



2017

Activism at IWU

Khayla Caruthers 2020

Illinois Wesleyan University

Breanna Williams 2018

Illinois Wesleyan University

Monica Munoz 2019

Illinois Wesleyan University

Vandhana Jill Rajarathnam 2018

Illinois Wesleyan University

Vishnu Velupula 2018

Illinois Wesleyan University

Recommended Citation

Caruthers 2020, Khayla; Williams 2018, Breanna; Munoz 2019, Monica; Rajarathnam 2018, Vandhana Jill; and Velupula 2018, Vishnu, "Activism at IWU" (2017). *Summer Enrichment Program*. 9.
http://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/odi_sep/9

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by The Ames Library, the Andrew W. Mellon Center for Curricular and Faculty Development, the Office of the Provost and the Office of the President. It has been accepted for inclusion in Digital Commons @ IWU by the faculty at Illinois Wesleyan University. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@iwu.edu.

©Copyright is owned by the author of this document.



Activism at IWU



“What’s up my nigga?” “You can’t say that to her-she’s Black.”

“We are going to eradicate all of Islam, and all of your people will have to leave.”

“Do you have to get an arranged marriage?”

“You are the reason why I voted for Trump.”

“Do you worship cows?”

“Your hair looks so nice since you combed it...[when another student said the statement was wrong] oh I don’t know how they do their hair.”

“Where is your dot?”

Let's Look at the Past

Black students tell of discrimination

Dear Editor,

In corroboration with the letter to the student body which appeared in the Nov. 5 Argus, we would like to cite several specific examples in which black students on the IWU campus are deprived of their just and natural rights.

1) Concerning the IWU administration, we would like to state that unfair representation on any governing body is unconstitutional. The small percentage of black students is accompanied by an even smaller percentage of black faculty and completely unrepresented on the IWU Administration Board. There is little wonder why IWU policy often omits the needs of black students. We are

Granted the IWU Student Senate has attempted to assimilate themselves with the problems of the black students on campus; however, the few blacks on the IWU Student Senate can not provide a true picture of the situation in which the black students are captured.

3) **SPEAKING FOR** the entire black populace of IWU, we are completely distraught with the amount of subtle prejudice which goes on under security, housing, and general policy concerning the Afro-American Cultural Center. There seems to be some connection, in the eyes of IWU housing staff, between defiance

several fraternity houses. Not that we wish to see partying at fraternity houses ceased; we just demand that these privileges be extended to the Afro-American Cultural Center.

open the doors to the

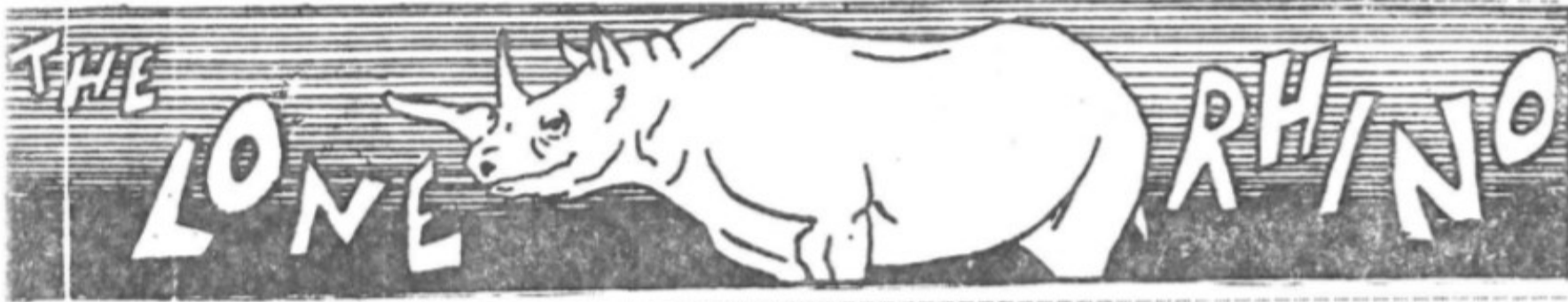
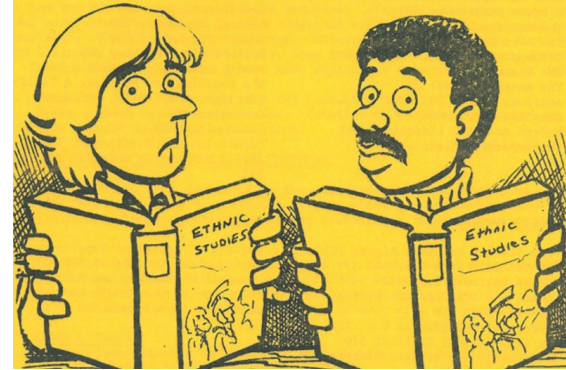
Civil rights

2/22/83

Reverend Dr. Ralph Abernathy will give a speech entitled "History and Future of the Rights Movement" during program on Thursday, Feb. 7:30 p.m. in the Main Lot press conference will precede Abernathy's address, at 4:1

IF YOU DON'T KNOW ABOUT ANY PEOPLE,
OTHER THAN YOUR OWN, YOU'RE IN TROUBLE

IF YOU DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOUR OWN PEOPLE,
YOU'RE IN BIG TROUBLE



Bias Reports

- Increase knowledge of Bias reports on campus
 - Students feel a lack of support from the university
 - Anger, sadness, confusion
- Make Bias reports accessible for students
 - Why would this be helpful?
 - Process
 - Weak outcomes of consequences
 - 3 strikes-visible action

Diversity Training

- Required diversity training for first year students and TOLs
 - Dedicate an evening event for diversity and inclusion awareness
 - Microaggressions
 - Overt and Covert Racism
 - Deconstructing Prejudice
 - Bystander Training
- Required diversity training for all faculty and RAs
 - Covering:
 - Safe Zone training
 - Fostering a safe and inclusive environment for MALANA students
 - Bystander Training

...the picture of the situation in which the black students are captured.

3) **SPEAKING FOR** the entire black populace of IWU, we are completely distraught with the amount of subtle prejudice which goes on under security, housing, and general policy concerning the Afro-American Cultural Center. There seems to be some connection in the case of W...

Location	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian	American Indian/Alaska Native	Two or more races
United States	61%	12%	18%	6%	1%	2%

**From KKF.org. Population and demographic data are based on analysis of the Census Bureau's March 2016 Current Population Survey

Location	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian	Two or more races	International	Other
Illinois Wesleyan	71%	4%	7%	4%	3%	9%	2%

**From IWU website

Increase Campus Diversity

- Better recruitment programs for students of color
 - Improve and expand “Tu Universidad”
- Offer full time positions to professors of color
 - Foster a better work environment to retain professors of color
 - Achieved through more campus wide diversity training
 - Advisory board to recruit and retain faculty of color needs to have visual results
- Offer more diversity courses
 - Expand diversity course requirements
 - Course Examples: Black Feminism, Women of Color in the U.S., Civil rights and Ethnic Power

1) Concerning the IWU administration, we would like to state that unfair representation on any governing body is unconstitutional. The small percentage of black students is accompanied by an even smaller percentage of black faculty and completely unrepresented on the IWU Administration Board. There is little wonder why IWU policy often omits the needs of black students. We are beginning to question whether or not IWU has an affirmative action program for faculty and administration and if in effect IWU does have an affirmative action program why isn't it being utilized?

Support from Student Senate for Cultural Events

- Broaden and define specific categories
- Cultural RSOs-campus wide events
- Spending lots of money-representation?
- Lack of student senate support-less student outcome

Inclusion, not Tolerance

2) Concerning the IWU Student Senate, the aforementioned problem becomes two-fold in nature. Not only are our cries for justice neglected, but they are passed down, like an unwanted plague, from a disoriented administration to a completely misinformed group of college students.

because they do not make that effort to reach the black community. Instead hey reach the "general populace" which roughly translates into "white people."

Point two of Mr. Kleinschmidt's letter was that of Student Senate. The .S.U. claimed that Senate did not adequately respond to the needs of black students. This is hardly surprising since Senate has not effectively addressed pressing social issue since the early 1970's.

Mr. Kleinschmidt responds that he did not "recall very many black students running for the offices." First of all, do you honestly believe that they

Outcomes

Increased:

1. Retention rates of MALANA students and faculty
2. Campus wide participation from MALANA students
3. Campus wide awareness of issues surrounding MALANA students
4. Percentages of MALANA students