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TO: Norma Cook

FROM: William T. Snyder *W.T.S.*

DATE: October 26, 1994

SUBJECT: Response to Safety and Student Issues Raised by the Commission for Women

Over the past month, my staff and I have reviewed the Commission's recommendations regarding safety and student issues. Both of these areas are fundamental to UTK's mission. We offer the following response.

Providing a safe campus is central to our efforts to create a welcoming campus climate. Reviewing and systematically implementing suggestions to improve campus safety and security is one of the campus goals articulated in the 1994-95 Five Year Plan. The UT Police Department has made significant progress in raising awareness of security issues. In Fall 1994, a publication titled "General Information on Security on the Knoxville Campus" was distributed to everyone on the UTK payroll and mailed to all UTK students. The UT Police Department offers many services and educational programs to promote a safe and secure campus environment. The department has made a concerted effort to increase 24-hour security in campus housing. They are also seeking specific feedback about how to improve after-hours security in campus buildings and garages.

Responding to student issues, especially those that relate to equality of opportunity based on gender, is also critical to our efforts to develop a university of choice. The Office of the Vice Chancellor for Administration and Student Affairs is anxious to work with the Commission to learn more about student concerns.

Because of the specific nature of the Commission's recommendations for these issues, I suggest a dialogue be established between Phil Scheurer, Vice Chancellor for Administration and Student Affairs, and the Commission for Women. Phil has direct responsibility for campus safety and student welfare. He is very willing to meet with you, your executive committee, or the entire commission. Please feel free to contact Phil to discuss specific ways of improving campus safety efforts and responding to gender-related student concerns.



My staff and I are committed to thoughtful consideration of the points raised by the Commission for Women in the Status of Women at UTK report. We support addressing each concern in a meaningful way. We will continue to discuss each issue and will provide you with feedback about actions we are taking.

c: Phil Scheurer
Marianne Woodside