Who will conference in developing and sponsoring the proposed Summer Institute. Bas the Institute would be designed to prepare black students to work with local black experience. Through the use of will tute itself would meeting last week with two representatives of the Pacific Northwest Conference-the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education decided to join with the Conference in developing and sponsoring the proposed Summer Institute. Basically, faculty in the development and teaching of courses more directly related to the black experience. Through the use of video tape, portions of the training institute itself would also be made available to colleges and universities for their use. Yet, in order to offer the Institute, we must first discover the level of interest among institutions in the region, as well as their commitment to utilize these students and to offset a share of the conference's costs.

> Based on present estimates, the dollar commitment required of each institution would be as follows: \$1,500 to provide the salary for the student participant during the coming academic year, at which time he would be engaged in working and teaching with a regular faculty member at your campus; up to \$500 to offset the cost of the student's participation during the summer institute; and up to \$2,000, depending on the number of institutions participating in the conference, to offset the costs of the conference itself. Hopefully, if sufficient institutions participate, the cost per institution will fall significantly below that outlined above; regrettably, the Institute can be offered this summer only through a commitment on the part of the institutions to offset a portion of the costs.

We at WICHE feel that the idea of a Summer Institute such as this is of great value, and that both the service and potential savings to each institution in the long run more than justify the initial expenditure of funds required. For these reasons, as well as our commitment both to the development of viable black studies programs in the Northwest and to the fostering of regional organizations to meet regional needs, we have committed our staff time and resources to working with representatives of the Pacific Northwest Conference on Black Studies in the development of this Institute. I sincerely hope that the proposed Institute can help you in meeting the needs for Black Studies on your campus, and that you will find it possible to participate in the Institute.

A final decision as to whether or not the Institute will be held this summer can only be made after response from you and other institutions in the Northwest; therefore, I would appreciate hearing from you at your earliest possible convenience as to your thoughts on this matter and as to your willingness both to participate and to offset a share of the costs as described above. If you have any questions regarding this Institute, please call me (303-449-3333), or contact Mr. Jack L. Davis who represented the University of Idaho at the December meeting. Following receipt of these responses -- and hopefully within the next two weeks -- I will be writing again to let you know of the prospects.

> Sincerely, Man Allman

Robert A. Altman, Director Special Higher Education Programs