

1970

Letter to Board of Trustees regarding sit-in

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THE FOLLOWING LETTER IS BEING SENT TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGARDING MONDAY'S SIT-IN IN THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING. WE URGE YOU TO INCLUDE THE THOUGHTS EXPRESSED HERE IN CONSIDERING YOUR ROLE IN THESE ACTIVITIES.

"There exists on this campus a deplorable social situation for Black students and a virtual absence of an intellectual Black experience for any member of the Denison community. Consequently, we believe that this college has failed to meet its social responsibility as an institution of higher learning.

In view of these conditions and the tone of your response to the Black Demands which we feel to be inadequate and insensitive, a group of concerned white students have decided to take action in order to convey to you the crucial nature of this problem and the urgency we feel as students.

On Monday, March 16, there will be a peaceful sit-in in Doane Administration Building. This is to serve as a symbolic act intended to communicate to you student support and the degree of personal commitment for the implementation of the Black Demands. This sit-in is an integral part of a program to facilitate student-trustee communication. This program will include students visiting with you during the three week interim between the sit-in and the April 10 trustee meeting. Arrangements will be handled through the President's office.

Our objective is to establish meaningful communication in order to bring student concern for the Black Demands and the future of this university to you.

We feel it is imperative that this program result in a statement from the Board allowing for a rearrangement of college priorities making feasible the implementation of the Black Demands.