"We the students of African and African American descent, understand that the content of the hate mail does not reflect the beliefs of all the students on this campus. However, it is clear that some students feel that we do not belong here. This incident is not only a collective attack on us and all students of color, but it is also a threat on one student’s life. Nevertheless, we stand unshaken by this cowardly act. In fact, the action has strengthened us as individuals and unified us as a body. Our presence on this campus will remain unchanged; we will not be moved."

This letter was a response to the anonymous message of hate attached to one African American student’s door one afternoon early in Fall Quarter. The next morning, the victim’s bed was set on fire, and many students speculated a connection between the two events. In response, a campus wide meeting was held on the quad where President James Jones and “K” alum Julius Moore spoke about the seriousness of this issue and how it would be addressed. Several events followed: a breakout session immediately after the campus wide meeting, a candlelight vigil to advocate ethnic diversity and a demonstration at Hicks given by a Western fraternity and others. During most of Fall Quarter, an investigation was conducted to determine the perpetrators of both the message and the fire. This investigation was closed during Winter Quarter due to a lack of evidence. Since the incident the victim has left the college.