In Support of S.N.C.C.*

"In this hour; it is not our respective races which are at stake—it is our nation. Let those who care for their country come forward, North and South, white and Negro, to lead the way through this moment of challenge and decision. The Negro says, "Now". Others say, "Never". The voice of responsible Americans—the voice of those who died here and the great man who spoke here—their voices say "Together". There is no other way."

President L. B. Johnson Gettysburg, Pa. May 31, 1963

The sense of urgency in these words reflects a newly profound awareness of the problems of civil rights throughout the United States. Resultant action has taken many forms, but nowhere is the spirit of President Johnson's speech so well embodied as in the response of the American student community. It is students who are making it clear that between "Now" and "Never" there is an imperative which it is their unquestionable responsibility to obey: they must act. A reality consistent with professions of ideals must be brought about.

The enthusiasm of their response is particularly evident in the South, where the Negro and white students who form the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee are evolving a unique approach to issues which they know must be faced and solved. Dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal, the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee is transforming the words of venerated documents, presidential speeches and Supreme Court opinions into concrete and practical actions. Their programs aims not merely to inform the Negro of his rights, but to stimulate him to exercise them. Voter registration drives, non-violent desegregation demonstrations, literacy campaigns, education projects, are activities expressly intended to involve local residents, encourage local leadership, and develop in those most in need of it a sense of pride, purpose and solidarity. SNCC volunteer workers, living where they work-in Greenwood, Miss., Americus, Geo., Danville, Va., and other rural communities in the South-share meals and jobs, beatings and arrests, triumphs and terrors with the local Negro population. In thus becoming members of a community, students working for SNCC are acknowledging a new responsibility and committing themselves to an extraordinary program: where equality is not, that is where they belong. And there they will remain until American Negroes need no longer dream of the lives they are entitled to live.

We believe this work of the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee worthy of all the support and attention it can get. Money is no less important than time, energy and commitment in the struggle for equity: the more there is, the more effectively can SNCC pursue its indispensible projects. As members of the university community we must affirm our support for those college students who have come forward with such strength and such effect. We urge you to vote "yes" to the SNCC referendum which will appear on the A.S.U.C. ballot today and tomorrow, December 12 and 13.

IN SUPPORT OF S.N.C.C.*

Charles Aiken, Poli. Sci.
David Blackwell, Stat.
Herbert Blumer, JSS
J. tenBroek, Poli. Sci.
Herbert Caffey
Owen Chamberlain, Physc.,
Richard M. Dudley, Math,
Leon Henkin, Math,
Norman Jacobson, Poli. Sci.
Joseph D. Lohman, Crim.
J. Neyman, Stat.
Peter Odegard, Poli. Sci.
Edward Opton, Jr.

Hannan Pitkin, Poli. Sci.
Michael Rogin, Poli. Sci.
John H. Schaar, Poli. Sci
Mark Schorer, Eng.
Elizabeth L. Scott, Stat.
Marvin Shinbrot, Math.
Henry Nash Smith, Eng.
Kenneth Stampp, History
Pete Steffens, Jour.
Fred Stripp, Speech
Ward Tabler, Speech
George L. Turin, E.E.
Sheldon S. Wolin, Poli. Sci.

*Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee