

September 7, 1970

Mr. J. Martin Klotsche
Chancellor
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Chapman Hall
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201

Dear Mr. Klotsche:

In response to your letter of September 1, directed to Mr. Armando Orellana, and regarding our demands and negotiations for a Spanish-speaking Outreach Institute at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, we are very frankly dissatisfied with your lack of commitment.

Although you mention that UW-M "recognizes its obligation to meet the special educational needs of Spanish-speaking citizens", not once in your letter did you refer to the "Institute" that we are demanding as a solution to those problems. This is quite contradictory to the statements made, in writing, on August 27, by your own Assistants Eley and Spaight, and Dean Davis--in which they "support the concept" of the Institute.

Regarding the "special programs" which included Spanish-speaking students, we want to bring to your attention the fact that the need for a separate Institute came about because those special programs are not meeting the unique needs of the Spanish-speaking. Also, if you will check the statistics on enrollment, you will find that the percentage of Spanish-speaking students from the Latin community is very low. In fact, we would challenge the number of "100" which you said was the approximate enrollment last year.

In all cases where you commit yourself to a number of Latin students to be accepted during the present fiscal year, you indicate that they will be accepted in existing programs. We are not asking for "slots" in any existing program--we are requesting a separate and independent Institute which will involve the entire University, and facilitate higher education for the Spanish-speaking community.

You did not commit yourself to provide financial aid in any specified amount; nor did you indicate the kind of aid that might be made available. If you say that there is no money available, we don't accept that; since we have seen in the past that under certain circumstances, money is made available very quickly and in large amounts.

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The greatest educational need among the Latin community at present, as we discussed earlier, is at the undergraduate level. This will be the emphasis of the Institute. However, when you say that "graduate students will continue to be admitted on an individual basis", you are actually saying nothing at all. That is in no way different from the present situation.

Regarding the 25 to 30 Latins to be "included in the high school equivalency program", we certainly would like a clarification of that point. We do not feel there is any such program at UW-M which adequately meets the needs of the Latin community.

Even if you concede that a certain number of Latin students will be admitted to the University this year, you have made no commitment regarding the special kinds of needs which we feel can be met only through the Institute we want to establish. These needs include individual attention to each student, special tutoring and counseling--things which are not usually necessary for the majority of students, but are essential for the student who may be getting his first opportunity for higher education. We feel that such a request should not even be considered out-of-the-ordinary.

You were not very clear about the responsibilities and activities of the "UWM team of four specialists" which would go into the Latin community to "give advice on academic and financial matters". We questioned whether this would be a part of your staff temporarily located in the Latin community, in relation to the establishing of an office on the South Side-- or whether the team was designed just to make a few visits and leave. In any event, since the only things that this team could do at present would be to inform people of existing programs and try to fill existing "slots", we do not accept the team. When the concept of the Institute is accepted and it begins to be put together, there is a possibility of such a team being somewhat functional-- but until then, we will have gained nothing.

Your comments about a "special assistant" also left us with several questions. First of all, what would be this assistant's range of duties, responsibilities, and authority -- especially in relation to the Assistant which you already have, who is supposed to be dealing with minority groups? And if he is appointed by you, without even the approval of the Latin community, how do we know that he will do the kind of job that must be done? Our conditions are that he be chosen by CELA -- not only recommended, but approved for the position.

Regarding our demands for special courses, academic programs, and academic credit for field work in the community, you referred us to the individual Schools and Deans to make those arrangements.

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Again, we want to bring to your attention that one of the major purposes of the Institute would be to deal with each of the Schools and components of the University, to meet our needs. If some of the groundwork must be done prior to that, we feel that you have some responsibility for getting us together with the right people. And we do expect that you will follow through with your commitment to "recommend that the individual units undertake the development of appropriate special programs."

In the last paragraph of your letter, as in the first, you "emphasize the desire of the University to cooperate with Spanish-speaking 'citizens' [members of the Latin community] in creating ways to provide the educational programs which they seek". Mr. Klotsche, we have not yet seen on your part any real attempt to create anything new. It is "business as usual" for the University. The Latin community is not satisfied.

We are requesting a meeting with you this Friday, September 11, at 10:00 a.m. to continue negotiations. This is a crucial issue, and we are not willing to let it be postponed or put aside any longer.

VIVA LA CAUSA !

Negotiating committee
for CELA

Lori Zinn
Lori Zinn, Sec'y