

# Understanding at the UW

The history of the University of Wisconsin is rich with great contributions and great understanding of human problems.

The UW has faced reality with greater honesty than most schools anywhere. The people of the state, while they sometimes take serious issue with the goings-on at the UW, continue to support their school with generous commitment to higher education.

In the field of human rights, the University has been at the forefront in developing special programs for the disadvantaged and in recognizing such subjects as black history as a necessary and an important part of education which was previously neglected.



Last week the University made available necessary resources for blacks to hold a conference on "The Black Revolution."

The conference leaders at the UW choose the participants carefully and out of the meeting came the resounding conclusion that a large dose of "separate facilities" was necessary for blacks.

Separatism or segregation boils down to a situation which is simply unpalatable to the philosophy that racism is evil, all forms of racism.

A group of black students has labeled the University's efforts as "paternalism."

If the UW is paternalistic, it is paternalistic in its relationship to all students of all colors. It is charged by the Legislature and the governor (acting for the people) to provide

the best education possible for all those who come. It must carry out that task.

But paternalism is not a fair word to apply to the UW. It implies that the University will go about its way with a smiling, but close-minded attitude. The evidence does not bear this out — the UW has listened and listened well to all students.

The 13 demands are called "non-negotiable" by their proponents. A class boycott and the threat of serious disruption now confronts the University. Serious consequences could result.

Chancellor Edwin Young has said what had to be said when he warned that the University would tolerate no intentional disruption of classes. The rights of students to receive their education has been reasserted.

Demands for all-black facilities have been made that, if granted, would seem to give the Ku Klux Klan an argument to set up a Department of White Supremacy on the campus.

Black studies should be a part of nearly every department on the University; they should be available to all students in the University.

But the faculty remains supreme; students can not dictate their own ground rules for what is taught and how it is taught.

What kind of an education will result; what will the graduates take with them into society if they have "voted" what they shall learn and what they will not learn?

Facts are not negotiable. But human understanding is all negotiable. We all must demand the optimum of understanding as society moves to strike down all kinds of injustices.