

June 1, 1965

Dear Mr. Shriver:

Personally I am very much interested in a proposal which is pending before the Office of Economic Opportunity under which the University of Oregon would work with approximately seventy-five students from low-income families in the Portland area, who at present are not qualified to enter a college or university.

We have developed a program under which we would bring them to the campus this summer, provide them with remedial programs and hopefully carry them through the entire academic year. They in effect will be on the receiving end of programs tailored to their own particular needs. A large percentage of them would be Negroes. We think that we could work with this group with the end result that a percentage of them by the end of the year would have demonstrated their ability to move onto complete their college work. We would continue to work with each member of the group in an effort to solve any financial problems they might have after their first year with us.

I am interested in this because I believe that activities of this kind are a part of the mission of a public university such as ours. If we could put on a successful demonstration project for a year, I think it might then be possible to get some support from both public and private sources that will enable us to gradually make this kind of activity an integral part of our total program. If we succeed in doing it, it might stimulate other institutions to go and do likewise.

I sincerely hope that you and your associates may see your way clear to make it possible for us to make this demonstration project a part of our program for the coming academic year.

Very sincerely and cordially yours,

Arthur S. Flemming  
President

Honorable Sargent Shriver  
Director  
Office of Economic Opportunity  
Washington 25, D. C.