

Mr. Tom Kahn  
170 West 130th Street  
New York 27, New York

Dear Tom,

It has been a long time, right? You must have finished at Howard and I have been to Alaska and back. Brewster told me you were in the March office. I might have guessed. Please give my best to Rachelle...

Tom, Bob Moses and I are working on some projects dealing with re-training and education. One of these is the Tougaloo Work-Study Project which is an experimental program dealing with southern college students, mostly Negro at this point and in this state. The idea is to place a group of students in the Delta for work in voter registration through the course of a year. As you can see from the enclosed material, we are experimenting with Tougaloo students.

The Project material is brief and not detailed enough, but it will give you a general idea of the Project. I am writing a proposal which will be used to raise money for more such projects. I will send this to you as soon as it is done.

Field Foundation gave the grant to Tougaloo with the idea that some well-planned study would take place in the field, and that the participating students would return to Tougaloo with scholarships. We feel that the most rewarding field study would be that which is closely related to the revolution and particularly, the Mississippi revaluation. Maybe the best plan is to devote six weeks, say, to general subjects - southern politics, education, economics, etc. and try to steer the thinking toward the Delta, maybe with research accompanying canvassing and short papers to be presented to the group and to on-campus students and faculty. We do want to maintain a close relationship between the field and the college, to educate the faculty and on-campus people and to help the field students in their study program.

The first three weeks will be orientation. For the first six weeks after that, I think we should plunge right in - maybe economics. Bob and I feel that you could contribute a great deal to the whole study program, and I am asking you to write a "course" in economics! I cannot do it. That is the simple truth. You could make it general if you wish and I can fill in. Will you?

The students will be southern Negroes, most of whom have been quite active in the Jackson movement. Bob and I will be coordinators. Various Tougaloo people will be asked to lead workshops and discussions. We will hope to get some good people from outside - Ella, Bayard, you, Cennie, etc. What I really wish is that you would write the economics program and come down to lead it, but we have little money and you have much to do I know. Please consider this and tell me what times in the fall are open. We'll work the thing around your availability.

So, if you will help us in this way, it will be great. You're free to design any kind of approach you want. It should be closely related to problems of the Delta of course, and to the understanding of these students.

The Project will be located either in Greenville or Vicksburg, probably the latter. We are trying to get a church camp-farm near Vicksburg for use as a Southern Education Center. If we are able to secure this place, the Tougaloo Project will have use of it through the year, and the orientation will be held there.

I don't know what we can do about paying transportation for people to come down. Something can be arranged. The grant is pretty well earmarked. Maybe you could find other reasons for coming and various organizations, including the Project, could handle your expenses. This is not important right now anyway.

There is little being done down here on the March. Jackson is generally deadlocked. The NAACP controls the mass here and the NAACP won't move - neither to jail, nor it seems, to Washington. I wish somebody on the March staff could come down here and get through to Charles Evers. He probably would not listen to anyone but Ray. I hear talk of a Freedom Train from the Delta, but Bob doesn't know much about this. It is NAACP too. I cannot find out who is making decisions. Jackson should have some buses, but it looks bad. I'll get there. The important thing is that these people from the Delta get there in mass. Maybe Bayard would like to call Evers and push him a bit.

The adult literacy program is shaping up. Soon as we get funds, we can move. Please let me hear your feelings about the Tougaloo Project and please agree to participate! Again, regards to friends there. It would be good to see you all.

Write me here until August 15 and after that, in care of Bob in Greenwood.

yours,

Jane Stambridge

cc. Moses

