

3-19-1970

Summary of events

Denison University

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MAR 19 1970

MEMO FROM THE INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE
Location: second floor Slayter Hall

Realizing Denison is in a state of crisis, students supporting the Black Demands are publishing this news letter to honestly inform students and faculty concerning the course of the situation.

The following is a summary to date of events of the last few days.

Monday, March 16; 8:30 a.m. Sit-in begins at Doane.

1:30 Bomb scare necessitates a transfer of students to Blair Knapp amphitheatre.

1:30-3:30 Plans were to initiate discussions in classes concerning the Black Demands. Another meeting of the group was planned for Tuesday evening at 7:00

Tuesday March 17: 9:00a.m.-4:00p.m. Forums in many classes to discuss the Black Demands.

7:00 Meeting in Knapp amphitheatre and proposals for action.

The decision was made to confront the faculty in their regular meeting at Slayter Auditorium. 450 students proceeded to interrupt the meeting precipitating an abrupt adjournment. There followed an open dialogue between the students and about forty faculty who chose to remain.

The following plans of action were agreed upon: at the Tuesday night meeting:

1. A spontaneous teach-in, to be conducted by black students, was scheduled in Slayter Auditorium on Wednesday.
2. Telegrams would be sent to trustees urging them to assemble at Denison for a special meeting on Saturday March 21.

Wednesday March 18: 9:00-2:00 Mass meetings at the union between Black and White students and faculty.

3:15-5:00 A thousand students and faculty met at Huffman resulting in the adoption of a threepoint program voiced by Dr. Keizer. The program proposed to 1) suspend, hopefully voluntarily, all participation in classes by students and faculty. 2) To move to immobilize business as usual in terms of the normal functioning of the University and 3) establish an alternate college to be maintained until such a time as the Black Demands shall be satisfied fully and honestly.

The following plans of action were adopted: 1) A occupation of Doane Administration building to begin at 7:30 Thursday morning. 2) Plans were made to initiate attempts to persuade all students and faculty to discontinue classes for the duration of the crisis period. 3) A committee was established to facilitate communication within the University and to inform alumni, trustees and news media of the situation at Denison. 4) An alternate college was instituted to commence operations at 9:00a.m. Thursday. An information booth will be set up Thursday morning on the second floor of Slayter. Anyone seeking information on the alternate college or on the current crisis should go to this booth. Information about new developments should be reported to this booth from where it will be distributed to all concerned parties.

We wish to emphasize the non-violent character of this movement. Destruction of property or personal assaults cannot be condoned in its name.