Ethnic Studies Committee Meeting March 14, 1971

Black Student Union

University of San Francisco

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March 14, 1971

Agenda

I Recitation of Requisitions - Janice Cobb

II Introductions

III The Problems

C.) 1970 - 1971  Gerald Norman - Present Chairman U.S.F. B.S.U.

1971

1.) Ethnic Studies Situation - Bill Riley
2.) Athletic Dept. Situation
3.) Financial Aid Dept. Situation
4.) Admissions Office Situation

IV Discussion
Requisitions
(Revised)

1. We requisition the establishment of an Ethnic Studies Department by the Fall Semester of 1971, in the structure of which, the administration and faculty to consist of:
   A. Director of Ethnic Studies - Full Time
   B. Assistant Director of Ethnic Studies - Full Time
   C. Research Administrator - Full Time
   D. Secretary - Full Time

2. We requisition the adequate housing and facilitating of such a program.

3. We requisition the documented recognition of the present Ethnic Studies Committee as the official University committee and voice for the Ethnic Studies Department by the acting University President, Father Albert Jansen S.J. Ph.d

4. We requisition the admittance of fifty (50) minority students for the Fall of 1971, entered in Freshman standing under the existing E.O.P. program. We further petition the individual counseling of each of these students by both:
   1.) A counselor of related Ethnic background
   2.) A counselor or department official in the particular field of study or, if undeclared, area of interest.

5. We requisition waiving of the twenty (20) dollar application fee for all students who, upon application, stipulate themselves as being of minority background.

6. We requisition sanitation and improvement of, dormitory and kitchen facilities and request menu planning with the tastes of students of varying ethnic backgrounds carefully considered.

7. We requisition the immediate hiring of minority professionals in the Athletic Department, to work towards improvement of the department and its many obvious failings.

8. We requisition minority representation on the staff of the Financial Aid Department

9. We requisition minority representation on the staff of the Admissions office

10. We requisition the completion and opening of the Bill Russel Room, a student lounge commemorating the University of San Franciscos' greatest basketball star by the Fall of 1971.

11. We requisition the immediate removal of Father Trainer S.J. from Room 214 of Gillison Hall girls dormitory, and placed in quarters designated for members of his own sex. We take direct insult from his recent placement on the only predominantly Black residence floor on campus and end the matter with the suggestion that his unusual office hours, "until 2 p.m. - after 11 p.m.", be looked into.
12. Being that it has been shown that today's high school student sees his counselor on an average of 45 minutes per year, we ask for a complete rewording of the Academic and Personal Evaluation sheets to be completed pending admission decision by,
   A. School Counselor
   B. School Instructor
   C. Dean of Men/Women or equivalent school official
We base this on the obvious inability of arriving at an adequate conclusion in regards to a student's aptitudes.

13. We requisition the establishment of a program which could serve as a means of protection from faculty of such discriminatory an attitude as could be detrimental in the fair grading of a student of Ethnic background. Conceivably, this can be accomplished by way of Special Disciplinary Hearings, judged by a committee consisting of;
   A. Two students of minority background
   B. Two Faculty members
   C. Two members of Administration, one of minority background
Following a format similar to that of the presently established Disciplinary Hearing Committee, the emphasis will be upon,
1.) Honest exposure of the problem
2.) Maintenance of objectivity
3.) Strides towards solutions
4.) Follow-up on each case to insure student well-being
A program of this nature could remain distinct, and yet work along with the Vice-President for Academic Affairs, the Student Courts, and the Disciplinary Hearing Committee.
Present:
Ray Richardson, Janine Ebb, Mrs. Richardson, Njiru, Bob Cobb, Pat Hill, Terry O'Connor, Harold Logwood, Adrienne Bailey, Pat Malcom, Peggy Atwood, Bill Riley, Robert Marshall.

Pat Hill: Mr. Njiru conveyed a message to us from Dr. Smyth, he received this morning. (Didn't want us to think the Admin. was ignoring us, apologized for not being here, will arrange a meeting at later date.)

Bill Riley: Joe Marshall brought up point that Admin. never contacts the students – does not recognize us as a group.

Suggestion: Harold Logwood suggested going to high schools, guaranteeing this school.

Suggestion: Mrs. Richardson suggested getting lawyers to investigate money received at this school.

Discussion of process of requisitions through 1968-1971. (Administration)

Suggestion: These events from previous letters: follow up to letters and promises from Administration.

March 14, 1971 - Meeting of Community

I. Requisitions

Janine read the requisitions aloud, revised requisitions.

II. Introduction

Terry O'Connor explained purpose of this meeting.

Joe Marshall had a few points from the University's Arts.

III. Discussion

Dr. Njiru read a message from Dr. Smyth. He received this morning. (Didn't want us to think the Admin. was ignoring us, apologized for not being here, will arrange a meeting at a later date.)

Suggestion: Harold Logwood suggested going to high schools, guaranteeing this school.

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Suggestion: These events from previous letters: follow up to letters and promises from Administration.
Discussion

Recruitment - can't find person w/ Doctorate in Ethnic Studies. Plus, qualified people refuse to come here unless there is a Ethnic Studies Department.

Suggestion:

1. Can we chronologically document all three yrs. formally?

So we can document how admin. hasn't responded to us & get investigation going by lawyers etc. Give the data to the community & lawyers so they'll have better perspective on problems here & their progress up to this point.

2. Also an inability for Press to explain use of funds - ! Doesn't know how to use it!

3. Send all mail certified from now on. See if we can receive our mail directly.

4. Send out events from these meeting to rest of community & news releases!

5. Meetings be held off campus!

Everything should be in writing!!

6. Send letter to Administration w/ signatures from community to show con. is watching & supporting.

7. Person to research whole University: first black students, faculty, etc. - what does etc.!
Basic Issues:

1. Incident at USF vs. UOP Basketball Game
2. Intramural league games
3. Dormitory living

Major Issues:

1. Ethnic Studies
2. EOP
3. Athletic Department
4. Faculty
5. Courses
6. Employees on campus
7. Black Cultural Week

Discussion

EOP

We should (the Black students) have a voice in the hiring of Black teachers and directors of EOP. Listen to our suggestions and rate our opinions. Although we are interested in making it a successful program, also we understand the difficulties in developing EOP.

Main problem agreed to be: money and personnel.

Black Faculty

You explained how a teacher is hired—this is understood.

You described how many Black teachers are hired as you and why it is difficult to hire them and find them.

Our question or suggestion:

- Why not recruit Black teachers?
- Your reply: admittance that they ought to be.

- Why not ask our opinions of teachers hired or under consideration?
- Your reply: it hasn’t been done before.

White Faculty

- We want the caliber of white teachers to be examined.
  We are interested in all teachers at USF to be of quality to benefit all students.
Ethnic Studies

We question why it is a program but understand why you feel it should be a program rather than a department.

But we want progress on it as a program then. We don't want it integrated by only promises.

We are willing to work on this to make it a beneficial program!

Minor problems -> Office space

- Guarantee of pay for part-time student secretary
  - Njisane has requested need for one.

- Office supplies are needed especially paper (stationery), envelopes, postage

* We are interested in how much co-operation will be received from individual departments and department heads if it is to be a program.

Athletics

Football -

* The coach is definitely a problem

You heard personal accounts of Jerry, Joe, Harold etc. of incidents that have happened to cause damage to player/coach relationships

* It is felt by Black students he should be contacted by you & these feelings called to his attention.

Basketball -

You again heard feelings of the treatment received by past & present players. We are concerned because we want an admirable Athletic Department here for all.

* Bad attitude toward recruitment of athletes.

Intramural Games - We'll not allow anymore of these games played until justice is done in the form of
for instance another game and better referees. Baseball -
* Why are we playing Brigham Young University?

* Suggestion * Yours commitment! Have a meeting with Jensen, Ainge, and athletes and discuss issues. Also you said that if it can be proven that he is a racist you will fire him if the contract he is under will allow it without any being sued.

Campus Employees

It has been questioned why more minority members are not employed.

You explained that 38% are under hire in general and said federal government is investigating it. We would like to know the results of the investigation.

Deans

We questioned the dean of women's ability to function in this capacity working with young people (in general).

* You admitted plans have already been taken.

Black Cultural Week

The money situation was thoroughly discussed. We do appreciate the $200 gift of Fr. Jensen, office supplies from Fr. Harold and efforts in the past, made by Fr. Sunderland etc.

We hope you now understand what Black Cultural Week means to us. Now...

* Your commitment * SEC refused us aid, you said you would check into this.

* We want to know can you still underwrite us (to fund) or give us a loan? (in that condition that we are ready to work to make it beneficial & successful)
Commmit:

your commitment!:
course -> Negro History - is only 1/2 credit!
* You said it would be possible to redesign
  this credit!

* Priorities - We understand that you are and have
  been working on these problems but many
  students want to see visual progress and
  constructive, in some terms they can understand.
Wednesday - April 21

Dick Gregory  8:00-10:00
Memorial Gym

Thursday - April 22

Plays - Richard Kent | Cal-State Black Arts
Phelan Dining Hall

Friday - April 23

Curtis Mayfield
Memorial Gym

Saturday - April 24

? Black Arts & Writers Workshop
- Love Mountain

65th Party

Sunday - April 25

Tribute to Sisters
Fashion Show
African Dancers

Monday - April 26

Movies
- Dr. Nisane
March 17, 1971

Miss Jancie Cobb  
University of San Francisco  
Black Student Union Ethnic Studies Committee  
2130 Fulton St.  
San Francisco, California 94117

Dear Miss Cobb:

Please forgive us for not being present Sunday but we misplaced your first letter with home phone number and didn't know what building or room the Sunday meeting was being held in.

Your second letter with the information arrived Tuesday in the afternoon mail.

Since I'm interested in the problems of USF, would you explain what went down at the Sunday meeting and what plans are being made for the future and maybe I can be present to give whatever assistance possible to the BSU program if I feel it serves the total black community and its black students.

Await your reply.

Warm regards,

Sam

Samuel J. Skinner Jr.  
Sports Editor
Miss Janice Cobb
University of San Francisco
Black Students Union
Ethnic Studies Committee
San Francisco, California
March 19, 1971

Miss Janice Cobb
University of San Francisco
Black Students Union
Ethnic Studies Committee
San Francisco, California

Dear Miss Cobb:

I have read your letter of February 26, 1971, with considerable concern and appreciate the efforts that your group is making to resolve the problems that you find at the University of San Francisco. It is not clear exactly what role I might play in assisting your group since the University of San Francisco does not come under my jurisdiction as Superintendent of Public Instruction or as a member of the Board of Regents of the University and the Trustees of the State Colleges. If you believe that my counsel regarding your problem would be helpful, I would be pleased to receive additional information from you.

Unfortunately, I could not arrange to join your group on March 14, as requested in your letter which was received in our office on March 12, 1971.

Sincerely,

Wilson Riles

WR:mbg