UNIVERSITY OF OREGON



OFFICE OF
MINORITY RELATIONS

EUGENE, OREGON 97403 telephone (code 503) 342-1411

March 3, 1969

Acting President Johnson Johnson Hall University of Oregon

Dear President Johnson:

I'm sure you are well aware of the situation in existence at Oregon State regarding the B.S.U. confrontation with the administration regarding the affirmation of basic human rights. I'm sure you understand that the issue has risen far above that of a beard or no beard, and has escalated to the question of whether the President of the University is willing to enforce in already accepted human rights guidelines relative to Mr. Andro's decision regarding the football players beard.

I'm sure if there was ever a time that inter-institutional support was necessary, now is the time. It is my opinion that your experiences here at Oregon have given you the insight and perspective necessary to guide you in support of the goals sought by the B.S.U. of Oregon State. Given this, it seems logical that the leadership of the University of Oregon, which has shown itself to be attuned to the ever complex demands of our times, and willing to take forward, enlightened steps in these critical areas must also be willing to step forward in support of the cause of the right which is the cause and the goals of the B.S.U. of Oregon State.

I would further encourage you to encourage the other officials of your administration, faculty and staff to rally around and give support to President Jennsen in order that he might feel more comfortable in making the decision he knows is ultimately necessary. Furthermore, I would encourage you to contact and attempt to develop support for President Jennsen in making the right decision among the other state institutions of higher learning.

I'm sure there is not need to impress upon the urgency of this action and the direction in which this support should be applied. Anything less than unequivocal support for the goals of the Oregon State B.S.U. in this issue is an entreaty to bedlam and useless sacrifice. In addition, it will stand as another mark on the many paged ledger for those who would see justice delayed, inequity perpetuated, and oppression maintained.

Let me close with this final question. How long will a small minority continue to have to sacrifice themselves in order that the development of freedom and equity for all be attained? I find the answer to this question at present intolerable and a failure by this administration to address the issue and support the goals of the Oregon State B.S.U. inexcusable.

Sincerely yours,

Donald Warfield, Director Office of Minority Relations

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