

The City University of New York Office of the Chancellor

535 East 80 Street, New York, N.Y. 10021

212/360-2121

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May 27, 1968

Mr. Albert Vann  
Bedford-Stuyvesant Coalition on  
Educational Needs and Services  
c/o The Education Affiliate  
268 Ashland Place  
Brooklyn, New York

Dear Mr. Vann:

Immediately following Tuesday's meeting with your group, I instructed my staff to conduct an intensive search of possible ways and means of moving promptly to implement your proposal.

I asked them to look into all possible sources of support, within the framework of our budget and of current authorizations. Obviously, the sooner we could get under way, the better it would be for all concerned, and of course, for the planning of the new college.

As I told you, I thought very well of the general idea. The problem is how to get started.

Our University budget experts pointed out to me that the expenditure of money from presently budgeted sums was strictly circumscribed by inflexible City rules governing the use of planning funds, and by specific laws and regulations covering expenditures by the University.

However, consistent with the understanding arrived at in my office and with my instruction, the following has been found to be possible:

PERSONNEL:

We will hire the person designated by you to perform secretarial duties.

OFFICE SPACE:

Upon your indication of the appropriate building, we will rent the needed space for your use.

SUPPLIES AND CORRESPONDENCE:

A revolving fund of \$1,000 will be established which will be replenished on a monthly basis in accordance with regular budget procedures regarding vouchers, etc.

RENTAL OF EQUIPMENT:

If you will provide us with a list of the office equipment you need, our business office will arrange for the delivery of this equipment.

CONSULTANTS:

Additional information is needed regarding your specific plans for consultants -- the kind of consultants you will need, the qualifications, the proposed rates of pay, etc. -- so that we can see whether existing authorizations for consultants for University purposes might be utilized to meet your specific needs.

TRANSPORTATION:

This can be taken care of under existing University authorizations. As the Committee begins to review candidates, leading contenders can be brought to New York City, or members of the Committee can travel to see them.

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This is what we can do, on a temporary basis in accordance with my commitment to you. Even this will take some stretching. But we can and will do it. It was no simple matter to make these arrangements. But I feel that the worth of the purpose fully justifies these efforts.

In order to make specific and concrete arrangements as far as space and secretarial personnel are concerned, please communicate with Dean Shenker who will implement the above arrangements with our fiscal and facilities staff.

For the future, there is, of course, the possibility of establishing a more coherent pattern of approved budgetary provisions for community support of activities which are directly related to University functions and purposes. However, this would require substantial staff study, and then clearance by us with both the City Comptroller and the State Comptroller. It might also require consideration by the Board, since it would be a new kind of activity for the City University, and would need to be set up in a manner that would be legally defensible and fiscally accountable.

Sincerely,

Albert H. Bowker  
Chancellor

AHB:cdm

cc: Mrs. Ella Sease  
Judge Thomas R. Jones  
Mr. Robert Carson  
Mr. Jack L. Pannigan