

TO:  
Dr. Ernest Hartung  
FROM:  
Corky Bush



University of Idaho

Moscow, Idaho/83843

April 15, 1974

Hanford D. Stafford, Conference Chairman  
Higher Education and Black Professional Employment  
1816 Norris Place  
Louisville, Kentucky 40205

Dear Mr. Stafford:

I am sorry in being so late in replying to your letter of February 2. The President of the University of Idaho, Dr. Ernest Hartung, has referred your letter to me for comment and response. I have solicited the opinions of a number of people on the staff and faculty, and now am prepared to respond to your letter.

We sincerely appreciated the philosophy that you outlined in your letter. Because there are so few Blacks in the state of Idaho, we feel that it is the University of Idaho's role to be helping these Black students acquire professional and technological expertise. This is compatible with the University's goals and objectives because the University's outstanding curricular are in the areas of forestry, agriculture, engineering, geology, resource management and business. Thus, your proposal is very significant to us. However, I have a number of questions. If you don't mind I have listed these below:

1. How will the students be selected to participate in the program? Will they be graduate or undergraduate students? Would they meet requirements for admission at our institution, at all institutions?
2. How will these students be recruited? How will they be informed about the academic programs and requirements at the various universities? At the University of Idaho?
3. How will the students be funded? From whom will they receive financial aid? Basic Education Opportunity Grants are applied for and received from the federal government, and the university has no responsibility for their distribution. Aid which is distributed to minority students directly from the University of Idaho is determined on the basis of a need analysis; this can't be promised or advanced. Although all minority students receive all the aid for which they are eligible, it is not possible to promise set amounts of financial aid to students.

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4. The University of Idaho would be interested in increasing our enrollment of minority students in business administration, engineering, accounting, agriculture, etc. Indeed, this is the thrust of our program to date. However, if more than four or five students come to the University of Idaho under your plan I feel we would need to hire an on-campus coordinator for their needs. Are you anticipating this as a problem? Are you likely to have funds for such purposes?
5. Who has jurisdiction and control over the program on the campus? Who selects the students? What provision is made for counseling the students? For placing them after they graduate?
6. If these are to be graduate students, where will their financial aid come from? Graduate students are not eligible for grants such as B.E.O.B., S.E.O.G. and usually are not eligible for C.W.S.
7. Can this be done by June? It is a big project.

I have already answered some of the questions you posed in your letter by posing even more questions to you. There are, however, some additional remarks I would like to make. The University of Idaho is currently involved in several program for minority development, from which we have indeed gained valuable experience and realistic views of the problems involved. The University of Idaho is the site of the Center of Native American Development, which is a resource and educational extention of the University aimed at providing expertise to Indian tribes and organizations in the area. Also, we are currently involved in the Cooperative Education program, which is designed to stimulate the recruitment of more students, particularly minority and women, to education in all fields. I am enclosing brochures from each of these programs. Also, we have experience with undergraduate educational programs for minority students.

You asked if industry in our area has potential in supporting the efforts called for in your program. I am afraid the answer to this is "no". There are not presently industries that are so inclined, this is mainly because there is very little industry in the area and even fewer minoirty people. As you already probably know, the population of minorities in the state is less than 5% of the total population. Chicanos comprise the majority of this figure. Thus, instituting employment programs for minority students may take a great deal of time.

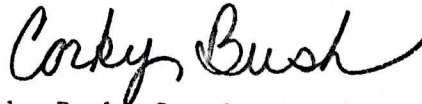
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You also asked if the University of Idaho would be interested in being a training site. I am afraid I cannot answer this question at this time. We would certainly need to know more about it, and about the obligations the University would incur. We would also need to know about implications, funding, requirements, etc.

I would appreciate learning as much about your program as possible and receiving answers to my questions before we commit ourselves to attending the conference. I hope this letter doesn't sound too negative, because I believe that your concept is excellent and that there is a great deal of congruity between your goals and objectives and the University of Idaho's areas of excellence. I have always believed that gaining education and expertise in the areas of professional employment and in resource management is the key to Black achievement.

Yours sincerely,

OFFICE OF INTERCULTURAL PROGRAMS



Corky Bush, Coordinator

CB/rs

Enclosures: Broshures

cc: Dr. Richardson  
Dr. Hartung