

To: All Faculty

Date: 5-29-69

From: Weimer K. Hicks

A few things you should know about:

- 1) Western has been most generous in giving us clearance to hire Black personnel now teaching there. Three of their people are under consideration to teach courses such as the BSO proposed.
- 2) A Black candidate for a position in Sociology (lady) will be on the campus June 6.
- 3) Dr. Chen has been in New York at the National Conference in Urban Sociology hunting for the right man for the appointment under the Calder grant.
- 4) Some weeks ago Dean Barrett sent to the Ford Foundation via GLCA a request for support of a consultant to all GLCA colleges in Black studies. If the grant comes through, Kalamazoo would be the agent college and the consultant would be based here. She is Barbara Wheeler, a co-director of the Urban Studies Center at Columbia University and now completing a PhD on Black studies curricula.
- 5) The History department is exploring a course in Afro-American History and has uncovered a new and very full film series that could be used. Cost: \$15,000. We are trying to see whether we can raise the money from OEO for a joint purchase for WMU, Nazareth, and Kalamazoo.
- 6) The National Foundation for the Humanities has just announced a dozen or so summer institutes in Black history, culture, etc. Six of the faculty are interested. It looks as though three or four will be going. The problem is to fit the institutes in with the summer term.
- 7) Gerry Weaver is talking to Educational Policies Committee next Tuesday.
- 8) A faculty group of six - Bradfield, Hilberry, Jacobs, S. Rajnak, Stavig and J. Spencer - has been formed to work with Black students on all academic aspects of the problem.

It is too early to have much of this firmed up. The probabilities are that not all of it will work out. It never does. So long as students understand that, feel free to tell them about any or all of this.

WKH:kns