

File

To the people of Hawaii:

For many months you have been reading in the newspapers and hearing about the ETHNIC STUDIES program at the University of Hawaii.

We still do NOT have an ETHNIC STUDIES program that many local people have demanded and which we have been fighting for. So the fight for an ETHNIC STUDIES program is still going on.

This statement is to tell you about two things:

1. What has happened so far in the ETHNIC STUDIES struggle
2. What is ETHNIC STUDIES, why it is important to you and your children and why we must continue to fight.

THE ETHNIC STUDIES STRUGGLE - WHAT HAS HAPPENED SO FAR:

In December, 1971 we demanded the resignation of Dennis Ogawa, the former Director of the Ethnic Studies Program, because he was secretly trying to destroy the Program; some Haole professors and others were trying to get \$2 million to set up an Ethnic Studies Program in another University Department under the control of Haoles;

In late February, 1972, Ogawa finally resigned;

Then a committee (Boggs/AD HOC) made up mostly of Haoles was appointed by the University to set up a new Ethnic Studies Program;

Many local people, including students and professors protested about this Committee and this led to the first occupation of the University Administration Building in March;

More than 300 people, including many local community people, participated in this struggle. We won a great victory when the University agreed, after a three-day sit-in, to set up the People's Committee which was to put together a proposal for a new ETHNIC STUDIES program and to select a Director and staff;

The people's Committee was made up of five community, five students, and five faculty representatives (the first committee of its kind in the history of our University). In twelve days, working day and

night almost, the People's Committee produced a 152-page report complete with recommendations for a program, staff, and a Director;

The People's Committee Report was completed on April 10 - then the second part of our struggle began - to get the University to accept the People's Committee Report;

The University Administration tried many ways to destroy the People's Committee Report but it could not because the report was strong, well planned, well written, and too many local people kept fighting for it.

On April 25, again with students, faculty, and many community people participating, another occupation of the University Administration building began. We even sent our representatives to present our case to the Board of Regents meeting on Kauai.

After many more months of fighting the University Administration we finally got the Hawaiian Director the People's Committee recommended. Larry Kamakawiwoole is the first Hawaiian Director of a Program on the University of Hawaii Manoa Campus since it was formed in 1907;

Then another problem was created by Cleveland, the President of the University. He refused to complete the appointment of Dr. Jim Anthony, one of the faculty members who had fought for the Program from the very beginning and whom the Director considers one of his key faculty members. Though Dr. Anthony began work on July 1 in keeping with his letter of appointment, the University is refusing to pay him.

Dr. Anthony's appointment is not the only problem. The People's Committee Report called for a budget of \$214,000 but so far we only have \$85,000. Two of our courses have not been approved for no reason whatsoever. We have only one very small office.

So we don't really have a Program yet. SO WE MUST CONTINUE TO FIGHT.

WE MUST CONTINUE TO FIGHT FOR THE PROGRAM OUR DIRECTOR WANTS - FOR THE FACULTY HE WANTS; FOR THE MONEY HE WANTS TO RUN THE KIND OF PROGRAM WE CAN ALL BE PROUD OF. WE, AS COMMUNITY MEMBERS, HAVE AN OBLIGATION TO SUPPORT AND MAKE KNOWN OUR STAND TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII.

WE MUST NOT LET OUR HAWAIIAN DIRECTOR BE PUSHED AROUND AND DEGRADED BY THE HAOLE ADMINISTRATION. THAT HAS HAPPENED TOO MANY TIMES TO TOO MANY OF US.

WE MUST SUPPORT THE PROGRAM THAT LARRY KAMAKAWIWOOLE WANTS.