

BUCA

January 21, 1965

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Southern Christian Leadership Conference
334 Auburn Avenue, Northeast
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Dear Dr. King:

Your recent letter addressed to Mr. Merle M. Odgers as President of Bucknell University has been referred to me. For your records, Mr. Odgers retired as President of Bucknell in August of last year; Mr. Charles W. Watts, II is now the President of the University.

There is an informal committee of students and faculty on the Bucknell campus which is actively interested in the civil rights movement. This group calls itself the "Committee on Educational Opportunity." It is not an official University body and has no funds. It tries to serve as a clearing house for information and generally works informally within existing campus organizations to promote the civil rights cause. Last year, this group initiated a scholarship fund drive through the Student Faculty Congress, promoted a series of lectures by Dr. Robert Martin of Howard University in cooperation with the University Christian Association, encouraged student exchanges between Bucknell, Howard University, and Virginia Union University, and encouraged student participation in various summer tutorial programs and in the COFO Mississippi project.

We will be glad to do what we can to disseminate among our students information concerning your projected voter registration drives in Virginia, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. The student chairman of the committee this year is Mr. Bruce McGraw, Box B-121, Bucknell University, Lewisburg, Pennsylvania 17837. We feel that this is primarily a student group and the students should take the lead in carrying out its activities. Therefore, we would prefer that you send your information directly to Mr. McGraw. The faculty members of the committee will be glad to act as a "screening agency" if you should wish us to.

The next meeting of our group is scheduled for February 4. This matter will be brought up then. I imagine that a sub-committee will

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be formed to work on all "summer projects." If you could get additional information to Mr. McGraw by February 4, it might be helpful.

Let me take advantage of this opportunity to offer my congratulations to you on your receiving the Nobel Peace Prize. Many of us remember with pleasure your visit to Bucknell several years ago. We hope you will be able to come again soon.

With best wishes. . .

Sincerely,

B. R. Willeford

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