



August 1982

## The Black Faculty and Staff Association

### TO THE CAMPUS COMMUNITY:

We of the Black Faculty & Staff Association at the State University of New York at Stony Brook wish to inform the University community that we wholeheartedly support the minority students in their attempts to make Polity (Student Government) more amenable to representing the entire student body rather than a favored few, and that we admire and respect their persistence, perseverance and pride.

Their strategy has been remarkable and on target. They have taken the advice given them by high level administrative officials and worked within the system to diminish the negative effects of racial bias and discrimination.

Though, in our opinion, the administration has been less than firm in its support of their efforts, they have:

1. written a comprehensive affirmative action plan;
2. effected a work force-job analysis of Polity and the Student Activities Board;
3. supported the election of a competent minority student as Polity Affirmative Action Officer;
4. won several seats in the Student Government this summer;
5. insisted that the Polity budgets not be certified until Affirmative Action guidelines were implemented in hiring practices, student council appointments and casual and part time contractual arrangements;
6. been instrumental in the creation of a panel formed by the VP for Student Affairs to review the appropriateness of procedures that Polity outlined as a means of having their budget passed and certified;
7. offered a brilliant proposal for a fair share distribution of funds to minority students by requiring that 23% of the reserve fund of student activities fees (which

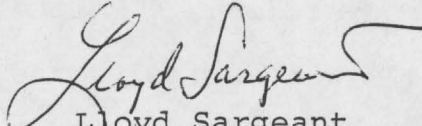
**The State University of New York at Stony Brook  
Stony Brook, NY 11794**

must be maintained after initial allocation to clubs and activities have been made) be reserved for minority student activities.

At this writing, the Vice Presidential Panel has not completed its findings, nor made final recommendations on procedural correctness of Polity's distribution of student activities fees. However, BFSA recognizes that the University Administration is involved in the collection of student activities monies and the procedures thereto. Therefore, we consider it to be both appropriate and necessary to assure that the following actions occur:

1. certification of the Affirmative Action Plan submitted to Polity;
2. certification of the budget according to the Chancellor's guidelines, including the Affirmative Action initiatives outlined therein, and the 23% reserve clause;
3. assertive support of Affirmative Action in the 1982/83 student activities budget disbursement process.

It can do no less, and we call upon the President and his cabinet, led by the Vice President of Student Affairs, to exercise leadership and decisiveness in resolving the problems surrounding minority student interaction with Polity.

  
Lloyd Sargeant  
President

**BFSA**

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