Memo: The Admission by Performance Institute 1979 Program

Commission for Blacks

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Commission for Blacks

FROM: Jack E. Reese

At a past meeting of the Commission I mentioned that I would have the Directors of the three special minority programs for minority students prepare a brief summary of their program plans. Please find attached a description by Professor Carl Pierce of the College of Law's Admission by Performance Institute and a description by Ms. Diane Garrett of the Pre-Med Enrichment program and the Summer Research Institute conducted under the auspices of the College of Liberal Arts.

I am confident that all of these programs will have significant benefits for both minority students and UT Knoxville. If you have any questions about these programs, I will be happy to talk with you about them at a future meeting of the Commission for Blacks.

Best wishes for a pleasant summer.

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Attachments
MEMORANDUM

TO: Donald Eastman, Assistant to the Chancellor
FROM: Carl A. Pierce, Director, Admission by Performance Inst.
SUBJECT: 1979 Program

The Admission by Performance Institute co-sponsored by the College of Law and Memphis State University School of Law will be continued during the 1979-80 academic year.

The eight third year students and the six 2nd year students who graduated from the 1977 and 1978 Institutes and are enrolled at the College of Law will continue to receive grant assistance. For this purpose, UT will provide $18,900, which sum will be distributed among the students in proportion to need.

The College of Law will conduct a 1979 Summer Institute for 25 students at an estimated cost of $39,750. Memphis State will bear 1/2 of the cost of this program. All living expenses of the 25 students will be paid by the Institute. At present 23 students have accepted places in the Institute. Sixteen of the students are black. We expect all 25 seats to be occupied.

Students who successfully complete the Institute will either enroll at UT or Memphis State. Fifty percent of the students will attend UT. Upon enrollment each student will receive grant assistance. For this purpose, UT will provide $2575/student who enrolls at UT. The pool of funds will be distributed among the students in proportion to need.

I wish to express my appreciation to the Chancellor for maintaining this substantial commitment to our affirmative action program in the College of Law -- particularly in light of the stringent budgetary situation we faced this year.

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The College of Liberal Arts is conducting two special programs for minority students during Summer Quarter 1979—the Pre-Medical Enrichment Program and the Summer Research Institute. Both programs will coincide with the regular Summer School, which runs from June 18 through August 22, and participants will be registered as full-time UTK students. Housing for both groups will be provided in the Andy Holt Apartment Residence Hall. Interaction between the two groups will be encouraged both by their living arrangements and by their involvement in planned extra curricular activities and coursework in common.

The Pre-Medical Enrichment Program is an intensive academic program designed to help minority and disadvantaged students become more competitive for admission to medical school. The curriculum consists of courses in chemical concepts, chemical calculations, human physiology, medical ethics (with special emphasis on developing written and oral communications skills), reading and study skills, and assertiveness training. In addition, participants will have the opportunity to learn more about the health professions through a series of enrichment activities, including seminars, tours, speakers, panel discussions, etc. Students who successfully complete the program will earn 10 quarter hours of academic credit to transfer back to their home institutions.

Funding of $31,000 for the program is provided by the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. This amount represents a reduction in funding of $14,000 from 1978, making it necessary to reduce the number of participants from 15 to 10. The ten students selected to participate in the 1979 program come from 6 colleges and universities in Tennessee. Eight of these students are black (3 male, 5 female), one is American Indian (male), and one is a disadvantaged white female.

The Summer Research Institute is a program designed to provide minority students with a significant research experience in the life sciences. Students in the program will work under the direction of UTK life science faculty in the following areas: cell biology, genetics, biochemistry, ecology, embryonic development, toxicology, physiology, viruses, and animal behavior. As a supplement to their work in the lab, a seminar or field trip relating to research in the life sciences is scheduled every Friday afternoon. At the end of the summer, students will be expected to turn in a written report on their work and to make a short oral presentation on their projects in a seminar setting. Students who successfully complete the research experience will earn twelve quarter hours of academic credit. In addition to the research experience, these students will also take courses in reading and study skills (with emphasis on preparation for the Graduate Record Examinations) and assertiveness training, for which they will receive two credits, bringing the total credit hours earned for the summer experience to 14.

Funding of approximately $29,000 is provided by the Carnegie Corporation to support 10 students from predominately Black institutions in this program. Applications have been received from students from 19 Black colleges and universities throughout the Southeast. Although final selections have not yet been completed, all candidates under consideration are black.

Diane Garrett
Director