

April 17, 1990

We, the Students Against Racial Inequality, would first and foremost like to state our truest and deepest outrage over the blatantly vicious acts of racial violence and terrorism committed against Sabrina Collins. We are outraged first of all, that such heinous acts were allowed to continue to happen and secondly, at the lack of an appropriate response by the Emory University Department of Public Safety and the Emory administration. Although this incident is unique in the degree of overtness, it is not an isolated incident. We feel that there exists an environment that is conducive to and perpetuates this type of racist and terroristic behavior. While apprehending the perpetrator or perpetrators must be a primary concern, we realize that this is a matter of the environment and community and the problem will not cease with the apprehension of the individual or individuals responsible. Therefore, we demand a commitment to the creation of an environment that we may prosper as students of African descent (i.e., African Americans, Africans, West Indians, etc.) at an institution of higher learning. As it stands, Emory University is a hostile environment for people of African descent. Unless there is a definitive commitment made to meet each and every one of our demands, we will take that to mean that it is a hostile environment that Emory University wishes to have exist and prosper and we shall act accordingly. We also realize the historical aspect of the struggle of African American students at Emory and the tendency for demands made by African American students to be overlooked or disregarded. This will not be tolerated. We stand prepared to take further action as necessitated by the response of President Laney and the Emory administration. Furthermore, let it be known that forums, workshops, task forces, committees, nor commissions will be acceptable responses in this instance. Our demands read as follows:

1. We demand that Emory University pay for all of Sabrina Collins' medical and psychological care as well as make restitution for damages.
2. We demand an African and African American Research and Studies Center. The Center will have the power to make its own faculty appointments and it will offer undergraduate and

graduate degrees (B.A., M.A., and PhD.). The Center will be funded and staffed by the University as determined by the director of the Center.

3. We demand that African and African American Studies become a distribution requirement in which two classes must be taken in order to graduate.

4. We demand that the percentage of full-time professors of African descent not including assistant professors and lecturers, be at least equal to the percentage of students of African descent enrolled in the undergraduate and graduate divisions, exclusive of the African and African American Research and Studies Center. This percentage is never to fall below the highest percentage achieved.

5. We demand that an African American visiting scholars program be established in which a prominent professor will come to teach each year, for a full year.

6. We demand that an African and African American Cultural Center be built on campus to house the African and African American Research and Studies Center, archives and library. It will be funded and staffed by the University as determined by the director of the African and African American Research and Studies Center. The complex will be named after Delores P. Aldridge.

7. We demand that Emory University take a more active role in the recruitment of students of African descent by: 1. assuming the cost of senior weekends for the accepted students of African descent; and 2. hiring other admission counselors or assistants, whose primary focus will be the recruitment of students of African descent.

8. We demand an increase in grants and scholarships to incoming and currently enrolled students of African descent that remains parallel to the percent increase of tuition each year.

9. We demand that Emory University provide more funding to the Minority Student Programs Office as set forth by the director of Minority Student Programs. In addition, we demand a

multicultural center be built to house this office. It will be funded and staffed by Emory University as determined by the director of Minority Student Programs. The percentage of professional staff of African descent in the Minority Student Programs Office will be parallel to the percentage of students of African descent.

10. We demand a staff of full-time professional counselors who must be sensitive to the issues and needs of peoples of African descent as these students will be their primary focus. At least one third of the selection committee for these counselors will be comprised of students of African descent. The staff will be developed under the auspices of Minority Student Programs and housed in the multicultural center.

11. We demand an apology and the resignation of Emory University Department of Public Safety Directory Ed Medlin due to his insensitivity and bias against students of African descent. The new director will be chosen with student input and the Black Student Alliance will choose at least one third of the search committee.

12. We demand that each of the previous demands be addressed and responded to in writing within 48 hours. An acceptable response will be one in which you are an advocate of the demand and provide us with a concrete plan of action, including a time frame, subject to our approval.