

INDIANA UNIVERSITY CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION

Professor Charles J. Vitaliano  
Chairman, Agenda Committee  
Faculty Council  
Indiana University  
Bloomington, Indiana

Dear Sir:

The Indiana University Civil Liberties Union takes exception to one part of the new "Requirements for Continuance of Registration" in the Indiana University Student Activities Handbook and requests that the Faculty Council act to change this requirement. Will you please submit this matter to the Council?

The passage in question occurs on page 14 as item IV, 3:

"To maintain its registration in effect an organization must:" 7  
Comply with specific written requests from the Student Activities Office for evidence, including membership lists, necessary to authenticate the information it has on file or to supply information legitimately requested by members of the organization.

We object to granting the Student Activities Office the discretionary power to require membership lists of student organizations and urge that the words "including membership lists" be deleted. Such lists can become a tool of those who would harass individuals engaged in legitimate but unpopular activities. For instance, last spring our county prosecutor subpoenaed the Dean of Students to testify before a Grand Jury and asked for the names of the members of the student organization being investigated. (See Bloomington Herald-Telephone, April 26 and April 29, 1963 and Indiana Daily Student, April 27 and April 30, 1963.) It is our understanding that the Dean of Students did not have a membership list and therefore could not provide one. If he had had such a list, we assume that he would have complied with his duty under the law and given it to the Grand Jury. Given the character of the investigation, we assume further that there might have then been other indictments by the Grand Jury and other public exposures of the kind the present prosecutor has demonstrated himself capable of. Thus the University would have been obliged to aid the prosecution, to the disadvantage of civil liberties, of the University, and of any other students who were indicted.

Further, we submit that the new regulations have already done much in a very practical way to destroy part of the civil liberties of students at Indiana University. We know that some student organizations had difficulty in securing membership this year because of the notoriety attached to the case against the Y.S.A., coupled with the specific wording of the new student regulations. Many students are understandably unwilling to endanger their University careers and their future reputations even for the sake of intellectual curiosity or commitment to ideals.



Mr. Charles J. Vitaliano  
March 30, 1964

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Finally, it is our impression that the Y.S.A. chose not to reorganize on this campus rather than to risk further indictments from among its membership. It is ironic that while the university properly refused to revoke the recognition of the Y.S.A., its new rules in effect caused the members to give up their status as a registered student organization on this campus.

We therefore request that the Faculty Council act to revise the "Requirements for Continuance of Registration" by deleting from item IV, 3 the words "including membership lists," and that, for such information as the number of members in student organizations, the university rely (as it has in the past) on the certification by the faculty consultant.

Respectfully yours,

(signed)

Wallace E. Williams, Speaker  
for the Steering Committee,  
I. U. Civil Liberties Union



INDIANA UNIVERSITY  
INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMUNICATION

To: Charles Vitaliano, Secretary  
Dept. Faculty Council  
Subj. Council Agenda

From: Philip Appleman  
Dept. English  
Date. March 31, 1964

I am writing in support of the request by the Indiana University Civil Liberties Union to change the ruling that the Student Activities Office may require membership lists of student organizations.

Committee S, a national committee of the AAUP (on Faculty Responsibility for the Academic Freedom of Students), has been considering the question of student membership lists. As a member of Committee S, I have been authorized to inform the faculty, in confidence, that all members of that committee believe such lists should not be requested by university administrative officers. Committee S is now formulating a Statement of Principles which embodies that belief. The Statement is in preliminary draft and will be considered at the Annual Meeting of the AAUP this spring.

It seems probable that the AAUP will soon be on record as endorsing the principle the IUCLU is now calling to your attention. On behalf of Committee S, I therefore respectfully urge the Faculty Council to act favorably on the IUCLU request.

(Other members of Committee S are Phillip Monypenny, Political Science, Illinois, chairman; C. William Heywood, History, Cornell College; Beatrice G. Konheim, Physiology, Hunter; Lionel H. Newsom, Sociology, Morehouse; Robert Van Waes, History, Washington Office; and William Van Alstyne, Law, Ohio State.)

(signed)

Philip Appleman