

EOP Students Graduate

During the current academic year, 94 educational Opportunity Program minority students have received bachelor's degrees from the University of Washington. An additional 62 students have completed the requirements for Masters degrees and 3 will receive Juris Doctoral degrees from the School of Law, 10 M.D.'s and 4 will receive dentistry degrees at commencement ceremonies on Saturday, June 10.

Among those who have completed their undergraduate programs at the University of Washington, 5 are receiving degrees from the College of Architecture, 73 from the College of Arts and Sciences, 8 from the School of Business Administration, 6 from the College of Education, one from the School of Dentistry, and one from the College of Engineering.

Of these graduates, eight entered as part of the initial class of the Special Education Program, since re-named Educational Opportunity Program.

"The graduating seniors have worked extremely hard to overcome many obstacles" according to Dr. Samuel E. Kelly, Vice President for Minority Affairs.

"Many of these students came to the University lacking certain traditional skills and credentials that college admissions officials had previously deemed necessary to qualify for college. Nevertheless, these brothers and sisters have struggled to build these skills and have proven once again that certain 'sanitized' testing procedures when applied to minority students are poor predictors of success! Moreover, several of the undergraduates' academic performances belie the standard acceptance of the middle-class-American myth created by pseudo-academicians that a student's grade point average is the best indicator for more advanced academic achievement."

Certainly the Office of Minority Affairs' extensive tutoring service coordinated by Ms. Pat Clark, and Study Skills Center, directed by Nate Ward have been very helpful and much used by minority students on past few years," Dr. Kelly continued, "we have worked with several departments on campus, including Mathematics, English and Zoology to provide courses that will be useful in preparing our students for advanced coursework in their chosen fields."

About 30 of the graduating seniors have already been accepted by graduate departments at the University of Washington and elsewhere in the country. "We are looking forward to seeing these students make lasting contributions to their communities," Dr. Kelly added.

"Many of them become deeply involved already in efforts to get funding for research on sickle cell anemia, working with younger brothers and sisters in the high schools and junior high schools, working to improve conditions for migrant workers, bringing theatrical performances to the com-

munities and working with the brothers and sisters in the prisons of this state."

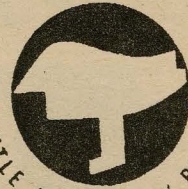
"I am very proud of their achievements and deeply gratified to be a part of an educational experience which has seen a number of students and staff apply the proper mix of academic sophistication, dysfunctional tactics and basic mother wit (intelligence), mastering the art of survival and success in an environment which must be described as alien to the majority of the brothers and sisters here at the University", concluded the Vice President.

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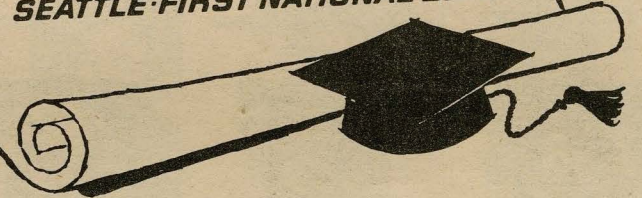
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