

The following describes in detail the SALC presentations to the Board of Trustees at their meetings in May, November, and December, 1983, and the Trustee's responses.

This is what has transpired-

At the May trustees meeting, Chair of the Board Trustee Sawyer, said the McGoff name on the Festival Stage could not be discussed because they had received no mail expressing interest in the issue. SALC arranged for the trustees to receive mail before the Dec. meeting and for people to come and look interested at the Dec. meeting.

When SALC wrote and inquired of Chair Sawyer what the criteria for naming buildings on the MSU campus is and how to get the subject of the McGoff name on the trustees agenda, they received no reply. In a personal conversation with a SALC member trustee Sawyer said for an item to be on the agenda it must come from the Lands Committee. SALC obtained the printed criteria for naming University buildings from the Secretary to the Trustees office. The present policy has no requirement other than a major cash contribution. SALC filled out a form to make a request at the Dec. Lands Comm. meeting.

Trustee Lick, Chair of the Lands Comm. and Trustee Sawyer were visibly upset that SALC could speak at the Lands Comm. meeting. They said it was not proper and the form to request to appear before the trustees and committees must be changed. Pres. Mackey intervened and SALC speakers were allowed to make presentations.

Emily Philips of SALC explained how the McGoff name effected black students. Frank Beeman requested the name McGoff be re-evaluated and removed and that the policy for naming University buildings be reviewed and changed to-

University facilities should be named only with the names of persons whose lives and work have been exemplary of the values for which Michigan State University stands, including standards of fairplay, equity, justice, and honor. Conversely, university facilities should not be named after persons whose name is linked to problems of exploitation, injustice, racism, sexism, or other opprobrious activities.

The Lands Comm. passed a motion to recommend to the Board that the criteria for naming University buildings be reviewed and changed.

Five supporters attended the Lands Comm. meeting.

At the trustees meeting in the afternoon:

Emily Philips representing SALC and black students again asked that the McGoff name be removed because of its insulting meaning to black students and that the trustees make the change in the naming policy retroactive so that the name McGoff would not qualify.

Kgati Sathekge, a South African student and member of SALC, spoke of its effect on South Africans and asked that the name be removed.

Dr. Lamont Walton, President of the MSU Black Faculty and Administrators Assoc. spoke on the McGoff's direct participation in supporting South Africa and asked that the policy change for nameing buildings be made retroactive. He also asked the trustees how they could expect students not to use racist names for their resident hall floors when the trustees accepted McGoff's name on the Festival Stage.

Frank Beeman pointed out how insulting it was to the campus community as well as black staff and students not only to retain the McGoff name but to refrain from even publicly discussing the issue. He also pointed out that the trustees had received letters supporting a name change from State Representatives Lynn Jondahl and Virgil Smith.

Ten representatives of campus groups came in support. SALC decorated the Board Room with picket signs.

At the end of the trustees meeting Trustee Lick made a motion that, at the next meeting the trustees would consider revising the criteria for naming university buildings.

Chair Sawyer stated that since the Board had received a lot of mail supporting the removal of the McGoff name, she was making the motion that the trustees had followed correct procedure in naming the building and it would not be discussed again.

Trustee Dade said that since the previous Board had found the name appropriate and nothing had changed he supported the motion. (There has been a change- the Pres. issued that strong statement on racism because of racist events that occurred on campus.)

Trustee Fletcher said the people concerned with removing the name, "Could better spend time attempting to get minorities to be accepted right here on campus."

Trustee Sawyer said they wanted to end discussion in the media.

All the trustees except Martin supported the motion.

Mr. and Mrs. John McGoff are wealthy Williamston residents listed in Hansard, the official South African Parliament records, as having been "official guests," of the South African government and who, as "opinion formers," would influence American opinion in favor of the apartheid South African government.

The Erasmus commission, an official South African government commission investigating a clandestine attempt to influence American opinion in favor of apartheid by buying American newspapers, named Mr. McGoff as the purchasing agent and as receiving 11 million dollars from the South African government for this project.

Mr. McGoff is presently under investigation by the U.S. Justice Department for allegedly acting as an unregistered foreign agent for South Africa.

Apartheid is the policy set forth in the constitution and laws of the white minority government of South Africa which designates non-whites as less than human solely on the basis of the color of their skin thus denying basic human rights as well as political rights to non-whites in South Africa.

Dr. Cecil Mackey, President of MSU, in his statements on racism on June 6, 1982, stated, "MSU has an obligation to eliminate all forms of expressions of latent and overt racism," and "Racism in any form is absolutely inconsistent with the principles and commitments of MSU,"