

February 3, 1965

We, the undersigned members of the academic community of \_\_\_\_\_, as interested and vitally concerned citizens of the United States, believe that the Federal Government should take all possible legal action to insure the dignity and freedom of its citizens. We refer particularly to the murder of the three civil rights workers in June, 1964, and to the gross injustices that are inflicted upon the Negroes and upon those endeavoring to obtain civil rights for all men.

We believe that to achieve the goals of justice, freedom and equality, goals for which Andrew Goodman, James Chaney and Michael Schwerner gave their lives, the case concerning these men must be thoroughly and intensively investigated and pursued; for if not, the sacrifice of these three lives will have been insignificant in the arduous and continuous struggle for equal rights. It is essential that the Federal Government exercise all its powers to ensure that facts are not distorted, that basic human rights are not abused; in short, that justice is done.

A statement which should not require verbalization, one which should be firmly entrenched in our American consciousness, but in fact is not -- is that the foundation of our democracy rests on the belief in the equality of all men. We, students and faculty of \_\_\_\_\_ strive to strengthen this foundation. We urge the Federal Government to vigorously, intensively and decisively continue its fight for justice in an area where it is so flagrantly violated, and in a case which exemplifies this fight.