Title: Report on Black South African Educational Initiatives at the University of Pennsylvania

Office of the President

October 1986
I. INTRODUCTION

Subsequent to the meeting of the Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania in June 1986, Chairman Alvin V. Shoemaker asked Trustees David C. Auten, A. Leon Higginbotham, and Margaret R. Mainwaring to serve as an ad hoc committee to work with the University administration on proposals to provide educational opportunities for Black South Africans at Penn. This report presents those proposals.

The central premise of the proposals is that Penn educational initiatives for Black South Africans, while independent of the University's investment policies, should demonstrate a proactive approach to the repressive political, social, and economic conditions that exist in the Republic of South Africa. At the same time, initiatives should be congruent with Penn's educational and research missions.
II. PROPOSALS

1. Student Exchange Program

The University should seek to identify Black South Africans matriculated in South African institutions of higher education to be selected and named Penn South African Fellows. We suggest an initial target figure of five Fellows. These Fellows may be undergraduate or graduate students, but preference should be given to Black South Africans enrolled in courses of graduate or professional study in which Penn could offer complementary courses of study. Students should be chosen through various mechanisms including the following:

(a) South African institutions including Witwatersrand, Western Cape, Capetown, and Natal;
(b) the South African Education Program of IIE;
(c) faculty referrals;
(d) self-identification
(e) resource agencies such as those identified through the
Investor Responsibility Research Center

Students selected as Fellows should receive tuition and stipend support at their home South African institutions for a period not to exceed two years. At some point during or after that period, they should be expected to study on the Penn campus. While at Penn, Fellows should continue to receive tuition and stipend support.
2. Faculty Visiting Scholars Program

Ezekiel Mphahlale, former University of Pennsylvania faculty member and founder and chairman of the Council for Black Education and Research in Soweto, has emphasized that faculty exchange programs can benefit both the teaching and the research of Black South African faculty members. To this end, the University should encourage Black South African faculty members to visit at the University and also University faculty to visit at South African universities with significant numbers of Black students and faculty.

Faculty visiting scholars at the University might be selected through a number of procedures, including existing South African organizations such as the Educational Opportunities Council, headed by Mokgathi Motlhodi.

3. South African Education Program of the Institute of International Education

Penn should continue its participation in the South African Education Program administered by the Institute of International Education (IIE-SAEP). The University of Pennsylvania guarantees one financial aid award to an admissible IIE-SAEP undergraduate candidate. No financial assistance is guaranteed for graduate and professional students, but when
candidates are referred to the University, it attempts to identify funding sources within the appropriate school. Since IIE-SAEP began, one undergraduate participant has been admitted with aid, and two professional IIE-SAEP students have matriculated, including one LLM student who received some financial support from the Law School and one MBA student who came with support from a corporate sponsor.

4. Staff Support

Staff support will be essential to the success of Black South African Initiatives at Penn. The University administration will ensure that a staff member is assigned to oversee the development of program objectives, the designation of fellowship recipients and visiting faculty, and the provision of support to program participants.

The administration will make periodic reports on the status of the proposed initiatives.