

Eleven Questions for President Dunn

- 1) What is the status of African Studies? What priority is Africana Studies to the long range future of SIUC? What resources is the department receiving to maintain itself as a viable and competitive Black Studies department?
 - a. Are there any plans to restore the eliminated faculty lines in Africana Studies?
 - b. Since the programming of the Black History Month has been moved to the Center For Inclusive Excellence, the Africana Studies department has been removed from the planning and execution of Black History Month events. Are there any plans to restore that connection?
 - c. Given the lack of African-American staff in the advisement offices, and the decreasing support for Africana Studies, what steps are being taken to ensure that students are aware of, and have access to, the Africana Studies department's coursework?

- 2) Why has SIUC lost so many tenured and tenure-track Black faculty? Considering the research linking retention to cultural affinity, what is the plan for attracting new Black Faculty specifically?
 - a. With little to no Black staff in advising, financial aid, or in the graduate school what plan is there to attract some on that level?
 - b. Pat McNeil left this university in 2010 and since then the numbers of Black Graduate students have fallen. What is your plan to replace her specifically with someone with her same resources and privileges?
 - c. What work is being done to ensure that Black scholars are being included in core-curriculum courses beyond those offered in the "multi-cultural" requirements?

- 3) Safety has been a topic of discussion here at SIUC throughout most of our tenures and each time it is framed as Black violence against White students. Is this an accurate assessment of the issue?
 - a. In the context of recent showings of White supremacy and police brutality across the country and in recent years here in Carbondale what is the plan to prevent and respond to issues like that here locally?
 - b. How do we keep Black students here safe on campus and in the community?
 - c. What work is being done to address sexual assault among African-American women?

- 4) Considering the Black student retention rate here is an unacceptable 39% approximately, what resources are being given to address this issue as of the highest priority?
 - a. Why are the cultural resource centers here detached from academic units since that seems to limit the effort of aiding retention?
 - b. What work is being done to increase the recruitment of African-American women, specifically?
 - c. What work is being done to retain and matriculate Black undergraduate students into graduate programs? Black graduate students into Ph.D. programs?
 - d. What resources are being offered for African-American students in predominantly white departments?
 - e. What work is being done to increase faculty cultural competence with African-American students, particularly with regards to the unique challenges facing African-American students after graduation?
 - f. Are there plans to restore orientations specific for African-American students? Would the administration be open to offering such an orientation?

Eleven Questions for President Dunn

- 5) Why are there little to no Black staff in central administration offices? From the deans to the Chancellors office there are literally no African American staff, which means there are no African Americans in charge of budgets or policy in the administration.... Are there any senior black staff in the President's office?
- 6) What can we do, BAG, to help recruit more Black students to SIUC?
- 7) If the governor budget proposal of 31% cut to SIU System passes, how does that affect SIUC? How many positions will be eliminated?
 - a. What plans are there to protect critical support services for African-American students in the event of such a cut?
 - b. What plans are there to protect Africana Studies in the event of such a cut?
- 8) When many of us went to school, there were Black staff in prominent roles here at SIUC and right now, there is only one. We know that many of the staff retired in the last 5 years, but it appears they are being replaced with non-Black staff. What can we do, BAG, to help attract more Black faculty staff to SIUC?
- 9) Has the budget crisis in Illinois effected enrollment at SIUC?
- 10) How complaints about how African American Greek organizations are being treated?
 - a. Is there a plan in place to address racism among white greek organizations?
- 11) Why isn't Africana Studies being supported? Why isn't there a permanent qualified department chair for this department?
 - a. What work is being done to locate a qualified chair for Africana Studies?
 - b. What work is being done to expand the offerings in Africana Studies?