

PRESENTATION TO THE STATE WIDE MONITORING
AND REVIEW COMMITTEE

By the Black Concerned Citizens For
Higher Education Organization

Moses General Miles, Spokesman

The Black Concerned Citizens Organization for Higher Education is greatly concerned about the plans for equalizing educational opportunities in higher education in the State of Florida as submitted to HEW by the State Department. The plan is highly racist, totally inadequate as a device for redressing existing inequities created by the system and is insensitive to the current needs of the Black population. This organization recognizes that it is a sad commentary in American history when the Board of Regents or any governing body is called upon to pass a resolution every two or three years stating it supports the autonomy of FAMU or any other agency. This organization is cognizant of the fact that resolutions alone do not give autonomy. It takes money and viable programs. FAMU needs compensatory funds to develop first class programs. The state needs to go all out to make FAMU a viable institution just as it has gone out to keep it a second class institution.

This organization feels that the present personnel that presented the plan is highly unfit to present an acceptable plan. Therefore, new personnel should be called upon to prepare a plan for equalizing educational opportunities in higher education. This organization stands ready and able to do WHATEVER

is necessary to afford Florida's citizens full and equal educational opportunities. This organization is concerned for positive action.

In order for Florida's educational opportunities to be equalized in higher education, and for all of its citizens to share and share alike, it is necessary for the following principles to be met.

1. Compensatory funds for development should be given to FAMU immediately.
2. The Law School that was taken from FAMU must be returned to it.
3. Certain programs need to be developed and funded adequately.
 - a. FAMU's School of Nursing should be adequately funded, and the one at FSU should be eliminated.
 - b. The Agricultural and Experimental Station Program of the state should be redistributed. FAMU should have charge of all of the programs in the northern section of Florida, and the University of Florida should have charge of the other sections.
 - c. The Continuing Education Center should be developed at FAMU.
 - d. A School of Veterinary Medicine and a School of Optometry should be set up at FAMU. A School of Architecture should be established at FAMU.
 - e. The School of Technology and Engineering should be adequately funded.
 - f. Adequate financial aid should be available to FAMU to attract multi-ethnic-racial students.
 - g. Other viable new disciplines should be developed at FAMU.

5. The Counseling System in the elementary and secondary schools and the Junior Colleges need to be strengthened. There is a need for "fit" counselors in these areas.
6. Career education needs to be construed to mean and emphasized as any discipline that leads to worthy functional living for all of its citizens whether it be in medicine or mechanics.
7. The Florida High School Twelfth Grade Test should be eliminated as the criterion for admission to the state universities. There should be an "open door" policy. Anyone graduating from an accredited high school should be admitted to any of Florida's institutions of higher learning without taking extra tests for admission or all of the high schools in Florida should be closed.