

A Reply to the AABL Statement
by Philip G. Hoffman
President, University of Houston
14 February 1969

First of all, I wish to acknowledge the deep feelings and attitudes which are quite evident in your requests and the supporting documentary material which has been presented to me through your organization. You have expressed concerns which I respect and which I will attempt to respond to in an open and forthright way. And I appreciate your expressions of responsibility and restraint which have recently characterized your position on this subject.

I would be less than candid if I did not tell you that as president of this institution, I am not unilaterally free to act, in a final and arbitrary sense, on all of the requests presented. The University believes in and practices a consultive and participatory process within the campus community in arriving at many of its decisions. To this end, I have sought the best advice available from representatives of the total membership of the University community.

A nine-man group composed of equal representation from the Student Senate, Faculty Senate, and Administration selected by the leadership of these groups, was called together. This consultive group worked long and hard this week, and sought to reflect the feeling of the entire campus community. I have responded favorably to their recommendations and am clearly satisfied that the views of the nine-man group, which included minority representation, reflects the feeling of the vast majority of students, faculty, and administration.

It is probable that questions and comments will come to your mind as I respond to your 10 concerns. These will be reacted to; however, in keeping with

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

PHYSICS DEPARTMENT

PHYSICS 311

LECTURE 1

MECHANICS

PROBLEM SET

DATE

NAME

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the plan to consult with all segments of the University community, I will not be in the position today to independently respond to questions. And, I will confine my remarks to a prepared statement which will be made available to you.

My hope is that out of this encounter, taking place as it has within the University community, every segment of this institution may respond to the challenges presented. If this University is to provide the atmosphere which makes education meaningful for all, we must accept the responsibility and be responsive to every segment of the student population.

As I have studied your requests, I have become concerned that in many instances our institution has failed to communicate as well as it might, for which the administration has to assume much of the responsibility. In a number of instances, the University has accomplished, or is in the process of bringing about needed changes which are referred to in your requests. So in part, I hope today to narrow the communication gap that has been in existence.

Also, it should be pointed out that some of your requests, while justified and valid, will require time for correction.

Against this background, and with your understanding, I am proposing now to respond positively and honestly to all that has been presented to me. I will treat each area in the order in which it appeared in your request.

1. Establishment of a comprehensive department of Afro-American Studies.

Very shortly I will appoint a Task Force composed of students, faculty and administrators which is representative of minority groups (including representatives from AABL, LOMAS, and the Student Association), to formulate and receive proposals for Afro-American Studies.

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The Task Force will be requested to give consideration to an Ethnic Studies Program and its relationship to Afro-American Studies.

Furthermore, the Task Force will be asked to deal with the specific curricular and staff matters you have raised.

2. Hiring of more Black administrators and faculty members and a Black counselor.

No one has urged more strongly than I the appointment of more Black faculty members and administrators. One of the problems has been a sensitive concern about recruiting from predominately Black institutions which themselves are experiencing difficulty in finding and retaining adequate staff.

Every resource of this University will be rallied, including student involvement, to substantially increase the number of minority group faculty members. Already, many of our departments are actively seeking these valuable additions to our faculty and staff and a renewed sense of urgency in this matter will be carried to all segments at the University.

Action has been initiated to secure a Black counselor on, or before, June of this year.

3. Creation of a special recruitment and admission program for Black students.

Significant progress has already been made by the University in its recruitment program in schools in which minority groups are enrolled, and this effort will be increased.

In regard to admissions, I believe that the University should incorporate factors other than high school grades and SAT scores and to this end we will

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give serious consideration to a revision of present requirements and seek to effect a change by this fall. However, it should be pointed out that any modification of existing standards must be applicable to all students seeking to enroll at the University.

While the University cannot guarantee a quota system for any segment of entering classes, the institution will make a strenuous effort to recruit minority groups.

Another important area in this context is the retention of students after they have been enrolled. The University will intensify present programs and implement new programs to assist those who are admitted and who may need continuing additional help.

Our Student Opportunity Service program, which was started last fall and has already shown significant results, will be expanded and enlarged to include minority group leadership. Just yesterday the University announced the first major gift to the "S.O.S." program, a \$10,000 contribution from Tenneco. We will seek additional funds for this valuable assistance program.

4. Support of adequate housing for all Black students in close proximity to the University campus and the issuance of an "Open Housing Policy" by the University.

The University is very mindful of the housing conditions that exist in the areas close to the campus, and we deplore the discriminatory attitudes and practices of some owners and managers of housing near the University campus.

After the receipt of numerous complaints and an investigation of these complaints we are convinced that the owners of some of these facilities are

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operating in violation of Title VIII of the Fair Housing Act by discriminating against Black students who seek to rent housing.

Yesterday I instructed an appropriate University official to initiate a formal complaint to the Federal Housing Administration.

We feel very strongly that any and all facilities which cater to, and rent to University students, should not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, or national origin, and notice concerning this open housing policy will be made public immediately.

A University policy statement, issued prior to your visit of last week, makes clear that University Residence Halls have eliminated the picture requirement on applications. The policy also specifies that initial room assignments are made according to date of application, without regard to race, color, religion, or national origin. This policy will be enforced in letter and in spirit.

5. Establishment of a University-funded Black student organization to serve the needs of Black students.

The University acknowledges and respects the right for the establishment of a Black Student Union organization as an appropriate student initiated development.

With regard to funding student organizations, the Student Association is the only organization which receives basic financial support. Funding of individual student organizations is a complex matter for which there is no immediate solution. The matter remains under discussion.

We believe that tutorial programs constitute a positive student initiated program, and we laud the students participating in these endeavors. But it

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should be pointed out that there is no official University of Houston tutorial program. University organizations are free to develop, without administrative interference, their own tutorial programs.

6. The elevation of the wage scale of University janitorial, maintenance, and cafeteria employees to \$2 per hour.

In reply to this, first of all permit me to describe the existing situation.

The University presently has only 10 classifications of custodial and maintenance employees being paid below \$2 per hour. However, the Federal minimum wage applicable to universities is \$1.30 and the lowest regular staff rate at the University of Houston is well above this amount. With the exception of one classification the lowest rate now paid is \$1.82.

Wage surveys show that the University of Houston is among the wage leaders in Houston for Custodians.

The University pays the highest wages of any Texas institution of higher learning and is recognized as a leader in its overall personnel program. This reflects not only our commitment to fair and equitable wages within our ability to pay, but also the practical influence of competition in Houston's tight labor market. Under proposed rates which would be effective September 1969, the University would pay six of the 10 classifications already mentioned above \$2.00 an hour and give increases to the other four classifications.

We have already acted to increase substantially pay rates at the University. We shall continue to effect additional raises as funds become available.

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In regard to cafeteria employees, it should be understood that they are not employees of the University of Houston. However, ARA Food Service is subject to the same Federal minimum wage standards as the University and is presently paying above the \$1.30 minimum in all classifications. We will engage in continuing discussion on this subject with ARA. But, it must be recognized that increased wages in this area will have a direct relationship to food prices.

7. Greater concern for the Black athlete and the hiring of a Black coach.

It is a matter of record that the University of Houston has led this entire section of the United States in recruiting and welcoming Black athletes, and in providing them the opportunity for gaining the national acclaim of which we are all deservedly proud. For this reason, I must tell you that I have asked for even more than usual care in examining allegations that the University does not show proper concern for the welfare of its Black athletes.

As with all questions which your group has raised, however, I welcome proper examination and full disclosure. To this end, I am appointing a group to review the present status of the Black athlete and to recommend any appropriate action to be taken regarding these students. The group will include students, members of the faculty and administrators, with minority representation.

We have been trying for several months to hire a Black coach on the athletic staff, and we have reason to believe that such an appointment will be made during the spring.

It has been suggested that a specific member of the athletic staff be removed. We all understand that personnel matters often involve a combination of fact and conjecture. You are also aware, with your laudable concern for individual rights, that the president of a university does not take unilateral action in areas involving personnel.

Removal of any employee of the University is a serious matter. Frankly, I need more facts regarding this particular situation before responsible and appropriate action could be initiated.

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8. Alleviation of unfair practices in instruction and grading.

The University has always been dedicated to the concept that instruction and grading be completely free from any unfair or discriminatory practices. While we believe that any instance of discriminatory practices would be most rare, we would be concerned and would take vigorous action to eliminate even a single example.

The existing procedure of seeking remedy through the instructor, the department head, academic dean, and academic vice-president must and will remain open and easily accessible.

But there also exists additional machinery for redress of grievances in this area which I would like to bring to your attention.

Last month, the University Student Assistance Committee became operative, and offers another appropriate avenue for correction of unfair practices. This group is composed of three students, one faculty member and one administrator.

The stated purposes of this committee are two-fold:

- a. to provide a direct channel of communication to the President of the University for students with inquiries and grievances.
- b. to provide the President with a direct channel of communication on issues of concern to students and their campus life.

This new organization which has my support is fully prepared to deal with any form of campus community discriminatory practice.

9. Offering and making available more financial aid to Black students.

The University supports the idea that there should be for minorities funds which are free of special academic requirements. In fact, the bulk of financial aids presently are awarded on the basis of need only. And most of these funds now go to minority groups.

With few exceptions, all federal, state, and local funds are free of academic stipulations. This year alone, \$1.5 million of the University's \$2 million financial aid program is in this category

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And, it should be added that the University as a matter of policy refuses any offered financial aid which discriminates on the basis of race, color, or creed.

Even though we are satisfied that the University is on sound ground in its policy on financial aid, we readily admit that all students are not aware of the possibilities that exist in this area. Our information and publicity program has not been fully satisfactory.

The following corrective actions are now underway:

- a. A new brochure outlining all financial aid programs will be sent to all high schools in Texas.
- b. Existing high school visitation programs will be accelerated with additional concentration on schools where minority groups are enrolled.
- c. Special on-campus and orientation-related programs for potential and enrolling students will be conducted.
- d. Minority students will be specially invited to participate actively in all of these programs.

Finally, I wish to note that there are no stipulations, other than need, placed upon entering students in terms of their eligibility for financial aid.

10. Arrangements for students to receive course credit for work in the ghetto.

This week there has been submitted through appropriate channels for approval a new course proposal that will give credit for supervised work in community participation and service.

We believe that qualified minority staff should be involved in this new program; and the University will seek personnel whose qualifications based on education and/or experience make them relevant to the program.

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This concludes my reaction and answers to the 10 areas that your group submitted for discussion.

In conclusion, and in summary, I would like to make the following observations. I am not so naive as to believe that I have answered to your satisfaction every point that you raised in your original communication to me.

But I do feel that the University has moved, or is moving ahead in most of the areas to provide solutions to the problems you raised.

I have tried to indicate a few instances where for one reason, or another, the University cannot provide an immediate solution.

And, there are a few areas which I believe deserve further reflection and study before an answer can be provided.

But, I have tried to convey in this presentation that the University is sensitive to your valid concerns, and is honestly and expeditiously seeking solutions to them.

We share and applaud your expressed concerns that this University be spared the tribulations experienced by many other institutions.

I am sure that you understand and accept my sincerity in meeting with you today and in trying to deal openly with your expressed concerns. Also, I am sure that you appreciate that this University is dedicated to the establishment and maintenance of a climate which is conducive to the orderly conduct of the educational process by all students, faculty and administrators.

While hearing you, we cannot disenfranchise, nor can we allow infringement upon the rights of the remainder of our large and complex University community. Similarly, it would be a disservice to disregard the rights and opinions of the other publics with which any major university is inextricably involved.

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other parties with which our University is intricately involved.

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We can continue to respond to all areas of the University community only so long as we all respect each other's feelings, rights and obligations. We believe that the prevailing sentiment among students, faculty, administration and the community is such that this climate can be maintained.

As I stated in the beginning, I appreciate your sense of responsibility. I, too, have my responsibility, not only to you, but to the citizens of the state and of this city. I intend to do my best to live up to all of these responsibilities.

We can continue to respond to all areas of the University community only so long as we all respect each other's feelings, rights and obligations. We believe that the prevailing sentiment among students, faculty, administration and the community is such that this climate can be maintained.

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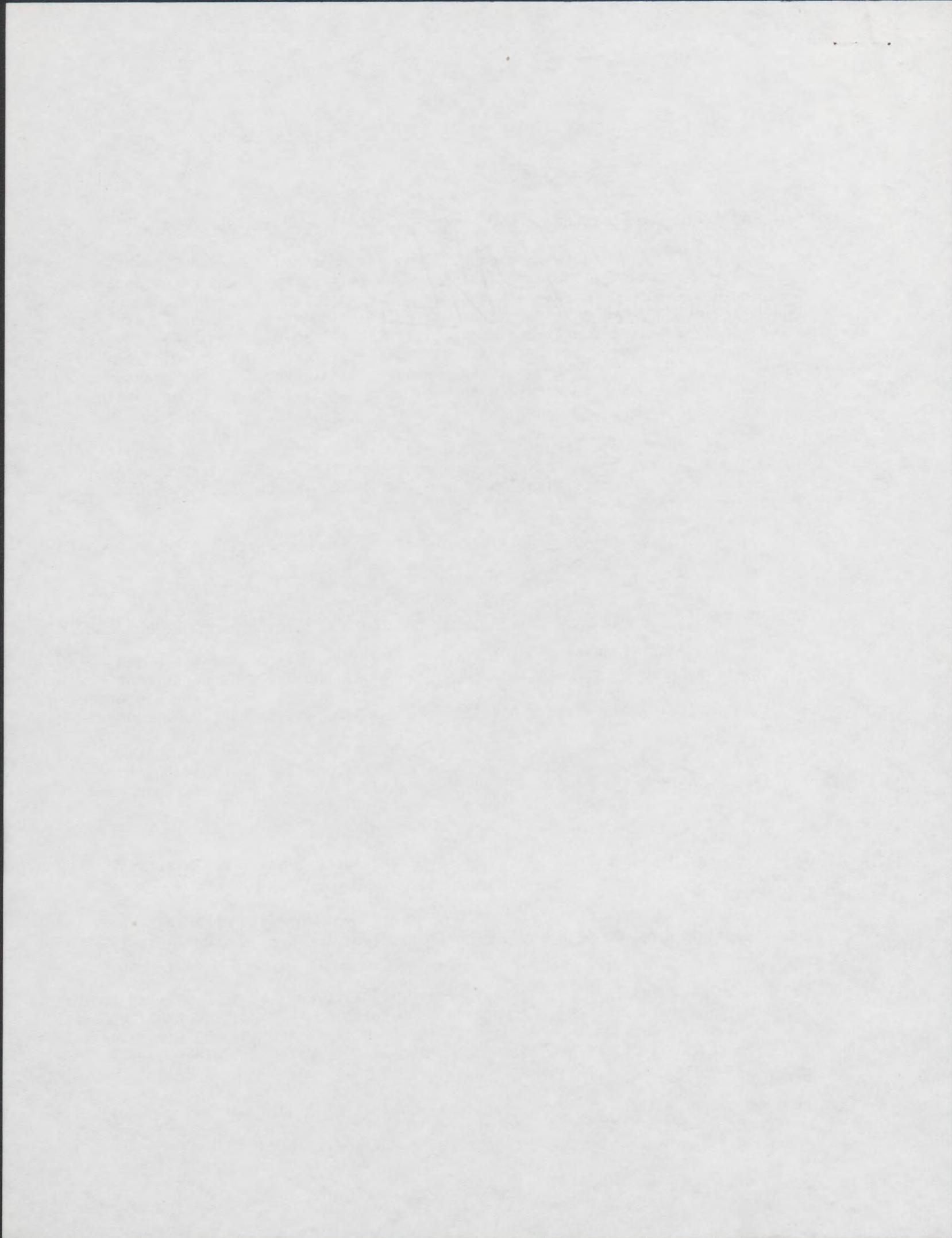
STATUS REPORT -- UNIVERSITY ACTION TAKEN ON AABL DEMANDS

March 11, 1969

1. Establishment of a Comprehensive Department of Afro-American Studies:
 - a. A special Task Force recommended to President Hoffman on March 5 that a degree-granting program be instituted by this summer. The recommendation was referred immediately to the UH Academic Committee which met on March 10 and approved the recommendation. The University Council met on the same day and approved the action of the Academic Committee and recommended the proposal to the President. The recommendation will now go to the UH Board of Regents for approval. If accepted by the Board, the proposal would be referred to the State Coordinating Board in Austin for final action.
 - b. The Task Force also recommended and the University approved the recruitment of a director and associate director for the Afro-American Studies Program with the participation of the Task Force, which includes Black students, in the recruiting process.
 - c. The Task Force will give consideration in future deliberations to an Ethnic Studies Program.

2. Employment of More Black Administrators, Faculty Members, and a Black Counselor:
 - a. Citing a long-standing policy of the University, Dr. Hoffman has urged all vice presidents, deans, and administrative and academic department heads to hire more minority faculty, staff and administrators by September, 1969. Already, interviews have been held with a significant number of people.
 - b. A Black counselor and a Mexican-American counselor are being sought for the Counseling and Testing Office, and a Black candidate already has been interviewed for one of the counselor positions.

3. Establishment of a Special Recruitment and Admissions Program for Minority Students:
 - a. A special Recruitment Committee, which includes minority representation, is being formed to plan and implement a recruiting program for minority students.
 - b. Action has been initiated through the University Admissions Committee to study admission criteria other than SAT scores and high school ranking. The Task Force, in cooperation with the counseling and testing staff, also is engaged in research on alternate methods of admission. Other appropriate University offices will be involved this week.
 - c. The Student Opportunity Service, with an initial funding of \$53,000, will be expanded to provide financial aid, tutorial assistance, and peer group counseling for UH students experiencing difficulties.



4. Provision of "Adequate" Housing for All Black Students in Close Proximity to the University and the Issuance of an Open Housing Policy:

- a. The University has publicly declared its support of an "Open Housing" policy for students living in off-campus housing.
- b. The University filed a formal complaint with the FHA against an apartment owner for violation of Title VIII of the Fair Housing Act. This owner, after consultation with University officials, has indicated his willingness to comply with the act and to make a public statement to this effect in the COUGAR, UH student newspaper.
- c. Prior to the submission of the AABL demands to the University on February 7, the director of housing for the University announced a new room assignment policy for the Residence Halls, effective spring semester 1969. The substance of the policy reads as follows:

"Initial room assignments will be made according to date of application. These assignments will be made without regard to race, color, creed, or national origin."
- d. Also as of February 1 and effective henceforth: "A picture will not be required on the residence hall application form."

5. Establishment and Funding of a Black Student Union:

- a. UH students may form a Black Student Union organization, which would be regarded as an appropriate student initiated development.
- b. Under existing University policies, operational funds cannot be provided by the University to any student organization. However, a Black Student Union, as any other student group, may apply to the UH Student Association for funds to finance specific projects.
- c. The University does not sponsor an official off-campus tutorial program. Student organizations are free to develop their own tutorial programs, including the seeking of fund support from the student association.

6. Elevation of Wage Scales of Janitorial, Maintenance and Cafeteria Employees to \$2 per Hour:

- a. Under proposed rates which would be effective September, 1969, the University would pay six of the 10 lowest wage classifications above \$2 an hour and will give increases to the other four classifications. Final determination of these rates cannot be made until the state legislature passes an appropriation bill. All of these increases will keep the University well above the federal minimum wage scales applicable to a University.

Provision of "Housing" for All Black Students in Close Proximity to the University and the Issuance of an Open Housing Policy

The University has publicly declared its support of an "Open Housing" policy for students living in off-campus housing.

The University filed a formal complaint with the FHA against an apartment owner for violation of Title VIII of the Fair Housing Act. This owner, after consultation with University officials, has indicated his willingness to comply with the act and to make a public statement to that effect in the Ocala, FL student newspaper.

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"Initial room assignments will be made according to date of application. These assignments will be made without regard to race, color, creed, or national origin."

Also as of February 7 and effective hereafter, a picture will not be required on the residence hall application form.

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The University does not sponsor an official off-campus tutorial program. Student organizations are free to develop their own tutorial programs, including the seeking of fund support from the student association.

Revision of Wage Scales of Janitorial, Maintenance and Laboratory Employees to \$1 per hour

Under proposed rates which would be effective January 1, 1969, the University would pay six of the lowest wage classifications \$1.00 an hour and all give increases to the other ten classifications. Final determination of these rates cannot be made until the state legislature passes an appropriation bill. All of these increases will meet the University's goal of federal minimum wage scales applicable to a University.

- b. ARA, the food service operation under contract to the University, will increase its minimum rate from \$1.40 to \$1.60 an hour, effective October 1, 1969.

7. Deal Effectively With the Situation of the Black Athlete and Employment of a Black Coach for Football:

- a. A procedure for receiving information regarding the treatment of Black athletes at the University has been determined by an Athletic Committee which was appointed recently by President Hoffman. The Committee will conduct closed hearings, and anyone who wishes to give testimony is requested to contact the Chairman of the Committee, Dr. W. I. Honeywell, or any other member of the Committee. Any student, faculty member, or University employee who wishes to testify is assured that he will not be identified with any statements given to the Committee. Of primary interest to the Committee is personal testimony in regard to the following:

- (1) Education and special problems of the Black athlete.
- (2) Unfair treatment and racial discrimination on athletic teams.

- b. Action against any University employee who is alleged to have practiced racial discrimination cannot be taken without supportive documentation.
- c. Negotiations are underway to employ a Black coach by September, 1969.

8. Establishment of a Committee to Alleviate Racist Practices in Instruction and Grading:

- a. The UH Faculty Senate on February 19 restated its policy on evaluating students. In summary, the faculty reaffirmed its dedication to an evaluative process without prejudice and by standards independent of race, color, or creed. Students who feel that they have been unfairly evaluated are urged to talk with the instructor, the department chairman, or the dean to resolve any difficulties.
- b. If the above process is not satisfactory to the student, the student is urged to avail himself of the services of the Student Assistance Committee.
- c. Since evaluating students is by tradition a practice administered by the faculty, any recommendations for a change in policy should be addressed to the Faculty Senate, the official governing body of the faculty.

9. More Financial Aid to Black Students:

- a. At the present time 75 percent, some \$1.5 million, in UH financial aids are free of special academic eligibility requirements.
- b. In relationship to enrollment, minority students now receive the largest proportion of financial aids, including work grants and loans.

d. ARA, the food service operation under contract to the University, will increase its minimum rate from \$1.40 to \$1.60 an hour, effective October 1, 1969.

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8. Establishment of a Committee to Alleviate Racial Practices in Instruction and Grading:

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b. If the above process is not satisfactory to the student, the student is urged to avail himself of the services of the Student Assistance Committee.

c. Since evaluating students is by tradition a practice administered by the faculty, any recommendations for a change in policy should be addressed to the Faculty Senate, the official governing body of the faculty.

9. More Financial Aid to Black Students:

a. At the present time 35 percent, some \$1.2 million, in Mt. financial aid are three or special academic eligibility requirements.

b. In relationship to enrollment, minority students now receive the largest proportion of financial aid, including work grants and loans.

- c. Efforts are being continued to secure additional funds for the Student Opportunity Service program.
- d. The University will give wider dissemination and more detailed information concerning financial aids available to minority groups, as well as involving minority students in the implementation of an information program.

10. Course Credit for Student Work in the Ghetto:

- a. Action has already been taken to grant credit for supervised work involving participation and service in the Ghetto community.
- b. The University believes that qualified minority staff should be involved in this new program. The University will seek to hire personnel with qualifications based upon special education and/or experience which are relevant to programs designed for the ghettos.

Information Team:

Charles Peavy
Frank Worley
William Yardley
Douglas Mac Lean
Richard Poston

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Information from:

- Charles Reavy
- Frank Morley
- William Yarbley
- Douglas MacLean
- Richard Poston

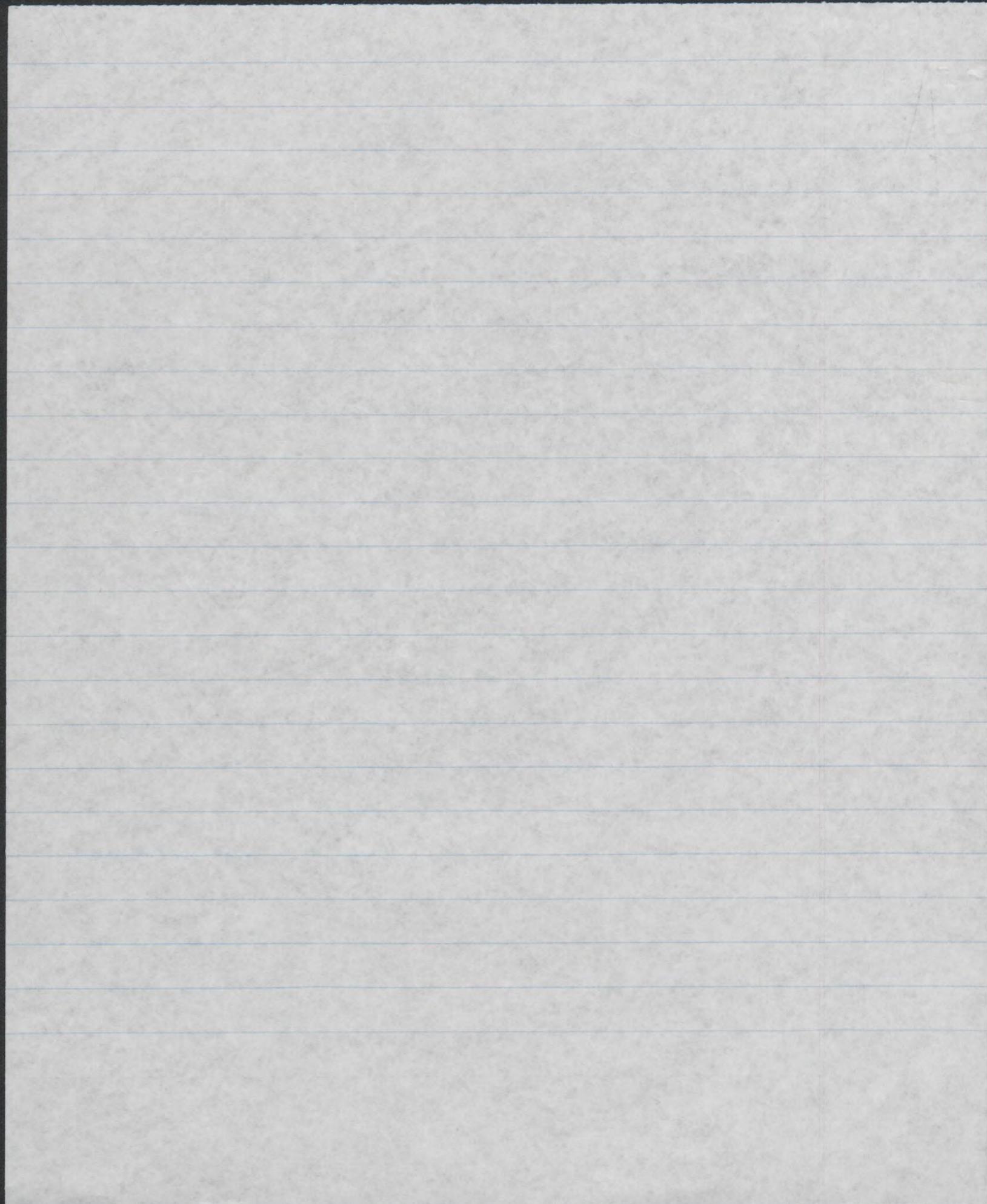
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Dear

The events of the past few weeks have demanded so much time that I have found it impossible to acknowledge promptly the large volume of mail which I have received.

I wish you to know that, especially value the encouragement and support contained in your { letter of —. Please know
telegram
note
that I am most grateful to you for your friendly thoughtfulness.

Cordially yours,



UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77004

June 10, 1969

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Dear _____ :

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I wish you to know that I especially value the encouragement and support contained in your letter of (date) or . Please know that I am most grateful to you for your friendly thoughtfulness.

Cordially yours,

Philip G. Hoffman
President

PGH:mah

Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20250

TO: [Illegible Name]

FROM: [Illegible Name]

SUBJECT: [Illegible Subject]

[Illegible body text]

[Illegible signature]

②

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77004

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President

PGH:mah

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Phillip E. Hoffman
President

PH:mas

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President

PGH:mah

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77002

3

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Cordially yours,

Phillip G. Hoffman
President

PH:man

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

WESTERN UNION

TELEGRAM

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LT = International Letter Telegram

The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is LOCAL TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is LOCAL TIME at point of destination

1158A CST MAR 21 69 NSB309

NS HSE092 FF PDF (DUPE OF TLFND TLGM) HOUSTON TEX 21 1102A CST

DR HOFFMAN, PRESIDENT

U OF H FONE 748-6600 HOU (MAIL)

DEAR SIR I SUPPORT YOUR STAND AGAINST THE TROUBLEMAKERS ON
CAMPUS. A CONCERNED STUDENT

JOHN MCCALL

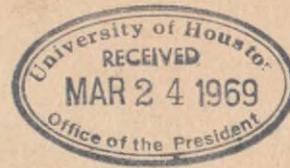
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John Arthur Harrison
" Harrison

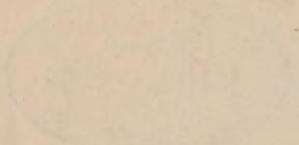
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DL 1969 MAR 21 PM 12 18



THE ABOVE IS A COPY OF THE REPORT OF THE
COMMISSIONER OF THE BUREAU OF THE
INTERNAL SECURITY OF THE STATE
FOR THE YEAR 1954.
IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED THAT
THIS IS A TRUE AND CORRECT
COPY OF THE ORIGINAL REPORT
AS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
COMMISSIONER OF THE BUREAU OF THE
INTERNAL SECURITY OF THE STATE.



D- 1324

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

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NS HSE092 FF PDF (DUPE OF TLFND TLGM) HOUSTON TEX 21 1102A CST

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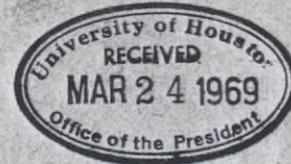
JOHN MCCALL

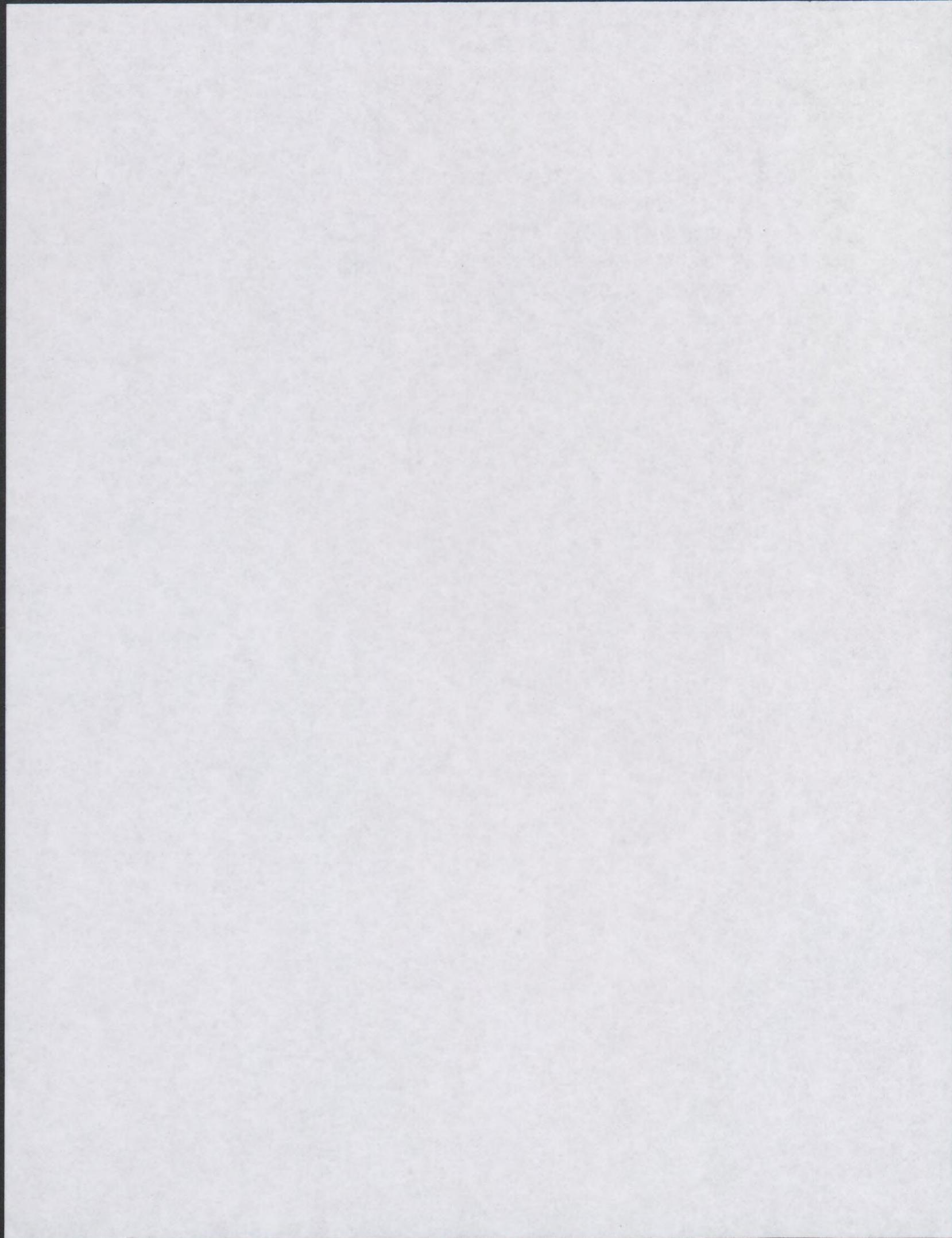
(1155).

John Arthur Harrison

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UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77004

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

June 10, 1969

Mr. Johnny W. Peacock
Box 547
Goliad, Texas 77963

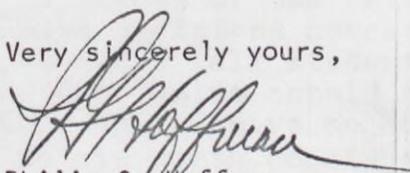
Dear Mr. Peacock:

The events of the past few weeks have demanded so much time that I have found it impossible to acknowledge promptly the large volume of mail which I have received.

I wish you to know that I especially value the encouragement and support contained in your letter of February 14. Please know that I am most grateful to you for your friendly thoughtfulness.

We are especially proud of your son Johnny's record at the University of Houston and of his All-American distinction. I also note that he has recently been awarded the Saunders Award which, as you know, is the highest award given to an athlete at the University of Houston. I also am very pleased that your son, Ronnie, is with us and is about to enter his sophomore year this fall. I have heard good reports concerning him. We are also happy to know that Randy plans to enroll for the first time this September. We appreciate the high quality of these young men, and share the pride which I know you feel in their accomplishments.

Very sincerely yours,



Philip G. Hoffman
President

PGH:mah

cc: Mr. Harry Fouke

file

W. B. E. B. B. B.

Dr. Hoffman,

Mr. Fouke called and left this information for you:

John Peacock - Graduated in June, 1969, outstanding football player, Saunders Award winner.

Ronnie Peacock - will be a sophomore next fall, plays football.

Randy Peacock - incoming freshman.

SZ

730

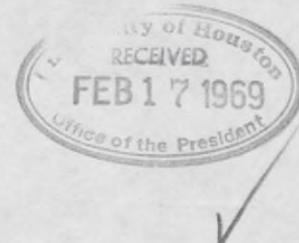
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*Check & see if
Parent of football all-American
(over)*

February 14, 1969
Goliad, Texas

Dr. Phillip Hoffman
University of Houston
Houston, Texas

Dear Dr. Hoffman:

I noticed in the morning paper of the demands being made by the Negro group at the University of Houston. I was sincerely in hopes that we in Texas would not be plagued by this problem. Being in school administration myself (Jr. Hi. principal) I feel that I can appreciate the position that you are in with respect to these demands. Having two sons attending the UofH, another one entering as a freshman next fall, I am especially interested in your university. However, I have written three letters to university presidents concerning this same problem--as encouragement rather than attempting to tell them how to solve their problem since I am sure that there are others who are far more capable of this than I.

May I say this however--I urge you to deal firmly with militants and to reserve the rights of the University of Houston administration to make decisions concerning the welfare and education of the students (all students). I doubt very much that any facet of curriculum should ever be placed under control of a student group. I have no doubts that this group does have some points worth consideration, but most of their demands would appear to me to be so outlandish that they merit a flat NO. I'm sure you and your administration will be fair with the group and they deserve nothing less than this and nothing more than this.

Thanks for lending me your ear and many more thanks for the opportunities that have been offered my boys by you, your institutions, and those that are associated with it. And to you--good luck

Sincerely yours,
Johnny Peacock
Johnny W. Peacock

Heir
add final H

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J/ Peacock
547
Goliad, Texas 77963



Dr. Philip Hoffman, President
University of Houston
Houston, Texas

