

# UW Black Studies Department to Be Recommended to Faculty

By JOHN NEWHOUSE  
(Of The State Journal Staff)

A half dozen black men and a dozen or so white men sat around a table in the Law School Tuesday night and made a tiny bit of progress.

They were the Committee on Studies and Instruction in Race Relations of the University of Wisconsin.

They agreed that there should be a Black Studies Department, and that they'd recommend it to the total faculty of the University today.

**BUT THEY** split over student control and of black control.

The meeting was orderly. The conversations were intense, but polite. The differences were wide and, after three hours of meeting the question of race and student control head-on, the weary members adjourned to meet again on Saturday.

**THEY PRODUCED** this state-

ment for the faculty today:

"While it should be made quite clear that we have not yet reached a total consensus on our proposals, the overwhelming majority of members enthusiastically support the establishment of a Black Studies Department at the University of Wisconsin in Madison.

"There is considerable difference of opinion concerning questions of student control and black control and the procedures for organizing the department."

**THE COMMITTEE** had hoped

for a stronger statement for the faculty.

But it started its deliberations with a divided report from the subcommittee which it had asked to do the preliminary work.

The subcommittee, headed by Prof. Fred Hayward, has been meeting two and three times a day since the beginning of recent student unrest.

Its report to the parent committee Tuesday night concluded there was a woeful lack in the area of Afro-American studies.

**IT RECOMMENDED** such a department be established in the College of Letters and Science. It felt that courses on black studies in the American Institutions Program would be

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shifted to the new department.

It felt courses should include such areas as black heritage in the New World, social and economic structure of black communities, cultural patterns, artistic expressions, the development of political institutions in black communities, and the like.

The subcommittee called for organization of the department by a steering committee of faculty and students, half and half, with the members of the committee "drawn primarily from the black faculty, staff, and students of the university."

Care would be taken to insure that the black students participate in "a substantial way" in the activities of the department during formative stages and thereafter.

**TWO MEMBERS** of the subcommittee, Prof. Herbert Lewis and Prof. Seymour Spilerman, had reservations. These were on student power.

"It is our view that the proposed representation of students would set a precedent at a time when this issue is very much discussed and contested on campus.

"We do not wish to detract from the importance of 'student power' as a legitimate concern of students.

"However, we feel that this issue should be resolved on its own merits, and not appear to receive general sanction through the actions of a committee with a very restricted mandate."

**DRAWING MEMBERS** primarily from the black faculty, staff, and students was likewise unacceptable. And they rejected the proposal that "the nomination of faculty members should be influenced by the preference of students."