

Tougaloo College  
Tougaloo, Mississippi  
September 20, 1963

Mr. Arthur I. Waskow  
Institute for Policy Studies  
1900 Florida Avenue  
Washington 9, D.C.

Dear Mr. Waskow:

I write at the suggestion of Bob Moses. I am currently working for SNCC, helping to direct the Tougaloo Work Study Project. Under this project ten students will leave college for one year to take part in a voter registration project in Mississippi. At the same time they will maintain contact with the academic world through a series of courses to be taught by the project directors with the aid of the Tougaloo faculty and some visiting consultants. At the end of the year the students will return to Tougaloo with a scholarship for the next school year.

Aside from registering voters, the purpose of the program is to provide an important supplement to the education of people who will hopefully become the political leaders of their state. Thus, the courses to be taught will concern current social issues (see the enclosed tentative curriculum) while the voting project will teach practical political organization. If this year's program proves successful SNCC and Tougaloo plan to establish it as an ongoing thing, so that ten new students will become involved every year. Plans also call for establishing similar programs at other Southern colleges.

Because of the far reaching potential of our program we feel it is the kind of thing in which the Institute might interest itself. Obviously the facilities that exist for educating Negroes in the South are not adequate to produce leaders capable of dealing with the monumental problems that face them. The problem is to find ways to change the existing facilities (in some cases this can be done merely by presenting promising ideas - e.g. Tougaloo College) or to overcome the inadequacies of those that cannot be changed.

Possibly this problem could become the subject of one of the Institute's research programs or the subject of discussion by the seminar on education.

I would certainly appreciate your thoughts on this.

Sincerely,

Oscar Chase

Art: Bob seemed pleased about the talk,  
with you all. Good. I look forward to  
seeing you. Can you send a couple or three  
prospecti~~v~~e for the institute down before  
you come and I'll see if I can sit Forman  
down long enough~~v~~ for him to read it.  
If you want to, attach a note giving  
some of the more radical ideas that I  
know aren't in the prospectus. OK?

casey