

The Neo-Black Society-Its goals and its directives

The Neo-Black Society is an organization geared towards the Black students at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Born out of racial injustices of the 1960's, this student organization is now in its tenth year of existence. It was because of inadequacies from the past that the organization sought to express the "culture and achievements of Black people" everywhere. This year, the Neo-Black Society will seek to firmly implant its feet into the university community as well as in the city of Greensboro.

Presently, the Neo-Black Society (NBS) is concerned with creating an outlet for rewarding experiences for Blacks students on a predominantly white college campus. It provides such activities as guest speakers, informal rap sessions, dances, ect.—all to give these students of UNC-G a sense of togetherness.

One problem that has faced the NBS as well as many other student organizations everywhere is student apathy, which resulted in a lack of interest in the activities geared toward them. This lack of spirit has persisted with the male students who are, substantially out-numbered by the female enrollment at UNC-G. This problem has occurred constantly in the society's past, if it were not for the women at UNC-G, the Society would undoubtedly die.

As a possible solution, the present student leaders of NBS have set realistic goals for the organization. They are utilizing those few active members and planning activities that will complement their efforts. For the academic school year 1978-79, the Neo-Black Society shall also seek to broaden its scope. It will do so by providing programming with a sufficient number of participants which will lead to even better programming.

The Neo-Black Society shall also strive to be very proficient in working with the budgets that they receive each semester. In past dealings with the surrounding business community, there have been many misunderstandings such as unpaid bills. This will not continue!

The coming year looks very bright for the Neo-Black Society. As the product of the past, it will strive to improve upon

what is ahead and leave accurate records that shall serve as a guide for the future society. These records shall include NBS events and the circumstances that went into producing them. They will help to strengthen the organization and its purpose as well as broaden its scope.

There are five standing committees within the Neo-Black Society. They are the Community Liaison Committee, the Culture Committee, the Social Committee, the Publicity Committee, and the Curriculum Reform Committee. Below, each committee has provided a brief description of their projects and activities that will help the NBS strive to meet their goals and directives.

COMMUNITY LIASION COMMITTEE

The major goal of the Community Liaison Committee is to let the community know that the Neo-Black Society is interested in their welfare. In the past, there has been apathy within the Society toward this committee. Now, however, the semester seems to be productive.

Our community projects this semester consists of rap sessions, Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets, tutoring for the competency test, and a Sickle Cell Dance-a-thon. These projects are now in the making and should be successful.

The rap sessions are aimed to let the Black students at UNC-G feel as though they too are an integral part of the Greensboro community. Members of the community; businessmen, politicians, and service organizations will "rap" on topics of student interest.

The tutoring of the competency test is geared toward the Black high school student who might not be prepared to face the test. We are hoping to meet a large percent of the Greensboro students.

A Sickle Cell Dance-a-thon in corelation with Triad Sickle Cell Foundation is also in the workings and scheduled for November 4th. This fund raising event should be productive in funds and also a good time.

The Neo-Black Society of UNC-G is looking at the Greensboro community in a new retrospect...not how the community can cator to the students but how we can cator to the community.

CULTURE COMMITTEE

The basic goal of the Culture Committee is to acquaint every student on the campus of UNC-G with the achievements and fundamental culture of the Black people. This is done through a variety of activities. There are art exhibits, dance groups, poets, lectures, ect. and an annual Black Arts Festival. These events enrich the university, Greensboro community and the whole state in various aspects of Black culture. The Culture Committee, tentatively is planning two poetry readings, a Hightowl, and a lecture. The big project for Culture Committee each year is the Black Arts Festival which is to be held on February 4 through February 10. This is a week of all types of Cultural events, with lots of community participation. There is a big job for the Culture Committee to do this year and hopefully it shall all be achieved with great success and teamwork.

THE NEO BLACK SOCIETY DANCE GROUP

The Neo-Black Society Dance Group which is a sub-committee of the culture committee, has been organized for several years. Under the past leadership of Anna Green, Robin Simmons and others, the dance group has worked hard to perfect its expression of Black Culture through dance.

In the past years, the dance group has traveled quite frequently. Their off campus performances included places such as A & T State University, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Winston-Salem State University and Lenior, North Carolina. Within these recitals whether they were given a name or not, the NBS dancers have attempted to provide entertainment for all ages, and interests, and will continue to do so in the future.

NBS GOSPEL CHOIR

The NBS Gospel Choir kicked off the semester with their first rehearsal on August 31, 1978. A new president, Melanie Wheeler was elected, replacing Karen Harris who resigned. At present, the choir

consists of approximately forty strong energetic voices, rising to the skies. A shortage of men has never stopped the choir from performing in past years, and it is doubted strongly that the present shortage will put a dent in the things to come.

The choir will be in concert at the First Congregational Church in Raleigh, N.C. on October 29. A concert in Winston-Salem has also been planned for November.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Things are building in Greensboro these days. By way of the NBS Social Committee. They started the year off with numerous events to help the freshmen make the transition from home, highschool, and good home cooking to dorm, college, and the inevitable ARA. A field day (Aug. 22) started the activities. They were honored by the presence of approximately 75 people plus the chancellor, James Ferguson, who pitched a few innings for the group's softball game.

The attendance and active participation of the freshmen, transfers, and returning students never ceased to amaze the committee. The turn out for their second event a Game Nite (Aug. 23) was phenomenal. Backgammon, cards, good music, and interesting conversation flourished. A disco held Thursday (Aug. 24) was a dynamic success. And to top it all off, the annual Freshmen Reception was held Aug. 27.

With their positive and energetic attitude, the committee is looking forward to a fantastic year. Come join them at any time.

"Getting the word out is the name of the game" for the NBS Publicity Committee. It has worked diligently in publicizing the various activities of the different committees of the NBS. Another function of the publicity committee is the publishing and distribution of a monthly newsletter. It will cover the activities of the NBS that have already taken place or are in the making. It will also display the many talents of the Black students at UNC-G in the areas of poetry and art. The first issue of the newsletter will come out on the first of October.

THE NORTH CAROLINA BLACK STUDENT COALITION CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I: NAME

Be it so resolved that the name of this organization shall be the NORTH CAROLINA BLACK STUDENT COALITION (NCBSC).

PREAMBLE

We, the members of the North Carolina Black Student Coalition, are dedicated to promoting the unity of all Black students, on a statewide basis, to:

Heighten the awareness of Black students with respect to their rights, needs, and power;

Provide a channel to insure that the rights of Black students are respected and adequately protected;

Assists in coordinating student involvement in areas of interest to the Black community;

Serve as a lobbying force on issues of concern to students and community.

ARTICLE II: CENTRAL BODY

Section I: Members

All Black student organizations in the state of North Carolina are eligible for membership. Membership is contingent upon

1. Approval by the Executive Committee
2. Proper registration

Section II: Delegates

A. Two delegates must be elected or chosen by Black Campus organizations to be representatives from the member schools of the North Carolina Black Student Coalition. Alternates must be similarly selected.

B. Delegates that have been chosen as officers shall be replaced by another delegate from that institution.

C. Delegates from each school will be chosen for one and two year terms, respectively.