

Haverford College

TO: Preston Rowe FROM: Bill Davidon
RE: Community Concerns Committee DATE: October 20, 1969

After receiving a copy of John Coleman's memo to your committee of October 16, I thought it might be helpful if he and I discussed these matters directly and we have just done so. Some aspects of our discussion may be of interest to your committee when it gets to the agenda items I suggested.

With regard to the fair employment practices of the college, the issues which I think merit attention include the desirability (or undesirability) of adopting explicit guidelines for our employment practices and those of firms with which we do business, the possibility of joining together with other colleges and universities in the area for some common program to improve employment practices, etc. I have no doubt whatever about John Coleman's own desire to do all he can to improve this situation. I do think it worth exploring the possibility that actions by our faculty, or in conjunction with other places, may help.

I was not being precise in referring to statements by colleges and universities against the war. At Penn, the standing committee on the Goals of Higher Education concluded its report on "The Causes of Student Unrest and the Proper Response of the Universities to that Unrest" on May 1, 1969 with a resolution, proposed as a basis for day long discussion, which after four "whereas's" resolves "that the faculty of this College 1. condemns the continuing military involvement in Vietnam and calls for the withdrawal of all American forces from that country and 2. stands beside its students in demanding a reversal of national priorities away from militarism in all of its guises and toward social reform in this nation." The Temple Univ. faculty considered a similar statement but lacked a quorum to adopt it. The Harvard faculty has adopted a somewhat similar statement. My only information about Columbia was from an earlier memo from John Coleman when he thought Columbia University had adopted some such statement.

In any event, the Community Concerns committee, as a faculty committee, would be the place for consideration of a faculty statement (not a college statement). Even then, I would only think a faculty statement useful if it provided the framework for a continuing program, such as the Moratorium, and was not a one-shot pious declaration. Perhaps the discussion at the special faculty meeting on Nov. 6 will help determine if there is sufficient interest and consensus for such a more specific statement.

On the matter of community support for War and Draft Resisters, I have been considering the possibility circulating a statement among members of the community in which the signers undertake to provide a community of support here for people under indictment for resisting the war or the draft for it. This would assume they could reserve college facilities for this purpose in the usual way. How would such a statement relate to your committee? Would you prefer I wait with circulating it until your committee discussed the matter?

Bill Davidon

WD/rdw
cc: John Coleman

Haverford College

Community Concerns Committee

October 20, 1969

The committee met at 12:30 p.m. in the Dining Center. Present were: Stephen Clark, Frank Connolly, David Espo, Theodore Hetzel, Joseph Mason, Preston Rowe (chairman), and members of the Ardmore Coalition (Louis Hazard, Paul Hare, Deitrich Kessler).

1. The Ardmore Coalition proposal was formally submitted by Louis Hazard (attachment 10/20/69-1).
2. It was decided to review the concerns submitted by William Davidson at a later date agreeable to William Davidson.
3. The committee decided to invite Miss Martha ("Marty") Dickson to join the membership of the committee.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Joseph Mason, secretary
Preston Rowe, chairman

October 24, 1969

The committee met at 4:35 p.m. in 120 Sharpless Hall. Members present were: Stephen Clark, Frank Connolly, Preston Rowe (chairman), and Gerhard Spiegler. William Davidson was also present by invitation.

The Davidson proposals (10/16/69-3) were reconsidered.

1. Fair employment practices. Two issues were discussed: first, the college's employment practices and secondly, those of its contractors (building and dining center). On the first issue, Joseph Mason will report at a later date. On the second issue, the committee agreed to investigate further the possibility of a joint policy with several other institutions in the area. This item, then, is on the long term agenda.

2. IRS tax liens. William Davidson proposed during the meeting that the college time its salary payments so as to prevent it from being legally bound to meet a government tax lien. It was decided not to consider the proposal, as it was mainly an administrative matter not directly affecting the college's relation to an outside group.

3. Community support for war and draft resisters. William Davidson proposed that the college allow its facilities to be used for an indefinite length of time by resisters, facing arrest. The committee felt that this permission would be an exception to the normal decision rules governing the use of college facilities and agree to bring this proposal to the next faculty meeting.

4. Guns on campus. The chairman agreed to seek information on this matter of existing policy.

5. College statement on the war. Frank Connolly agreed to report at the next committee meeting on possible ways to relate to the Vietnam Proatorium activities. The committee also agreed to ask the faculty whether they wanted to have us consider a faculty statement on the war.

Meeting adjourned at about 6:30 p.m.

Preston Rowe, chairman