

Statement of President Kenneth S. Pitzer to the Academic Senate, April 30, 1970

During the past 15 months Dr. Howard Brooks has been considered for several positions in the federal government in several different departments. Very recently, in fact in very late March, he has come into serious consideration for an executive position in the Department of the Air Force. Ordinarily nothing would be said of this prospect until the Government made its announcement, but in view of the sensitivity of the situation on the campus, I talked this noon with the Secretary of the Air Force and indicated that I felt I must release this information at once.

Let me emphasize at once that Dr. Brooks has kept me informed of all of these discussions about possible positions in Washington and where necessary his University assignments have been varied accordingly. In particular he was not in discussion of any government position during the fall of 1969 when he was negotiating with the Army concerning ROTC at Stanford. Furthermore, he stepped aside from his involvement with ROTC promptly when he was approached about the Air Force position. I promptly notified Professor Keith Mann, chairman of the Advisory Committee on ROTC, of this development and instructed him to deal directly with me on all matters that might otherwise have been handled by Dr. Brooks. I have complete confidence that Dr. Brooks represented Stanford in those ROTC matters assigned to him with the greatest integrity.

Nevertheless, in view of the closeness of student and faculty votes and the emotional state of this issue on the campus, I am taking the following actions:

1. I ask the Committee on Committees of this Senate and the student Committee on Nominations to promptly recommend candidates to fill vacancies on the Advisory Committee on ROTC.
2. I ask this Advisory Committee on ROTC promptly to reconsider and, if they desire, to recommend renegotiation of the Army contract. I shall explain to the Army the exceptional circumstances that justify this reconsideration.
3. The recommendations of the Advisory Committee on ROTC with respect to any ROTC unit will be presented to the Senate for its consideration before I make final agreements on behalf of the University.

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Statement Passed at Special Meeting of Advisory Board, Stanford University, April 30, 1970

Walter G. Vincenti, chairman of the faculty Advisory Board, reported today that the Board had passed the following resolution at a special meeting:

"We believe that Stanford University provides ample opportunity for peaceful change. We are deeply distressed by the violence on campus in recent weeks. We unequivocally support peaceful protest. But we believe that recent protest activities on campus have passed acceptable bounds. The integrity of the University is now threatened by violence and its continued escalation. We urge all members of the University community to refrain from violence and to work together to resolve our conflicts peacefully."

The Advisory Board includes, besides Vincenti, Profs. G.L. Bach, David Hamburg, David Levin, David Mason, Patrick Suppes, and Charles Yanofsky.

4/30/70