

[*File Black Students*]

Emory College

Inter-Office Memorandum

To: Emory College Faculty

From: Bevan K. Youse

Mathematics Department

Date: December 5, 1969

As a member of the sub-committee which prepared the Special Program for the Recruitment and Admission of Additional Black Students to Emory College, I voted for the proposal in the sub-committee and the committee since I think the proposal is a very good one. However, I feel that it is important that I give you some of my thoughts on the proposal. Most persons who are in a position to know, persons whose judgment I trust, think that Emory cannot make any immediate and appreciable increase in the number of Black students without a program of this nature,

Although such a program seems absolutely necessary if the number of Black students is to be increased, let me point out a serious consequence of this proposal, and one which should not be ignored.

We have just been notified by the President that he will "recommend to the Trustees when they act on the 1970-71 budget in January that we continue to award scholarships in the same way and at least at the same level as under the Rockefeller grant." For next year, this means a commitment of approximately 20,000 dollars. If this commitment is maintained at present levels for the next four years, the cost in the fourth year will be 80,000 dollars and the accumulated cost will be approximately 200,000 for just the next four years. One can add 80,000 dollars for each additional year that this level of financial assistance is maintained.

At present, every Black student receiving aid at Emory receives, on the average, in excess of 2,500 dollars a year (this includes money received from the Educational Opportunity Grant). For a four-year period, this, of course, amounts to 10,000 dollars per student. I consider accurate the expert advice received from persons in the Admissions Office and elsewhere that we are not likely to dramatically increase our enrollment of Black students in the immediate future with any less financial assistance than is now being given. Therefore, the cost of this newly proposed program for just one year with the intended continued financial support to 20 additional students would require approximately 50,000 dollars additional support the first year, 100,000 the second year, 150,000 the third year, and 200,000 the fourth year.

If one believes that the money can be easily obtained to support these programs, I would remind you that it apparently took seven agonizing months to get a commitment to ask for a financial commitment of 20,000 dollars to cover the loss of the Rockefeller grant and keep support at just the present level for next year (only).

I find this matter reminiscent of the twelve years spent proposing three different curriculum revisions without much change. Finally, a rather dramatic (four-four) proposal was made which seemed quite acceptable to all involved; this was voted on, passed, and then never implemented for lack of funds. I am not convinced that necessary funds are, or will be, available to implement the present proposal, regardless of its merit. I am afraid that inability of the University to act on this proposal will not be met with as sympathetic an understanding as the failure to implement the curriculum change.

After talking with many people, I firmly believe that, as much as Emory would like to increase its enrollment of Black students, it cannot do it in the immediate future without a great deal of money that does not seem to be available. I have heard no statement that convinces me that even the loss of Rockefeller money will continue to be replaced by University funds after this

next year.

I think the faculty should, before voting favorably on any proposal, know that the program will be funded and know how it will be funded. I am sorry, but I think that if the commitment to recruit and matriculate more Black students was a commitment to recruit in excess of 20 additional students per year at a cost of 10,000 dollars each, then it is probably an impossible commitment to keep.

In conclusion, although I voted for the proposal twice (in sub-committee and committee), I plan to vote against it in the meeting of the faculty unless we are told not only that it will be funded but also how it will be funded.

/cc