

April 15, 1994

UNITED STUDENTS FOR FREEDOM  
COALITION

Thomas Alvarez, President

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Dr. John Tippiconnic, Director

Bureau Of Indian Affairs/Office Of Indian Education

1849 C. Street, NW

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Dear Dr. Tippiconnic:

As the spokesperson for the United Students For Freedom Coalition I am extending my interest and concern referencing Mr. Dalton J. Henry, Dean Of Student Services/Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute.

Mr. Henry remains as a federal employee with the Bureau Of Indian Affairs/Department Of Education and has been assigned to the Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute since 1991. But, he has been detailed from SIPI for the past fourteen (14) months due to an unfortunate situation residing between he and his immediate supervisor, Dr. Carolyn Elgin.

Although, I am unaware of all the circumstances revolving around Mr. Henry's situation with Dr. Elgin. I am fully aware of the false accusations publicized by Dr. Elgin against Mr. Henry and his family members during the 1993 protest at SIPI. It is unfortunate that Dr. Elgin has determined that the Henry's involvement in the protest may of defamed the BIA, students of SIPI and Native American community members and viewed their involvement as being a conflict of interest for federal employees. It is my belief that the issues of concern stem from a personal problem between Mr. Henry and his supervisor. It is the position of the "Student Coalition" that Mr. Henry not be disallowed to resume his duties as the "Dean" on the basis of personal differences involving the SIPI president.

To my knowledge, Mr. Dalton Henry is fully credentialed for the "Dean Of Student Services" position and followed the appropriate personnel procedures in applying for the position. He was selected for the position in 1991. Mr. Henry maintains a solid rapport with the Native American students attending SIPI and has been a positive role model for students and staffing. Due to the conflict involving Dr. Carolyn Elgin it appears it may of hindered the educational process of students within the Student Services Department.

I extend the suggestion for your consideration to assist Dr. Elgin and Mr. Henry in hopes to resolve matters as quickly as possible and encourage Dr. Elgin to open the