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Student Demands from Black Student Union-Faculty Meeting

Lindenwood Black Student Union

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May 14, 1970

6:00 P.M.

BLACK STUDENT-FACULTY MEETING

AGENDA

1. Review Black Student List of 17 Demands.
2. Statement to the faculty on Determination of Black Student Grades for this semester.
3. Request for a Special Committee to Review Black Student Grades for this semester.

Would not give a def. yes or no answer → Also - whether or not would
to question on taking exams - 4/1 take exam
after Fri's meeting @ Admin.

INTRODUCTION

When Lindenwood College for Women instituted a plan toward the recruitment, enrollment, and financial assistance of Black Students, it was assumed that this action might prove to be an excessive exercise of administration discretion when implemented. With the first large group of Black Students on campus (the 1968-69 school year) there was much activity. With the arrival of eighteen Black Students began a long journey toward the full realization of our present condition at Lindenwood College today.

With the organization of the Association of Black Collegians came the attempt to deny our rights to join in union as Black Sisters and Brothers bound by ties that are held together by oppression, exploitation, and racism. This is a right that needn't be sanctioned by any institution but should rather be welcomed by those who have victimized us for centuries and now are attempting to heal the wounds that have been inflicted upon Black people.

Consistent with the refusal to officially recognize the Association of Black Collegians on this campus came the refusal to respond to the call of Black Students for a committed effort to deal with the problems of the Black Students.

It is granted that some action has already been taken, that some programs exist, and that new proposals are under consideration. However, response through these chan-

nels has been for the most part limited. The conditions are not affected in any substantial manner by these "Due processes."

The needs and the problems of Black people on this campus are not being met. Just as Brothers and Sisters are suffering nationally and locally; so are we being forced to live a limited and detrimental existence which does nothing but hamper, impede and destroy the spirit that is needed for an educational community.

Conditions cry out for new priorities and needed actions. Now is the time for new standards raised and old barriers removed. With this in mind, we the Black Students of Lindenwood College present the following demands.

ADMISSIONS

Last year certain questions such as the recruiting policies and the number of Black and minority students applying at Lindenwood were asked of the Admissions Office by the Association of Black Collegians. We were told by the Admissions office that "no such information was kept on file."

This year we see that the above questions still remain unanswered. We demand that facts, numbers and figures be presented to the Black Students so that we know there is a genuine effort being put forth for the recruitment of Black Students. Also, we find the need for a permanent Black employee of the Admissions office because of his (or, her) knowledge and expertise in dealing with the Black perspective. We feel that a Black recruiter would relate to Black applicants more readily, than the white recruiters who function in that capacity.

Lindenwood College has shown its belief that there are useful and perhaps necessary experiences to be gained through the intermingling of Continents and Nations. This idea has been embodied in the January abroad programs and the presence of foreign students here on the Lindenwood Campus.

We, as Black people feel that in order for us to gain the most useful experience out of this idea, it is necessary for us to have the opportunity to exchange and

share ideas with those whose roots are the same as our own. What is being spoken of here, is the necessity of the Black races of the world to come together and reunite in mind and spirit. In other words, we DEMAND BLACK STUDENTS OF FOREIGN LANDS, HERE ON THE Lindenwood Colleges Campus.

Every possible effort should be made by the Lindenwood College Admissions Office to recruit Black Students from Africa, Haiti, Jamiaica, and every other area where Black people reside.

The following methods should prove useful:

1. Invitation be extended, via the foreign Black professors of schools such as, Harvard, Brandais Yale, Atlanta University, Columbia, and Boston University, to prospective Black Students of foreing lands.
2. Requests be sent to the American Field Service specifically stating the desire for prospective Black Foreign Students.
3. Actively employ the Black Students of Lindenwood College to serve as ambassadors in the recruitment of Black Foreign Students.

CURRICULUM

To the present time the Lindenwood Colleges have offered two tokenistic attempts to branch into the field of Black Studies.

WE as Black Students feel that Lindenwood should be given more for the education of Black People, instead of the currently existing policy of assimilating into the mainstream of white education at this institution that has, more over, proven itself to be racist by condition and tradition.

Black Students matriculating at Lindenwood are being academically and culturally raped and exploited as the college presently exists in the areas of Black oriented studies.

WE NOW DEMAND AN EDUCATION THAT WILL BENEFIT US, AS SUCH.

We feel that all Black studies courses should be in fact enacted for black students and taught by black instructors in that blacks are here to be educated not to educate nor to accommodate whites in positions that may be better filled by Blacks.

Because thus far "to intergrate" at Lindenwood has meant to give up our black identities as such, and that we have neither time nor resources to function as a race relations project:

Therefore WE NOW DEMAND

1. ^{NO} A BLACK STUDIES CURRICULUM BASED AT L.C.
2. ALL BLACK STUDIES COURSES BE TAUGHT BY BLACK INSTRUCTORS
3. L.C.C. DEFINITELY INCLUDE A PERIOD DEALING TOTALLY WITH THE BLACK EXPERIENCE.
4. BLACKS SHOULD ~~BASE~~ ^{Supervise} THE BLACK MEDIA BANK.

— Came: "what... include?"

FACULTY, STAFF, HOUSE MOTHERS, CONSORTIUM, WORK-STUDY

It has been overly apparent to us as Black Students from Black cultural backgrounds, that this community of existence at Lindenwood has been extremely incongruent to our life-time development. We feel the stemming varmint for this incongruent situation is due, in fact, fully for reasons of environment and self-extendion.

At the Lindenwood College there are no full time faculty members whatsoever. We ask you--How is one to totally relate in an academic atmosphere that breeds racism and a large amount of insensitivity? To qualify that statement, we mean in fact, that these White faculty members are not in sensitive understanding with our past and present lives as Black individuals... We are fully aware that in this White institution, there is no way of avoiding White instructors, but it is fully apparent to us that Lindenwood is in dire need of at least three full-time Black faculty members, in addition to part-time members by the given Date.

Along the same lines of incongruent living conditions, we have questioned the reasons for not having Black people in jobs on campus-- such as in maintenance, stenography, the post-office, the bookstore and other jobs under the general category of the Lindenwood staff. We are unable to reconcile reasons for this non-existence and **WE THEREFORE DEMAND IMMEDIATE HIRING OF BLACKS IN ALL RESPECTIVE POSITIONS OF THE LINDENWOOD STAFF BY SEPTEMBER 1970.**

We have witnessed the fact that out of six women dormitories with five house mothers, several of whom we consider racist, there is not one Black house mother. We can find no excuse for this and DEMAND AN IMMEDIATE REPLACEMENT OR ADDITION OF A BLACK WOMAN TO FUNCTION IN THAT POSITION BY SEPTEMBER 1970.

Student assistants from the the work_study programs exists in many departments around Lindenwood. One department lacking such assistants is the seven College Consortium. We feel that jobs opportunities should be made availabe for Black Students in this department. Reasons for this are that we simply want to work close to the systms that is benefiting Black Students on campus thetmost. We DEMAND BETTER WORK_STUDY OPPORTUNITIES FOR BLACKS WITHIN OUR RELATIVE INTERESTS BEGINNING WITH WORK IN THE CONSORTIUM PROGRAM, NO LATER THAT SEPTEMBER 1970.

The mere existence of Black Students on this campus makes it imperative to have Black members on the faculty administration and residential staffs.

I. Faculty:

From the 1070-1971 schedule of classes we ascertain that there is a need for teachers to fill the vacancies in the various departments. We demand that Blacks be placed in positions.

- A. Art
 - 1. Scultpuer
 - 2. World Art and Literature
- B. Business Institute
 - 1. Principles of Acc.
 - 2. Intermediate Acc.

C. Chemistry -Physics

1. General Chemistry
2. Advanced Physics

D. Education

1. Art in Elementary Schools
2. Secondary Art Methods
3. Library Administration
4. Cataloging and Classification

E. English

1. The Contemporary Novel
2. Romanticism
3. Contemporary Black Literature
4. The Victorians

F. German

G. Music

1. Voice
2. Orchestral Instruments
3. Wind Ensemble

H. Psychology

1. Introduction to Psychology
2. Psychology of Personality
3. Theories of Motivation
4. Social Psychology
5. Abnormal Psychology

I. Sociology

1. Basic Concept of Sociology
2. Human Evolution and Races
3. Population Analysis
4. Social Problems
5. Current Issues in Anthropology

Financial Statement

Due to the present and past injustices in handling the financial aid concerning the Black students of the Lindenwood Colleges:

WE AS BLACK STUDENTS DEMAND AN EXPLANATION OF THE DISTRIBUTION AND PROCEDURES USED IN ALLOCATING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO BLACK STUDENTS.

(Loans, Grants, Scholarships, Funds)

WE DEMAND THAT AN IMMEDIATE EXPLANATION AND THOROUGH INVESTIGATION BE MADE OF QUESTIONS SUCH AS THESE:

1. Where does the money come from (source)?
2. What type of organizations appropriate these finances?
3. What stipulations does the money carry?
4. How much money is allocated annually for Black students use?
5. Is it dealt with in accordance to these stipulations? How?
6. Do you think the money is being allocated in an effective manner?
7. What is being done to find other possible financial sources?

During the past academic years 1969-1970 the appropriations of funds to the Association of Black Collegians were withdrawn.

The reasons given:

- 1. A.B.C. and other private organizations as Beta Chi and others also did not receive money.
- 2. Because A.B.C. is composed of Black Students it is a separatist organization.

Therefore, we the Black students of the Lindenwood Colleges demand that appropriate funds be allocated for the operation and maintenance of the Association of Black Collegians (commonly referred to as ABC). It should be made clear that first: ABC is not a "social club." Our presence and concern for our right of self determination here today should indicate this fact...

Secondly, the mere fact that we are Black students bound together by common experience of racism and oppression makes us a unique organization, and cannot be comparable to any other private organization on campus.

The following is an estimation of the funds necessary to operate a functioning, Black Student Organization:

SEE SEPARATE SHEET

$$\begin{array}{r}
 10 \\
 50 \overline{) 3500} \\
 \underline{350} \\
 0
 \end{array}$$

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APPROPRIATIONAL COMMITTEE

Academic Expenditures
\$1,000.00

Literary & Publication
Expenditures
\$1,000.00

Supplies
pencils
pens
erasers
stencils

Literary Materials
for Orientations

Spring festival of
of Black Arts

Papers
typing
carbon
memo
personal stationary
envelopes
postage
ink
typewriter ribbons
legal pads
paper clips

Cultural Expenditures
\$1,500.00

Communication and Conference
fees

Transportation fees

\$3500.00

ABC Office and Facilities

WE, THE BLACK STUDENTS DEMAND AN OFFICE OF PERMANENT STANDING TO BE ISSUED FOR USE OF THE ASSOCIATION OF BLACK COLLEGIANS OF LINDENWOOD COLLEGES I & II.

WE FURTHER DEMAND THAT THIS OFFICE SHOULD MEET THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

- A. Office space should consist of a two-room area.
- B. One room should be furnished to function as a lounge area where as meetings can be held and guests of ABC members can be accommodated.
- C. A second room should be provided to accommodate business transactions.

This room should be equipped with telephones, two regulation office desks, one portable and one electric typewriter, a mimeograph machine, and ample shelve space.

Student-Police Relations Board

The Student-Police Relations Board should have a permanent seat for a Black student selected by Black students. The interests of the Black community on campus and its Black guests from surrounding communities must be represented in their encounter with law enforcement agencies of the St. Charles community. It should be recognized that an all white board cannot possibly recognize many of the obviously racist actions of the city officials.

Social Council

It has been called to our attention that the Social Council as far as the Black student is concerned, is non-functional and totally irrelevant. We have not been satisfactorily represented. It has been our experience that in order to meet the demands of the people it is necessary to have a representative of the people in order that we may fully meet the needs of the Black students.

It is to our understanding that these officials of the committee are elected by the dorms, which are predominately white, which, in itself, in no way assures the Black inhabitants of this college a voice in those issues which are of general concern.

WE DEMAND A PERMANENT POSITION AND OFFICE WITHIN THIS COMMITTEE TO ASSURE THE BLACK STUDENT OF SOCIAL FUNCTIONS WHICH ARE OF INTEREST AND VALUE TO HIM.

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Cultural Events

1. There should be a Black student who will represent the Black community in the choice of plays, lectures, performers, and other affairs of cultural significance presented to the student body of the Lindenwood Colleges.
2. Funds should be allotted to a committee which has been chosen to represent the Black students in order that Black speakers and performers of greater relevancy to us should be brought on this campus.
3. Due to the scarcity, nature, and quality of the cultural events which are present, it is imperative that the Black students seek entertainment and enlightenment off campus.

The director of social activities should have a definite and specific responsibility to Black students. In this capacity, our present director of social activities is unaware or not in touch with the happenings of the Black community. WE DEMAND A BLACK ASSISTANT WHO WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH THE BLACK COMMUNITY AND THEREBY PROVIDE A RAPPORT OF RELATIVITY.