

Black Studies programs to be strengthened or created

The NCBSC hopes to initiate the creation of viable programs and courses of study of true Black history in the social sciences, literature, natural sciences, literature, natural sciences, etc., at colleges and

universities within the state which do not offer such as a part of its regular academic curriculum. We will examine currently existing programs and-or courses of study to determine whether or not they are of sufficient

African and Afro-American studies, how it relates to you

African and Afro-American Studies Curriculum
UNC-Chapel Hill

There are two questions which students ask most often pertaining to African and Afro-American Studies. Students ask "Well, what good is it?" and more pointedly "What can it do for me?"

These questions, of course, are very legitimate and timely. Indeed, they are questions which students should ask of every discipline.

Our response to "What good is it?" is that we are training specialists and technicians, people possessing special skills to deal effectively with African and Afro-American communities.

A few short years ago Black students, scholars, and professionals challenged the traditional disciplines in the humanities and social sciences to address the real problems facing the Black community. Out of this dynamic protest, African and Afro-American Studies was born.

We, therefore, have inherited the responsibility of not only documenting the history of Black people, but we also inherited and accepted the responsibility of carrying out serious academic research and analysis to come up with new ideas and solutions to problems facing the world Black community. Our worth, then, as a discipline, lies in our fulfillment of this responsibility.

Our response to the second question—"What can African and Afro-American Studies do for me?"—is this: first, the country is facing an economic crisis, the discipline of African and Afro-American Studies has emerged from its embryonic stage to a stage of independence, stability, and credibility. Consequently, African and Afro-American majors enjoy ascension to top flight graduate programs at universities both in the United States and abroad. African and Afro-American majors take advanced degrees in all areas. For example: law, medicine, city planning, business, etc. This combination of degrees registers these students as professionals in their respective fields of law, medicine, business, etc., but it also registers them as specialists in dealing with the problems which Africans and Afro-Americans encounter in those areas.

The advantages afforded by this combined training can be achieved by you even at the undergraduate level. You can simply double major. You can major in African and Afro-American Studies and speech or psychology, or chemistry, etc.

In addition to acquiring dual area of specialization, majors in African and Afro-American Studies have an opportunity to develop a close working relationship with professors in the Curriculum. This relationship becomes particularly helpful as each student begins work on his major research project which is usually of publishable quality.

These factors, among others, make the African and Afro-American graduate highly marketable in almost any field of endeavor. For example, one immediate need which is met by our graduates is that of supplying both state and federal agencies of civil rights, cultural resources and affirmative action with people who have acquired an indepth view of the problems of the Black communities and who have attained the expertise to solve them.

We are certainly aware that the job market is tight. However, we are sure that you realize that very few things of worth are acquired without conscious and consistent effort.

The field of African and Afro-American Studies, because it is young and has tremendous capacity for growth will require conscious and consistent effort to insure its continued development. Everytime a student enrolls in the program, he not only strengthens the program but also assists African and Afro-American Studies to fulfill its inherited responsibility of confronting the problems which face the Black community at home and abroad.

We challenge you to give yourself the opportunity to determine both what African and Afro-American Studies can do for you and what African and Afro-American Studies is doing to fulfill its obligation to the World Black Community.

breath and scope as to follow true expression and understanding of the Black man's history. Ultimately we hope to get the general administration of the UNC system to institute Black Studies departments on all member institutions as degree offering departments.

Strategies—Inquire into the present existence of Black Study Programs at each member institution as well as reviewing university catalogs and curriculum offerings.

Develop a survey which would indicate specific areas of Black student interest.

Solicit Black student activism in order to support requests for specific Black studies courses. In so doing, gather signatures of interested Black students in order to show the demand for a particular Black studies course. Present information to the appropriate academic body which determines curriculum offerings.

As an alternative, Black studies courses may be presented as a selected topics course, a student design course, or a mini course.

Determine whether or not currently existing Black studies courses are representative spectrums of Black thought. Examine authors and

primary sources used in such courses. Suggest the expansion of sources to include a variety of Black perspectives.

Present to the Board of Trustees of each member institution of the UNC system a proposal to adopt and recommend the institution of a Black studies department which offers a baccalaureate degree for such a major.

Members of the NCBSC from Appalachian State will gather university catalogues from the 17 member institutions of the public system and from selected private institutions which have a Black student organization. By the end of September, a letter will be sent to all members of the NCBSC concerning the findings of the search.

Member organizations of the NCBSC in Greensboro will develop strategies and guidelines to help Black student groups in presenting requests to their respective institutions.

By February 16, members at Bennett will prepare materials to be presented at a NCBSC meeting in preparation for a unified push for the departmentalization of Afro-American Studies.

Affirmative Action Programs to be monitored on Campuses

The NCBSC is addressing Affirmative Action in North Carolina by way of its intervention in the case of Bostic v. Byrd. We have adopted the following resolutions and strategies:

Whereas . . . The Bakke case threatens to undermine the goals of affirmative action and

Whereas . . . The Bostic v. Byrd case is one of the initial spin-offs of the Bakke case, and

Whereas . . . The future of affirmative action is being further jeopardized, and

Whereas . . . The membership and recipients of the affirmative action programs are predominantly recognized as Blacks and other Third World people

Therefore Be It Resolved: That the North Carolina Black Student Coalition utilize its resources to lobby and pressure for the dismissal of the Bostic v. Byrd case and also to discourage similar cases.

school since beginning of special admissions program.

b. Number of Blacks graduating from UNC law school compared with those beginning first year.

c. Number of Black lawyers in North Carolina—rate of increase.

d. Number of Blacks accepted by UNC law school from predominantly Black institutions in the state.

e. Historical background on legal education of Blacks

Resources: N.C. Assoc. of Black Lawyers, Alumni and Friends Coalition, NAACP Legal Defense Fund

2. Compiling information in a form to present to students

a. brochure
b. news article

3. Distribution
a. campus newspapers
b. national magazines
c. radio stations
d. campus forums
e. panel discussions

4. Bostic v. Byrd to be focal point of next NCBSC meeting in order to provide speakers to respective campuses.

5. Research group of NCBSC updating information on Bostic received from NAACP Legal Defense Fund

Note: We strongly urge all campus leaders to obtain and monitor a copy of your schools affirmative action plan.

Bostic vs. Byrd

Bostic v. Byrd strategies for the North Carolina Black Student Coalition to pursue

1. Provide statistical information on the status of Blacks in the legal profession in North Carolina:

a. Blacks turned down at UNC law

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