

but only that they be allowed to finish whatever academic unit they are engaged in at the time their Draft Boards notify them that they have been chosen for service. In the long run, I think a lottery would be the fairest way to handle the Draft, but the one change I have mentioned would be of considerable help.

If there is any way I can help you and your committee to improve the conditions I have been discussing, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,

R. L. PREDMORE,
Vice Provost and Dean.

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY,
Manhattan, Kans., February 23, 1968.

HON. EDITH GREEN,
*U.S. House of Representatives,
Rayburn Building,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR CONGRESSWOMAN GREEN: We share the deep concern which has been expressed by a number of academic institutions and educational associations regarding the recent ruling of the National Security Council on the Selective Service status of graduate students.

The ruling's abrupt impact on the Nation's educational effort and upon the continuity of supply of highly educated individuals is the main question, for we do maintain that the individual should be prepared to answer a call to the Nation's service. The issue is one of timing and orderliness. Thus, a more gradual adjustment of certain prior inequities in deferment policies ought to be possible so that serious new imbalances and sudden disruptions are not created. Nevertheless, the recently announced policy will virtually deplete schools of healthy American males enrolling for their first or second year of graduate work. At Kansas State University we estimate that, from a previously projected graduate enrollment of about 1,560 students for Fall, 1968, about 320 will be qualified for induction. The effects of such an immediate and exhaustive loss upon teaching and research programs have been widely commented upon, but, multiplied across the country, the effect on the more distant future is likely to be more serious.

Time is short and the problem is complex; but the Nation's future is as deeply dependent on the long-term responsibilities that must be met by educated citizens as on the more immediate requirements of its military commitments. I believe that current circumstances and available ingenuity are such that neither obligation need be jeopardized, and I hope that the House Committee on Education and Labor can recommend improved alternatives to the present Selective Service policy.

Sincerely yours,

JAMES A. MCCAIN,
President.

THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY,
Baltimore, Md., February 23, 1968.

HON. EDITH GREEN,
*Member of Congress,
House Office Building,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MRS. GREEN: I am writing in connection with the recently announced decisions of the National Security Council and the Director of Selective Service concerning the application of the draft to graduate students. In the absence of some form of prompt corrective measures, either through executive action or through legislation, the predictable result of these decisions is a massive depopulation of the graduate and professional schools (other than medicine and dentistry) for the next two or three years. This will create seriously adverse effects on the supply of future teachers, scientists, and other urgently required skilled manpower; it will entail severe financial and manning difficulties for the universities extensively engaged in graduate education; and it will produce unnecessary inequities in the operation of the Selective Service System.

Let me make clear that neither I nor my fellow-administrators have sought or now seek a continuation of the past policy of blanket deferment for graduate students. That policy has created real inequities in recent years, and we agree with the decision of the Congress last June that it should be discontinued. We also heartily endorse the decision of the National Security Council against the blanket deferment of graduate students in particular fields, such as science and engineering.