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**NORTHERN ILLINOIS**  

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**UNIVERSITY**

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*Sent via U.S. Mail and Facsimile (215-717-3440)*

December 3, 2010

Adam Kissel  
Vice President of Programs  
Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE)  
601 Walnut Street, Suite 510  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106

UNIVERSITY LEGAL SERVICES  
ALTGELD HALL, SUITE 330  
DEKALB, ILLINOIS 60115-2828  
815-753-1774  
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Re: FIRE's Letter Dated November 18, 2010

Dear Mr. Kissel:

While you and I have already spoken on the phone regarding your letter of November 18, 2010, this letter documents receipt of such letter by Northern Illinois University. In addition, this letter serves as a response to your letter, as you had requested a response by December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Since the issues presented in your letter pertain to the recognition and funding of student organizations at Northern Illinois University, the matter has been referred to the Division of Student Affairs & Enrollment Management. As I had indicated to you, the University immediately started a review of the issues that you have raised, in conjunction with appropriate members of the Student Association and University Legal Services.

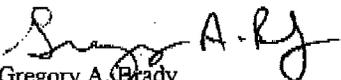
Your letter appears to request two courses of action from the Student Association and Northern Illinois University: (1) an appropriate remedy for SSDP for the Constitutional violations that you have alleged; and (2) an appropriate review and revision of the funding and recognition policies that are utilized by the Student Association. Undoubtedly, such a review and revision process as you have proposed will take much time and resources in and of themselves. What you may not realize is that the Fall Semester ends for students on December 4, 2010, and the University will be placed on administrative closure between December 18, 2010 and January 3, 2011. At this point in time, a review of the recognition process is underway, but not been completed. Being mindful of the lost time and resources that I have mentioned here, as well as the continuing regular business and operations of the University, I suspect that the review will continue well into the New Year. I had briefly mentioned to you in our telephone conversation my concerns about time and resources, and you appeared to be receptive to understanding those concerns. I certainly appreciate that, as well as your patience and cooperation.

In the interim, SSDP had indicated that they wanted to meet on campus one last time for this semester. In an effort to aid this request, the Division of Student Affairs & Enrollment Management has assisted in sponsoring SSDP for the limited purpose of allowing the group to meet this semester despite the current controversy. In addition, I have been informed today that the SA Senate has called a special Senate meeting for this Sunday night, December 5<sup>th</sup>. It is my understanding that SSDP's recognition application will be placed on the agenda for this meeting for appropriate consideration.

If you have any further comments or questions about this letter, please contact me at (815) 753-2621 or [gbrady@niu.edu](mailto:gbrady@niu.edu). Thank you.

Sincerely,

NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

  
Gregory A. Brady  
Deputy General Counsel for Administration

cc: Dr. Brian O. Hemphill, Vice President for Student Affairs & Enrollment Management  
Angela Dreessen, Director, Student Involvement & Leadership Development  
Melissa Williams, Associate Director, Student Involvement & Leadership Development