

THE UNION

TO: President Rothe, Deans Chambers and Davis ✓ *file*
FROM: Robert Atkins, Chairperson, Waiver Committee, UGS-West
DATE: November 8, 1979

I have been asked for a description of the UGS-West Waiver Committee, its structure and operation. As chairperson of this committee for the past two years, I have developed an experience base from which to provide this information.

1. Purpose. As with any set of regulations, the rules which govern the learning process of Union Graduate School require interpretation. Moreover, the flexibility of our humanistic, individualized education requires a process by which certain rules can be modified or waived. The Waiver Committee serves as an advisory body for the purpose of considering requests for interpretation, bending, or total waiver of regulations.
2. Composition, terms, and mode of appointment. The Committee consists of four members: two core faculty and two learners or graduates. Currently, there are two graduates, but one shall be replaced by an active learner in January. Terms vary, but should be for one year or more, to insure that members can contribute after significant training. The members are appointed by the Dean, on recommendation by the chairperson. The chairperson is appointed by the Dean.
3. Powers. The Committee is advisory in nature, making recommendations to the Dean for final decision. Over the two year history of the Committee, only two decisions by the Committee have been changed by the Dean. This supportive relationship is essential to the effective functioning of the committee.
4. Issues before the Committee. The great majority of Committee time is spent on requests of three types: for adjuncts without a Ph.D. degree, for interims beyond six months, and for replacement of adjuncts after the learner's agreement has been distributed. Other issues before the Committee have included unusual use of learning outreach funds, extensions of maximum times before certification, readmissions without attending a second colloquium, substitution of non-UGS events for UGS residency (denied), appointment of both peers from outside of the entry colloquium, attendance at a seminar directly following the entry colloquium, utilization of days spent as co-coordinator of a colloquium as residency time, tuition waiver at the end of a program, membership on more than three committees as a peer, holding of a meeting with foreknowledge of the absence of a member, what constitutes a peer day, reciprocal membership of peers on each other's committee (denied).

