

September 17, 1973

21 minority students

To: Members of the Ad Hoc Committee on Black Faculty and Student Recruitment

From: Ron Cohen

Re: Information for the September 22 meeting

We have received the following information from the Office of Admissions concerning the application and admission of black students. Data for years prior to 1972-73 are not included because the records necessary were not kept.

	1972-73		1973-74	
	M	F	M	F
1. No. of black students applying for admission.	5	5	9	6
2. No. of applicants who applied for financial aid.	0	1	8	6
3. No. of applications completed (including interview)	4	3	6	4
4. No. of black students notified of acceptance.	4	1	3	2
5. No. of those applying for financial aid who were accepted and offered financial aid.	?	2	3	2
6. Average percentage-wise grant (in terms of the request) for those accepted and offered financial aid.	80%		80%	
7. No. of black students accepted who actually enrolled.	0	1	2	0 (+ perhaps 1)
8. No. of black students accepted who turned Bennington down,	4	1	1	2

Black students gave the following kinds of reasons for turning an offered acceptance to Bennington down:

financial considerations

social considerations

Bennington's student body is almost entirely white

Special procedures used to recruit black students:

College Bound--Upward Bound applications--fee waived

All invited to spend at least one day and night on campus. (Adms pays)

Letters and visits by our students to their high schools.

METCO and NSSFNS Conferences.

For comparative purposes, the following data were located for previous years:

Number of black students enrolling at Bennington College: (as entering students)

<u>1967-68</u>		<u>1968-69</u>		<u>1969-70</u>		<u>1970-71</u>		<u>1971-72</u>		<u>1972-73</u>		<u>1973-74</u>	
<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
0	2	1	3	1	4	1	8	?	?	0	1	2	0 (+ perhaps 1)

For 1973-74, 2 additional black students (both male) were accepted as Black Music Undergraduate Fellows.

Figures released by the Office of Civil Rights of HEW and reported in the Chronicle of Higher Education show 212 black students enrolled in all Vermont colleges and universities, including Bennington as of Fall, 1970. Vermont's proportion of black undergraduates (212 out of 17,000) is far less than the 11.2% black people constitute of the country's population, although it is greater than the proportion of blacks in the state population, less than 1,000 out of 444,000.

In terms of overall numbers and percentages:

	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>	<u>1973</u>
Total enrollment Fall Term:	499	550	558	596	593	600
Total number of black students:	13	14	20	22	15	?
% of total enrollment:	2.8%	2.5%	3.6%	3.7%	2.5%	?