

Having rejected the basic principles on which our demands were based, the administration has forced us to speak for the last time on those matters discussed at the meeting of Wed., April 24, 1968. We demand that such action be taken to meet this, our final list of demands. The University must show itself flexible enough to take in the "peculiarities" of our culture and background. The only way, we feel, the University can display its understanding and flexibility is by the immediate approval and implementation of those demands submitted by the Black student body on April 22, 1968.

I. POLICY STATEMENT

Northwestern cannot begin to deal effectively with racism on this campus until it first realizes and openly acknowledges the extent of racism in American society. For this reason we reject the statement given to us in response and demand that a "new" policy statement be issued and made public from President Roscoe Miller asserting that the racism of American society which has penetrated all American institutions has also penetrated Northwestern University, and has thus affected the social and academic life here.

This statement is to include a declaration that the University is attempting to provide a multi-racial and cultural society within the university walls and that any racist attacks and/or abuses shall be considered in direct opposition to the University's goals and a danger to the peaceful existence of such a society. The extent of this danger is such that the perpetrator shall be immediately excluded from this institution.

In order to alter the racist structure of this University, a change has to take place in the judiciary structures, attitudes, and practices. As of now, the University Disciplinary Committee is ineffective in dealing with racism on campus (examples include the Fiji incidents and the many encounters with Sigma Chi). We demand that this judiciary be changed and implemented to bring about swifter and fairer decisions, or that a special judiciary be created to deal with these special cases.

On acknowledging the racist structure of this country and this institution, Northwestern is committed to understand the negative effects of racism on Black people and other oppressed people. The entire concept of justice has to be re-evaluated for this reason. Justice for Black people at this time does not mean equal treatment before a law or rule which is insensitive to our oppressive position in this country. We contend that justice for Black people means that extra consideration and efforts are to be made in order to balance the effects of racism. This means in effect that the U.D.C. decision to place 3 white students and 2 Black students on disciplinary warning is not justice and is thus unacceptable in our eyes.

Our experience in America has not been characterized by justice in any way. No white institution can right our hundreds of years of history and experience by suddenly treating us the same as white people (only at those times when it is strategic to do so) and call it justice and equality. No matter how one looks at it, idealistically or realistically, Black people know that we are still getting the short end of the deal. A new basis for administering justice must be developed and put into effect and it is with this that U.D.C., or any new judiciary which intends to deal with racism, has to concern itself.

The only concrete response from the administration was the establishment of a special University Committee on Human Relations. However, we are not satisfied with that response and demand the right of the Black student community to approve all appointments to this committee and to determine at least 50% of these appointments.

II. ADMISSIONS

We understand that Northwestern has suddenly made a "substantial effort to change the composition of the undergraduate student body." However this statement or any of the others which followed says nothing about a guaranteed increase of the number of Black students at Northwestern. We demand that each forthcoming freshman class be 10-12% Black and that it will be financially feasible for all those Black students accepted to come.

We demanded that 50% of each year's incoming Black students be from the inner city school systems. The administration emphasized that in the past the Black enrollment contained at least 50% from the inner city and ended with the statement "There is no reason to believe that this percentage should change." In lieu of this statement there is no reason why we should not be given a guarantee that this percentage will remain the same.

We agreed that a committee will be appointed by the Black student community to assist the Admissions Office, especially in the area of recruitment. We demand that there be no restrictions placed on our selections, that this committee be in a salaried position, and that it have shared power with the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid in making all decisions relevant to Black students, including decisions on which Black students are to be admitted.

The University has agreed to provide us with the names of all Black students who are known to the Administration as well as a list of all entering Black students. We demand a list of all Black students accepted as well as those entering with information relevant to our purposes such as residence (city and state). We further demand that such lists be compiled and turned over to F.M.O. for each subsequent freshman class.

In addition, the University agreed to arrange a meeting between us and the incoming Black freshman.

III. SCHOLARSHIPS

As all Black people in America categorically suffer from the oppressiveness of this white society, we conclude that all Black students at Northwestern in turn categorically suffer from economic and social oppression and on that basis should categorically be given special consideration for increased financial aid which is not covered in the data of the financial aid form. The process of evaluating financial need and administering financial aid must be restructured to meet our vital needs. This re-organization can be done in conjunction with our established Admissions and Financial Aid Committee.

The acceptance of job and loan offers may be optional for white students attending Northwestern, but due to our plight in this country, they are not optional for us. Black students are forced to take jobs and loans to lessen the financial burden of our families who suffer categorically under the American political, economic, and social structure. Therefore the problems and pressures encountered by a Black student receiving financial aid are not the same ones encountered by a white financial aid student.

The University has already acknowledged the deficiency in our High School preparation. By virtue of this fact, we contend that this deficiency can best be removed by allowing all Black students to attend the Summer Session as they so desire. Also, we strongly feel that Black students should have the same opportunity to continue their education through the summer as any other Northwestern student. Whether or not we work or attend classes should be our option and therefore the University should not restrict us by requiring that we work in order to substantiate our scholarships for the other three quarters.

As it stands now, Northwestern has neither a fair admissions policy nor a fair financial aid arrangement. Equal opportunity and rights for us imply much more than whites care to admit. Our demands still stand that our scholarships be increased to cover what is now included in our "required jobs" and to include funds for those who want or need to attend Summer session.

IV. HOUSING

As taken from the University's reply to our demands of April 22nd: "While we (the administration) can understand and appreciate the frustrations that lead to the demands..." We, the Black students of Northwestern, cannot appreciate the frustrations that led to making these demands. How the University can claim to understand our problems and/or frustrations and not concede to our demands is beyond our comprehension!

The University might be living with a severe shortage of on-campus housing. However, this does not affect us in that a Black living unit would not necessarily call for additional space, only the relocation of students.

Furthermore, the Administration contends that the most important reason for denying this demand lies in the function the residence hall serves in the educational program of the University. "(The residence hall) is a place where students learn from each other and thereby further the education process in which this institution is engaged. This function of University housing depends on a mixture of student types which cannot be achieved if certain groups are segregated from the rest of the living environment." Why, we ask, are the fraternities and sororities exempt from this educational program?

The University evidently helps to support living units (fraternities and sororities) on this campus which are in direct opposition to the above quoted University policy. Therefore, the University should have no objection to supporting another living unit (Black) without this educational program.

Furthermore, according to the minutes of the March 5, 1968 CUL Subcommittee meeting, "Mr. Ihlanfeldt stated that as Director of Admissions, he feels his charge from the faculty is to recruit quality and dissimilarity within the student body. He sees the Greek groups as selecting others like themselves and opposes the extension of the system on that basis. He stated that he would accept the fraternity idea but not in the same way that it has been in the past where there is discrimination based on the same type of criterion. He would only accept an extension of the idea, such as converting Hobart and Rogers to models of the future that may tend to represent the philosophical idea of a master house plan. This could be all or predominantly Negro, but it would not be copying the fraternity system as it is." Evidently the idea of a Black living unit was at one time feasible. Why is it that this is no longer the case?

If the University genuinely believes that a Black living unit would be in direct conflict with their program and/or basic university policy, then we demand that the University should make a policy statement condemning the existing living units of this sort (i. e. fraternities and sororities) with a commitment to get rid of them immediately. Otherwise, on the basis of this argument, we restate our demand that the University provide us with a Black living unit.

V. CURRICULUM

Dean Strotz received a copy of our demands on April 21, 1968 as did the rest of the administration. It is our understanding that Dean Strotz heads the Committee for Curriculum Revisions. We have received no reply either from him or through the administration on the creation of a Black Studies Course. Therefore, we assume that he has either denied our request or he is thoroughly disinterested in the condition of the Black student at Northwestern.

Through University funds, the Administration has the influence to promote the hiring of Black faculty members. We demand that this influence be immediately put into effect and used to its fullest extent.

One concrete step in meeting our demand would be the creation of a visiting chair in Black Studies. However, we demand that the Black community have the ultimate decision as to which professor would occupy this chair from year to year.

VI. COUNSELING

We want it understood that any hiring of personnel in the position of counseling to the Black community of Northwestern University must be approved by the Black community. Without such approval, we will totally absolve ourselves from recognizing or interacting with such persons. Further understand our position on the hiring of Mr. Calvin Smith. We will review his "qualifications"; however, if he does not meet our approval, steps must be taken to find an acceptable Black counselor.

VII. FACILITIES

We acknowledge the Administration's reply to our demand for facilities.

VIII. OPEN OCCUPANCY

We acknowledge the University's efforts toward the passage of the Evanston Open Occupancy Law. However, we demand access to the committee which has been studying open occupancy and discrimination, as well as review rights to the matters which they are discussing so that we may determine both their relevance and effectiveness.

The legitimacy of these demands cannot be debated. What is important to Black people is not necessarily important to the Administration or this University as a whole. The Administration has demonstrated that they are less concerned about our reasons and motivations for presenting these demands than about their own intentions to maintain ultimate control over our lives. Likewise, we are not interested in the reasons why these demands cannot be met.

In lieu of this, tension between us is inevitable and it is this tension which has to be reconciled. We realize that the factors leading to our presently being students at Northwestern were basically politically motivated and had little or nothing to do with a social interest in the plight of Black people in America. Being brought here essentially for purposes of exploitation, Northwestern has subsequently shown little interest in our needs except for those which were compatible with theirs. Therefore, the main responsibility for reconciling the tension between us lies with the Administration and not with us. All we can say is that if our demands are impossible, then peace between us is impossible too.

In summary, we demand positive responses from the Administration to the following:

POLICY STATEMENT:

1. That the Administration will accept and issue a policy statement as outlined in this paper.
2. That the Administration restructure the UDC or create a new judiciary to adequately and justly cope with racial problems and incidents.
3. That the Administration effect a new judiciary standard (as outlined) and apply this standard retroactively to the UDC decision of April 15.
4. That the Administration allow the Black community to (a) approve all appointments to the Human Relations Committee and (b) determine at least 50% of those appointments.

ADMISSION:

5. That each forthcoming Freshman class consist of 10%-12% Black students half of which are from the inner city school systems.
6. That the Administration will institute a committee selected by the Black community to aid the Admissions Office, especially in recruitment, and which will have shared power with the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid in making decisions relevant to us.

7. That the members constituting this committee be in a salaried position.
8. That F.M.O. will be supplied with (a) a list of all Black students presently enrolled at Northwestern (b) a list including names, addresses, etc. of all accepted and incoming Black freshmen, (c) a similar list of each forthcoming Freshman class.

FINANCIAL AID:

9. That the process of evaluating financial need and administering financial aid be restructured in conjunction with our Admissions and Financial Aid Committee.
10. That our scholarships be increased to cover what is now included in our "required jobs and that funds be allocated for those who want or need to attend Summer Session.

HOUSING:

11. That the University provide us with a Black living unit or commit themselves to immediately getting rid of the present fraternity and sorority housing arrangements.

COUNSELING:

12. That any hiring of personnel in the position of counseling the Black community of NU be approved by that Black community.

FACILITIES:

13. That a committee of Black students selected by us work with the Administration in meeting our needs for a Black Student Union.

OPEN OCCUPANCY:

14. That we have access to the committee studying open occupancy and discrimination with review rights to the matters which they are discussing.