials. The Advisory Committee's task under Section VII is not to hold a hearing. Rather, the Advisory Committee reviews the petition of the aggrieved faculty member and determines "whether the facts alleged in the petition merit a detailed investigation." The Advisory Committee may also "attempt to settle the matter by informal methods," determine that "such a settlement is not possible or is not appropriate," and, if it sees fit, recommend that the matter "be heard by the [Academic Tenure and Freedom] Hearing Committee in the manner set forth in this section and in Section IX of [the] Policy."

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I have already provided the Advisory Committee with your petition and the other materials identified in my March 13 letter. If you wish further to supplement your petition, please do so within the week so that the Advisory Committee has the material before their April meeting. If, after reading your petition, the Advisory Committee has questions for you, it is in their discretion to inquire further.

Sincerely yours,

cc: (with Dr. Kurtzman's March 20 letter):

Edward Macias, Executive Vice Chancellor

Members of the Advisory Committee of the Senate Council

Mark S. Wrighton, Chancellor

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