

Pres Records Box 107
Black Students

March 18, 1970

Statement by Vice-President Stephen H. Spurr

The program which the Executive Officers are prepared to submit to the Regents this week has already been widely distributed. As to items which are not fully covered in that document, I would make the following comments:

Recruitment and Supportive Services. Substantial additional staff will be needed to double the number of black students on campus by 1973-74. The University will assign at least \$100,000 for new staff in admissions, financial aid and supportive services in 1969-70.

Specifically, the Opportunity Program has already been authorized to add one full-time member in the area of recruiting to serve under George Goodman. More staff members will be added by September. These recruiting officers will directly coordinate admissions and financial aid.

Money has been provided during the current year to support students assisting in recruitment, under Mr. Goodman's direction, and this practice will be continued.

At the graduate level, there is presently one full-time recruiter, in addition to substantial efforts on the parts of the various Colleges. These efforts will be continued, encouraged and further funded. Additional staff will be provided.

It is clear that increased supporting services are necessary within the University. The program proposed provides added staff for the counseling office under John Chavis as well as staff to assist the Schools and Colleges.

As stated in the program presented to the Regents, the University's Opportunity Program, including admissions, financial aid, and supportive services, will be coordinated centrally. A committee consisting of students, faculty, and administrators will be appointed to participate in developing policies, expanding staffs, and improving services. The objectives of this effort will be to expand substantially the recruiting staff so as to better counsel qualified in-state students in high schools for freshmen, in community colleges for transfer students, and in four-year institutions for graduate students.

We anticipate no difficulty in doubling our black student enrollment to 2100 or 7 per cent of the Ann Arbor student population by 1973-74. Hopefully, we can do better.

Financial Aid. In addition to trebling the University's investment in its financial aid program to Opportunity students over a four-year period, the University will intensify its effort to raise funds from outside sources.

Specifically, the University Development Office has already made contacts with a dozen or more local foundations in the hope that they will give support to individual students from their respective areas. This effort will be continued and expanded.

With regard to the Martin Luther King fund, the drive for additional gifts from faculty, students, and interested outside parties will certainly continue. When the general business community was solicited last year for donations to this Fund, it was promised that this would not be a recurring request to them. Indeed, most of the donors made clear that they would not be prepared to make annual donations.

We do not find the tuition waiver idea useful in this connection because aside from its legislative complications it does not solve the problem of cost. There is a cost for each student educated at the University, and tuition waivers simply further reduce the resources which are available to support programs.

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4. The Martin Luther King fund - When the general business community was solicited last year for donations to the King fund, it was promised that this would not be a recurring request. Indeed, most of the donors made clear that they would not be prepared to make annual donations.

The fund drive among faculty and students can certainly continue, and the University Development Office has made contacts with a dozen or more local foundations in the hope that they will give support to individual students from their areas.

The University is not prepared to assess compulsory fees on the basis of a referendum, but those who wish to voluntarily allocate funds to the King fund may certainly do so. Whenever tuition is raised the University regularly assigns a significant portion of the increase to student financial aids, and it would expect to do so if tuition is raised for 1970-71.

5. The Black Studies program - Such a program has been approved in the Literature Science and Arts College, and Vice President Smith has agreed with Dean Spurr to support it in the amount of \$170,000 for the academic year 1970-71. Further conversations on this subject are properly carried on with Dean Hays.

6. House - A house has been available for use as a Black Students Center for some months. This subject is properly pursued with Willie Smith.

7. University publications and deans, and directors and department chairmen have been advised that you wish to be called black rather than Negro. In this connection, I must note that we have received complaints from members of the Detroit community that they find the term "black" offensive, and wish to be called Negroes.

8. We note with approval your point with respect to the Chicanos. It is for this reason that we feel the Opportunity Awards program must always be for all disadvantaged groups, not just one.

Sincerely,