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May 25, 1993

Wilma Mankiller, Chief
Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma
Post Office Box 948
Tahlequah, Oklahoma 74464

Dear Wilma:

Warren received the enclosed letter from the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center (UOHSC) yesterday. As you can see, the panel decided Warren's grievance was "academic in nature" not discriminatory. This committee follows a discussion format not an actual investigative format. Dr. Bryan, Chairman, told me legal counsel informed them that the way the enclosed policy is written they have no real power to act on any decision even if they felt there was indeed discrimination. The loop hole that protects those in the academic setting is the way the policy currently reads, "This procedure shall not be applicable to academic evaluations and/or admissions decisions."

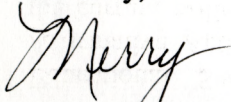
Last night I called Mr. Forte, Affirmative Action Officer UOHSC, at home. He told me based on the Student Discrimination Grievance Committee's decision that Dr. Bryan, Vice-Provost for Educational Services and Chairman of the Student Discrimination Committee, Beth Wilson, Affirmative Action Officer Norman campus, and him were getting together with a lawyer to change the current policy. I feel they know Warren, Ali, and Lynn have a strong case, but under the current policy they have no protection. Furthermore, Mr. Forte knows there have been numerous students who have filed discrimination grievances to fall prey to this policy.

Mr. Forte called me today to let me know the Office of Civil Rights in Dallas is sending an investigator to do a site visit at UOHSC for a week with regard to Warren's case. We're (Bryan, Wilson, Forte, and myself) all hopeful something comes of this. Ironically, we are all minorities.

If nothing else, the grievances filed by Warren, Lynn, and Ali will be instrumental in policy changes. This will help students in the future. The Office of Civil Rights told Mr. Forte that it was a beginning in the right direction for them to initiate the new policy change.

Again, thank you so much for your support through all this. We're not out of the tunnel yet, but there is a small light at the end. Warren still has 4 hours to finish at Bacone this summer and Ms. Curcio has tried everything in her power to keep Warren out of Bacone. Now we worry how much influence she has over the clinical sites. Anyway, we can only hope for the best and endure with the knowledge there are people like you out there who care.

Sincerely,



Merry C. Sunday
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