

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Bob Beyers

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STANFORD —

Following wide consultation within his department, Professor Ian Watt, chairman of the Stanford English Department, has issued the following statement:

1. The various circumstances which have led to President Lyman's immediate suspension of Professor H. Bruce Franklin from professorial duties, and to the initiation of dismissal proceedings against him, were not within our control. We personally regret that we now must face the possibility of losing a colleague and a gifted scholar and teacher whose approach to literature, though not wholly shared by any of us, certainly deserves a hearing.
2. As the English Department Faculty we cannot and do not take any position as to the charges against Professor Franklin, because they affect both him and us not as members of the Department but as members of the University.
3. Students in Professor Franklin's courses need feel no anxiety as to their current academic programs. During the present suspension the English Faculty will make interim arrangements as soon as possible for the continuance of Professor Franklin's courses, since the English Faculty, on behalf of the Academic Council, is charged with responsibility for instruction in the Department.
4. We appeal to all who teach in the Department to honor their obligations to their classes. We further appeal to all members of the Department, teachers and students alike, to act with responsibility and restraint in the difficult days ahead.
5. We give unqualified support to the traditions of freedom of speech, of teaching, and of research, which seem to us to be the essential intellectual and moral bases of any university; and we utterly repudiate violence on campus, since it will only weaken the University internally and externally, without, in our view, hastening the end of killing in Indochina.

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The following statement from the Department of English has been prepared for circulation to students enrolled in Professor Franklin's courses and will be given to those coming to Engineering Room 268 Tuesday afternoon:

"As you no doubt already know, Professor Bruce Franklin has been suspended from his professorial duties. During that suspension, the Department of English will be making arrangements for the continuation of the teaching of English 270-B and his other courses. Meanwhile, students enrolled in those courses need feel no anxiety that they will fail to receive grades for them under the general conditions laid out by Professor Franklin, providing they complete the established assignments satisfactorily.

"As one interim measure, the available specialists in American and English fiction, Professors William M Chace, David Levin, Thomas Moser, Robert Polhemus, and Claude Simpson, will be jointly responsible for English 270-B. They suggest that until more detailed arrangements can be made, students use the time to continue with reading for the course. They will be available to advise you on matters with respect to English 270 B.

"Undergraduate students enrolled in Professor Franklin's other courses should see Professor Bliss Carnochan. Graduate students enrolled in these other courses should see Professor Albert Gelpi. (The announcement also lists individual office hours.)