



Press Release
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For more information, contact:

Ohio Ethics Commission
(614) 466-7090

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

FORMER DEAN GETS JAIL TIME, FINE FOR ETHICS MISCONDUCT

Frederick J. Gies, a former Dean at the College of Education and Human Services at Wright State University, was sentenced yesterday to six months in jail, fined \$10,000, and ordered to pay \$43,558.66 in restitution. In April, Gies pled guilty to one count of Engaging in a Pattern of Corrupt Activities, which is a felony of the first degree. Greene County Common Pleas Court Judge Thomas Rose sentenced Gies to 10 to 25 years in prison. He suspended all but six months of the sentence and ordered that it be served in the Greene County jail.

Gies' conviction and sentencing is the culmination of more than two years of extensive joint investigation by the Ohio Ethics Commission, the Ohio Highway Patrol, and the Greene County Prosecutor's Office that resulted in the conviction of Gies and that of two former faculty members and a vendor to the University. "This investigation demonstrates the problems that can arise when public servants allow their private interests to supersede their public duties," stated David E. Freel, Executive Director of the Ohio Ethics Commission. Freel continued, "Gies' conviction emphasizes that criminal ethics provisions designed to protect the public in Ohio apply equally to all public servants."

In April, Gies admitted to engaging in a pattern of corrupt activities that encompassed multiple offenses of misconduct, including having an unlawful interest in a public contract and soliciting improper compensation. The charges arose from acts involving educational journals with which Gies and two other former faculty members were associated. Although Wright State University underwrote the publication costs of these journals, Gies formed a private corporation, Leadership Services International, Inc., through which he funneled additional payments to himself and others. Gies also authorized a series of public contracts in which he had a financial interest, and accepted consulting fees from an illegal source. A portion of the \$43,558.66 in restitution will reimburse Wright State for money lost due to

Gies' illegal dealings.

The Ohio Ethics Commission is an independent agency of state government charged with interpreting and administering the Ohio Ethics Law for many state and local public officials and employees. The Commission has been serving the public, and state and local governments, since its formation as part of the Ohio Ethics Law in 1973.