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Letter From Minority Affairs Advisor About October 6, 1976 Report of Commission for Blacks

Commission for Blacks

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Dr. Betty J. Cleckley, Assistant Dean
School of Social Work
2014 Lake Avenue
Knoxville, Tennessee 37916

Dear Dr. Betty Cleckley:

I have read the report that will be submitted to the Chancellor from the Commission For Blacks and find it to be a very well written document that is substantially accurate. The report reflects the very existence of the lack of "Blackness" at the largest institution of higher education in The Great State of Tennessee. The report elegantly describes the lack of situational effectiveness and further supports the notion that Blacks are "the last to be hired and the first to be fired". I commend you specifically and the members of The Commission directly for laboring so hard in your efforts to assume that responsibility, ironically enough, which should be incorporated in the key positions which already exist such as the EEO, AA and the Minority Affairs Offices. Perhaps the overdue realization that Blacks are not affirmatively represented will become a Reality. I support the efforts of The Commission For Blacks and dutifully await my direct involvement to the Task of The Commission as a newly appointed member.

Once again congratulations to you and the Commission for a truly fine workable report on Blacks at The University of Tennessee in Knoxville.

Respectfully yours,

Ralph N. Taylor
Minority Affairs Advisor

RNT:ckt