

No settling of Black's demands after 'regretable' presentation

No agreements were reached this weekend concerning the list of demands presented to University President Alfred C. Emery by a group of 13 Black students Thursday afternoon.

However, President Emery and Charles Kelley, a spokesman for the Black students, both issued statements over the matter.

In response to the demands, President Emery sent a letter to the Black students which said the form in which their demands were presented was regrettable.

He said they were dealing with complex issues without allowing room for problem-solving. President Emery and his staff will be glad to meet with representatives of the University Black community to clarify issues and respond to the problems presented, he said.

The president indicated there was a need for full and open discussion with a wide representation of the Black community on campus as well as with other concerned groups. He said since the students had not made their demands public, the University has directed its initial response to them.

Mr. Kelley who refused to divulge what specific areas were listed in the demands, said they would be released later. "We felt all the demands were legitimate. They have been promising us these things for a number of years and nothing was ever done about them," he said.

The list, as outlined by a public relations spokesman for the University, dealt with creating a Black studies curriculum with Black students acting in key roles to select instructors and courses to be taught. Other demands included total waiver of tuition and fees for students below a certain income level (although the level was not specified) and the University taking "a definitive position on minority student rights" applying to minorities both on and off campus.

Other demands were listed but not released, according to representatives from the administration and the Black students.

Mr. Kelley also said, "We as Black students don't feel we are receiving a relevant

education in terms of relating to other blacks and to the community."

An educational institution is supposed to educate its students to reality of their environment, he said. Instead, the University is "socializing and indoctrinating us," Mr. Kelley said.

"We need some input in terms of what is relevant and what is not," he said. "The educational institution is designed to fit the needs of society—a society which has never seemed willing to fit the needs of Black people," Mr. Kelley added.

He said conditions of University black students were no different from other Black students throughout the country. "The majority of the white community of the University and Salt Lake City in general believe the Black students at the University are content and there is no problem," he said.

However, Mr. Kelley said Black students were not respected. "There is a great lack of respect among students, faculty and administration toward Black students on this campus."

The University is supposed to be a liberal arts school run on democratic principles, which supposedly does not condone racism, he said. Yet throughout every facet, one will find—if he is a Black student—that there is racism all round, Mr. Kelley said.

"As Black students, we feel we don't have to be subject to any of this madness," he said. "We don't feel we have to subject ourselves to this disrespect."

"Black students," he said, "are no longer going to take a passive stand on what's happening to us here."

It was reported the 13 students represented a faction called Revolutionary Afro-American Forces which was a spin-off group of the University's Black Student Union. However, Mr. Kelley did not confirm or deny whether the demands were presented by the group.

Neither did he indicate what route of action the group would take if the demands were not met. It was also reported that the demands had been termed "non-negotiable."