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NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY
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DEPARTMENT OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS
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IMPLEMENTATION OF BLACK STUDENT AGREEMENT OF MAY 4, 1968

STATEMENT OF ROLAND J. HINZ, VICE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT
AFFAIRS AND DEAN OF STUDENTS, NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

INTRODUCTION

This is a progress report on the implementation of the Agreement reached May 4, 1968, between the University and our Black students. Much has been done since early May to improve the opportunities and options available to Black students on this campus.

The Agreement is one which suggests an on-going process with continuing attention to the needs of these students, and it is not possible, therefore, to complete a set of simple tasks and thereby regard our goals as accomplished. It is my hope that the new relationship which resulted from our discussions of May 3-4 will continue to improve and prosper in the future.

This report is made with the concurrence of representatives of the Black student community.

I. HUMAN RELATIONS

The University agreed that a University Committee on Human Relations would be appointed "in a way that elicits and recognizes the views and recommendations of the Black students." This Committee was announced by President J. Roscoe Miller on Aug. 21, 1968. A nine-member group, the Committee is under the chairmanship of James A. Rahl, professor and director of research at the University's Law School, and also includes the following:

William W. Ellis, assistant professor, political science, College of Arts and Sciences; George M. Fredrickson, associate professor, history, College, Robert E. Machol, professor of quantitative methods and managerial economics, School of Business; Meyer Dwass, professor, mathematics, College; Amassa C. Fauntleroy, graduate student, mathematics; Sandra L. Malone, senior, School of Education; Philip Smith, graduate student, English; and Bjarnie R. Anderson, senior, School of Speech.

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II. ADMISSION

A Black student advisory committee on admission met several times with the Director of Admission prior to the end of spring quarter. Discussion centered around how the committee could best help in recruiting talented Black students.

The chairman of the advisory committee, a junior in the College of Arts and Sciences from Chicago, was employed for a period of one month to read widely in the field of college admission and, working with the admission staff, develop a program for recruitment for the forthcoming academic year.

Members of the advisory committee on admission, with University staff members, will visit high schools in the Chicago metropolitan area, including Hammond and Gary, Ind. The committee also will write to interested Black student prospects for admission and will speak with individual candidates.

A program for students was held during the Summer Session organized by the F.M.O. (For Members Only) Black Student Alliance at Northwestern in cooperation with the University's Office of the Summer Session. Five free public lectures on Afro-American studies were presented by noted Black scholars and writers.

An orientation program for entering Black students was arranged for the fall quarter beginning September 23, 1968. \$500 was made available for this purpose.

III. FINANCIAL AID

A Black student advisory committee on financial aid has been operating since the end of May. The committee chairman is a junior in the College of Arts and Sciences from Chicago. The committee's primary responsibility, in coordination with a subcommittee of the University's Committee on Financial Aid to Students, is to consult on decisions made by the Office of Financial Aid regarding the financial aid requests of Black students. On the recommendation of the combined committees, nine Black students' requests to attend Summer Session were granted.

IV. HOUSING

To accommodate the wishes of the Black students to live in closer proximity, the University has sought to comply with their requests for room preference. Entering freshmen have been assigned to rooms on a random basis. Upperclassmen have submitted their room requests: this has resulted in a group of Black men living on the sixth floor of the North Shore Hotel and a group of Black women living on the second floor of the Northwestern Apartments. Other students also are living on these floors. Black students also are living on other floors of the North Shore Hotel and the Northwestern Apartments as well as in other residence units of their choosing throughout the campus. Efforts will be made in the future to provide the opportunity for those students who wish to live in proximity to have that choice.

V. CURRICULUM

Robert H. Strotz, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, last spring appointed an ad hoc committee of the College to work with the curriculum committee of the Black students toward introducing courses in Afro-American studies for the 1968-69 academic year.

Members of the faculty committee are Prof. Karl de Schweinitz, department of economics, chairman; Prof. William W. Ellis, department of political science; Mr. J. Congress Mbata, department of linguistics; Prof. Charles Moskos, department of sociology, and Prof. Rae Moses, department of linguistics and assistant dean of the College.

Recommendations regarding new courses and faculty members have been and will be presented to the appropriate departments and faculty committees which approve appointments and new courses. A special appropriation was made by the University for the support of the new visiting teachers.

Three faculty appointments and the courses they will teach are in the process of being approved.

They are:

Mr. Mbata, a lecturer, whose teaching ordinarily would have been in the Bantu languages, will give a two-quarter course in "History of Apartheid, Segregation and Partnership."

Prof. Margaret Walker Alexander of Jackson State College, Jackson, Miss. (B.A., Northwestern; Ph.D., University of Iowa), a prize-winning novelist, will be a visiting professor and will teach courses in Afro-American literature during the spring quarter.

Lerone Bennett Jr. (B.A., LL.D., Morehouse College), Ebony Magazine senior editor and author of four books on Black history and problems including a biography of Martin Luther King Jr., will be a visiting professor in the department of history for the academic year. In the fall quarter he will be on campus for research and student conferences. He will teach two courses in both the winter and spring quarters essentially in the history department, the subject matter still to be decided.

Negotiations for additional faculty members also are being carried on.

In addition to the foregoing courses, there are the University's usual courses of relevance to problems of race and of the urban community, as well as the substantial offerings in the area of African Studies.

VI. COUNSELING

In April 1968 the University appointed a new staff member to work jointly in the Admission Office and the Dean of Students Office as a counselor to the Black students. To the regret of both the students and the administration, he has decided to accept a teaching appointment at another university.

Since that time, the University in consultation with its Black students has considered several candidates for this position and hopes to make an appointment within the next few weeks. It is anticipated that approximately 80 percent of the new staff member's time will be devoted to counseling students and assisting them in their activities, and the balance of his time will be spent in admission-related activity.

VII. FACILITIES

To provide activity space for the Black students, the University is converting a house at 619 Emerson St. from faculty offices to activity facilities. The major portion of the new facilities will be assigned to F.M.O., the recognized Black student organization on campus. Some other campus organizations also will be assigned space in this building. It is planned to house the Black counselor in this building.

These facilities include several small offices, a library-study area, a conference room, and an informal lounge area. The University realizes that not all of the Black Students' needs for activity space will be met in this facility and will schedule multi-use activity space available on campus for their use and upon their request.

VIII. OPEN OCCUPANCY

This past summer a University Committee on Discrimination in Housing, a subcommittee of the University Committee on Human Relations, was established with Prof. Laurence H. Nobles, Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, as chairman. Other members of the committee are: Prof. Morris E. Fine of the department of materials science in the Technological Institute; E. Martin Jehn, assistant dean of men and director of men's housing; David G. Utley, director of the Office of International Programs and Scholars and of the Office of Special Students; Alban Weber, University attorney; and two student members still to be appointed.