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## Commission for Blacks Meeting Minutes September 17, 1997

Commission for Blacks

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**COMMISSION FOR BLACKS  
MINUTES: SEPTEMBER 17, 1997**

**MEMBERS PRESENT: Roberto Benson, Rosa Thomas, Delores Smith, Rickey McCurry, JoAnn Geter, Gail Cope (for Alan Chesney), Kadesha Washington, Kim Skidmore, Susan Mee, and Marva Rudolph.**

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Roberto Benson, Chairperson who provided information (written and discussion) regarding the purpose of the Commission as well as accomplishments made during the 1996-1997 term. Dr. Benson indicated that there were three basic committee functions assigned last year and the same types of committees would be used this year. (See attached). Those present were asked to consider and/or identify their committee of interest. To-date, assignments are as follows:

Faculty/Staff/Administrators<sup>1</sup>: Dr. Denise Jackson, Susan Mee

Students: Delores Smith, Kim Skidmore

Community Outreach: Rosa Thomas (chair), Rick McCurry, JoAnn Geter

Each committee will develop their own basic goals/projects and meeting times for committee discussions. Progress reports will be made to the general body throughout the year.

It was agreed that, at least for now, the Commission for Blacks will continue to meet on a monthly basis with sub-committees deciding the time and location of their meetings. Dr. Benson will identify the next meeting date and time and notify all members. It was also agreed that we will try to keep the meetings to a duration of about one hour.

Finally, the meeting was opened for announcements. Kim Skidmore, student and chairperson of Students for Diversity, passed out pamphlets regarding her organization as well as upcoming activities (see attached). She encouraged those present to attend. Gail Cope, designee for Alan Chesney (OHM) and Chairperson of the Black Staff Development Program discussed the general purpose of this program. In general, The Black Staff Development Program is a provision of the Stipulation of Agreement whereby financial resources are provided to qualified Black staff employees interested in pursuing an educational degree in order to prepare for academic or administrative positions within higher education. Roberto Benson, Rosa Thomas, and Marva Rudolph are working with Gail Cope developing guidelines and mechanisms for disseminating information regarding this program. More information on the program will be forthcoming.

The meeting was ended with the understanding that future communication regarding the next meeting will be made by Dr. Benson to the members.

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<sup>1</sup>Administrators is new. It was suggested by Rickey McCurry. It represents an expansion in the efforts of CFB to ensure "protection" for everyone.