

To Dr. Steffens via Dean Martin

UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO

From William S. Greever

Inter-Office Memorandum

Subject Negro History course

Date November 27, 1968

Dr. R. H. Seale as chairman of the University Curriculum Committee, late this afternoon over a cup of coffee at the Faculty Club, inquired about the Tasby petition and stated he had received a copy of it. I explained that it had been referred by the president's office through channels to the history staff and that we had returned our recommendation through channels. He then stated that the University Curriculum Committee had the power to make changes without the matter having originated in a subordinate body. I countered that this method of change would cause a big fight at a general faculty meeting. Ik thereupon described to him the gist of the History staff's recommendations of November 12. I concluded by commenting that I hoped this informal summary over the coffee cups would be sufficient, but that if the committee made a formal inquiry of me that I would request Dr. Staffen's permission to send it a copy of our written recommendation. He commented that perhaps I should appear informally before his committee. I did not reply to this suggestion.

This raises the question whether the University Curriculum Committee has the right to inquire into the course offerings of any field in any college and whether it has the right to initiate proposals for new courses without the suggestion originating in that field.

This is to request instructions from the President's Office, if the committee asks me to appear, whether I should do so or should refuse the request.

cc: Dr. Hosack

*Wm. S. Greever*