ANNUAL REPORT OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE, 1982-83

There were four resignations from the Committee between September and December, 1982, including that of the elected chairperson. The current membership is listed below. The high rate of turnover in membership impeded the progress of the Committee during the fall semester.

Dr. Paul Vanderheiden was elected to chair the Committee at the September organizational meeting, but subsequently resigned from the Committee. Meetings called between September and December failed to produce a quorum due principally to the resignations cited above. Therefore, no committee business was conducted until the January meeting, at which time Dr. Gerald Bergstrom was elected chairperson. Minutes of the January and subsequent meetings are pending.

The present committee inherited no specific grievances from the 1981-82 Committee. To date, the Committee has heard no grievances nor been charged with any specific business by either the University Committee or the Chancellor's Office. However, the Committee did undertake to consider the following items on its own initiative:

1. How best to discharge the role of the HRC as the campus Affirmative Action Advisory Committee.

2. The lack of representation of minorities (especially blacks) among the voting members of the HRC.

3. The impact of reducing the funds that support the Ethnic Studies major at UWM.

4. A mechanism to inform the campus community of the Committee's charge to deal with human rights and affirmative action issues on campus.

5. Discrimination against homosexuals by the ROTC at UWM.

6. The requirement that applicants for financial aid prove prior registration for the draft (the "Solomon Amendment").

7. The peace (antinuclear armaments) movement: human rights or politics?

The Committee acted to notify the Chancellor of its strong feeling that the Human Rights Committee include voting black members (in the form of a letter from the chairperson). The Committee also voted to advise the Chancellor concerning possible financial cutbacks in the Ethnic Studies Major.

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE, 1982-83
Diana Bartley
Gerald Bergstrom, Chair
Jacqueline Clinton
James Flannery
John Gray
Victor Greene
William Hinton
William Jointer
Tania Modleski
Paul Simmons
Students: Richard Cohn
Sam SanFillippo