

MCS

August 4, 1963

Miss Constance Curry
NSA Southern Students Human Relations Seminar
University of Indiana
Bloomington, Indiana

Dear Connie and Will,

How's it going? I have to write both of you in one letter because it is absolutely and unbelievably hot. You don't mind. Two things.... (as Dorothy says) First, about the Tougaloo Work-Study Project. I enclosed the first mailing. This went out to students who are likely to be interested and good participants. I have to do a prospectus on the idea of work-study projects so we can have ten or twenty of them by next year, and will send that to you, in addition to another mailing which will go out in two weeks or so.

You can see from the letter that we want to do something like your seminar and Paul's institute combined and planned it out over a whole year. This could be a really great study program. Encounter. We want you and Will to do the human relations workshops. Period. Bob and I debated having such workshops strung out over the year since the students will be constantly encountered and encountering and since we would like to help these students understand what it means to be a person - what you are doing right now up there. I'm tired tired to civil rights movement w/o the real revolution. Well, we've talked about this so much. But it would seem that every time we have a group together and a chance to talk and learn together something about Job-Du...we should. Carefully.

Connie, if you leave the Project, which I am not at all sure you should, please come down here...there is so much to do. So much for an aside.

The question is-how do we structure human relations discussions? From the point of view of personnel, probably the one in charge of the field study program will be a resident graduate student. He is likely to be either an economist or a sociologist. This means there is not much chance for real discussion in this area unless we get someone else to come in for a special session. I can be there off and on, but I am not able to lead this kind of thing like you people are. My feeling is that we should set aside a chunk of time for Human Relations Workshop and you two should come down with the seminar program, adapted to fit the Project and the students involved...all of them from Tougaloo. (The absence of white participants will not remove the need for human relations discussions.)

We will schedule according to your availability. The Project starts September 10 and the first three weeks will be orientation. After that, a session in the field devoted to Delta socio-economic problems and by November, say, we would be more than ready for human relations. Yes. Let me know soon.

Second thing has to do with the literacy program. We are writing a prospectus for a Southern Education Center - a new institution to conduct adult education and handle school dropouts; to train personnel for work in other centers; to research and produce material to be used in adult education; to act as a clearing house for southern educational endeavors dealing with literacy and job training.

The idea, of course, is that there are no existing institutions dealing with literacy in the South. One cannot hope to work something through public schools, at least not in most areas, certainly not here. Employment agencies are under the state. This lets out working with them in a re-training problem for the unemployed and underemployed. We will be combining literacy with job training incidentally. So, there is need for a new institution.

The Southern Education Center would be a part of the whole literacy program, and a place where the thing can begin right away. In addition however, we need to locate those existing institutions which might be used in literacy work - permanently or until other new places can be developed. These would be - parochial schools, military installations (ugh), and veterans administration facilities. For example, we might arrange to use a classroom building at Greenville Air Force Base.

What I want you to do is simply think of such places, investigate possibilities of using them in literacy work, how much would it cost to lease them for five years say, whom should we contact, etc. You might also think of unused centers not connected with military and some Negro colleges. You can probably do this without much work because you know the entire South. Just let me know these places you know about... and I will followup.

The thing is we should include this information in the prospectus which has to be ready in two weeks. So. If you will, write to some people who can also do this research for us. Let me hear something soon about both of these things...

We are distributing affidavits for use August 6 and talking about Delta work stoppage soon. Bob and Tim are doing the brainwork. Four more people are out of Parchman as of Friday night. National Council of Churches put up the bail! What did you tell them anyway???

It'll take over \$28,000 to get the others out. They're in solitary, except for Aaron Henry. He is assigned to the Clarksdale Garbage Truck. Creativity. Write very soon. I hope it is going well there.

love,

Jane

cc. Mr. Robert Moses