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NOW complaint of discrimination by ISU confirmed in HEW ruling

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Iowa State University has been directed to pay a settlement of more than \$25,000 by the Federal Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) as the result of a sex discrimination complaint filed by the Ames chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW).

In a March 16 letter to ISU President W. Robert Parks, an HEW official verified a complaint relating to the hiring of a male head editor of the Energy Research Institute (ERI) Editorial Office in 1974.

However, George Christensen, ISU vice president for academic affairs, said Thursday the University will not pay the settlement until it has a chance to reply to the discrimination charges.

"We're not agreeing with the facts and the information which they (HEW) have now . . .

We don't want to have any policies which even hint at sex discrimination," he said Thursday.

The letter, from Taylor August, director of the HEW Kansas City Office for Civil Rights, instructed Parks to send a check for \$2,504 to Janellyn Staley, a former ISU English instructor, within 30 days. Failure to comply could mean the loss of all federal financial assistance to the University.

Parks and Christensen intend to write HEW officials to respond to the ruling, Christensen said. But he indicated the reply would be done "privately."

"The facts they (HEW) are using are not the correct facts," Christensen said. "We're not questioning the ruling, we're questioning the facts. . . . we're questioning the figures they used as far as money reimbursements."

Staley was one of two women applicants for the ERI editorship that "exceeded the requirements" to be editor. The man hired was James Tarbox, a 1974 ISU graduate who worked in the ERI Editorial Office—now the

Technical Editing Office—as an editor, and was moved up to head editor.

Staley, who HEW determined was the most qualified of the applicants for the job, said she applied but was never interviewed for the position.

"They didn't even acknowledge my application," she said Thursday in a telephone interview from her home in Northbrook, Ill.

Staley worked for *Better Homes and Gardens* magazine and had edited several publications in the Chicago area. She left the ISU English department in 1973 and now teaches English part-time at Harper College in Palatine, Ill.

Tarbox began working in the editing office in April 1973. Upon returning from a one-week honeymoon in June 1973, he learned that the editor, Jerry Kern, had resigned and he was appointed acting editor until January 1974, when he was named head editor.

Tarbox quit in June 1974 and now works for the St. Paul Pioneer Press Dispatch in St. Paul, Minn.

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