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Coalition of Native Tribes for Red Power

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September 25, 1970

A CHALLENGE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

We, the Coalition of Native Tribes for Red Power, on this day of September 25, 1970 present to the University of Wisconsin these challenges, prepared by CNTRP in the past two years of its existence on the UW campus as a student organization:

1. That the University of Wisconsin have employed in the Special Five Year Program at least four Native Americans to work with the Native American students on campus.
2. That recruitment of at least 150 Native Americans be initiated immediately for the fall semester of 1971-72 school year. Also with the recruitment, the members of the CNTRP be of assistance to the recruitment of the 150 Native American students.
3. That \$1000.00 be appropriated to the CNTRP in two \$500 dollar payments on November 1 and January 1, 1970. These monies to be appropriated would be used for publishing a newspaper to reach the youth in the Indian country in order to recruit them to the University of Wisconsin.
4. That the language requirement for Native American students be altered to the following statement:
Any Native American student who speaks his native tongue be exempt from the language requirement and that this tribal language closest to heritage be accepted as a first language and English be accepted as his foreign language therefore filling his language requirement.

The reasons for these challenges are respectively:

1. If there are to be a large number of Native Americans enrolled in the UW an American Indian with counselling qualifications would be of most assistance to the Native American students.
2. On the University of Wisconsin-Madison campus, the CNTRP has recorded only 18 Native Americans for the 1968-69 year, 18 for 1969-70, and for this year only 14.
3. A newsletter would be of less cost than travelling across the country to reach the Indians to recruit them to the UW.
4. Every time that a Native American student studies the foreign languages of the Old World he is helping to preserve that language and to destroy his very own language or the existence of it. We as the true ancestral peoples of this continent can't journey back to the old country to re-learn our language if it is lost here.

We, the CNTRP, challenge the University to also meet the challenges enclosed as a supplement to this statement on this day and openly at the All Indian Unity Conference on October 7-10, 1970. We also challenge the UW to meet the challenge presented in this statement on June 30, 1971, with the exception of challenge number 3. At our conference we expect the UW to have in written form a statement committing itself to meet the challenges presented here on this date of Sept. 25, 1970.