

**Harvard and Radcliffe  
Alumni/ae  
Against  
Apartheid**

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**PRESS ADVISORY**

(For Immediate Release)  
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**DAVID SCONDRAS, FOUR OTHERS, TO RUN FOR HARVARD  
BOARD OF OVERSEERS ON PRO-DIVESTMENT TICKET**

Four-term Boston City Council member David Scondras joins South African expatriate journalist Donald Woods, subject of the 1987 movie CRY FREEDOM, Professor Willard Johnson of the Political Science Department of MIT, Dr. Judy Lieberman of Tufts Medical School, and Dr. Ruth Simmons, newly appointed Provost of Spelman College, as pro-divestment, anti-apartheid candidates for Harvard University's Board of Overseers on a slate nominated by petition by Harvard-Radcliffe Alumni/ae Against Apartheid (HRAAA).

All five candidates are committed to rapid, complete, public divestment of Harvard University's \$139 million investments in companies doing business in South Africa. Last year, HRAAA elected South African Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu to the thirty member Board, joining three HRAAA candidates elected in previous years.

Petitions placing the five candidates on the Spring election ballot have been circulated among HRAAA's more than 1900 members and other supporters. The Harvard Alumni Association will nominate eight candidates for the five open positions on the Board. In early April, the University will mail ballots to the almost 170,000 degree-holders in all parts of the world. The results of the election will be announced at Commencement on June 7, 1990.

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Under pressure from HRAAA, Harvard has modified its policy concerning South Africa-related investments. The University now considers supporting share-holder actions in favor of corporate withdrawal or other anti-apartheid actions. The value of Harvard's investments in companies doing business in South Africa has shrunk by more than two-thirds to its present \$139 million value.

HRAAA Executive Director Robert Wolff announced that HRAAA will send letters to 50,000 Harvard and Radcliffe graduates in an effort to bring out a large pro-divestment vote. In recent years, between 20% and 25% of the eligible voters have returned their ballots to Harvard in time to be counted.

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Donald J. Woods

Writer, lecturer, and broadcaster on South African apartheid.

Born 15 December, 1933 in Transkei Territory, Cape Province, South Africa. Married, five children.

1960 - 1977 South African Daily Dispatch (Editor, 1965-1977).

Arrested and banned by South African Government, October 1977, after publishing details of the death of Black Consciousness leader Steve Biko. Escaped with family to London.

1978-1979, Harvard University Nieman Fellow.

First private citizen to be invited to address United Nations Security Council, 1979.

Author of six books, including BIKO, and autobiography, ASKING FOR TROUBLE, the basis for 1987 Universal Studios film CRY FREEDOM, directed by Richard Attenborough.

1984 - Special Advisor to 49-Nation Commonwealth Secretariat on South African matters.

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Professor Willard R. Johnson

Professor of Political Science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Born 22 November, 1935. Married, two children.

B.A. International Relations, UCLA, 1957.

M.A. "With Distinction," International Studies, Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies, 1961.

Ph.D., Political Science, Harvard University, 1965.

Expert on African politics, international relations, and development policies. Author of the forthcoming book **WEST AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS AND VOLUNTEER DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS** (American University Press).

Co-founder of **TRANSAFRICA**, national board member and Boston Chapter President.

Fulbright Scholar, Rockefeller Fellow, Ford, Whitney, and SSRC research fellow, winner of the Martin Luther King Jr. Award for Excellence in Education from the MIT President's office, African Heritage Studies Association Leadership Award, Boston YWCA's Black Achievers Award.

Listed in **WHO'S WHO IN AMERICA**, **WHO'S WHO IN BLACK AMERICA**

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Judy Lieberman

Assistant Professor of Medicine, Tufts University School of Medicine.

Born 5 September, 1947. Married, two children.

A.B., summa cum laude, Radcliffe College, 1969.

Ph.D., Theoretical Physics, Rockefeller University, 1974.

M.D., Harvard Medical School, 1981.

Research on cancer and human immune system [Aids-related].

Assistant Physician, New England Medical Center Hospital, Division of Hematology/Oncology.

Visiting Scientist, Center for Cancer Research, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Member, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, 1974-1976. Trustee of Institute Association of Members.

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David Scondras

Boston City Councillor, District 8, 1983-present.

Born 5 January, 1946, Lowell, MA, to first-generation Greek-American parents.

A.B., Harvard College, 1968.

M.A. in Economics, Northeastern University, 1974.

Elected to Boston City Council from District 8 in 1983, re-elected in 1985, 1987, and 1989.

Progressive Democratic political leader, spokesperson for the Massachusetts Gay and Lesbian community.

Successful sponsor of Boston city legislation banning assault weapons, protecting human rights, barring eviction of senior citizens from condominium conversions.

Leader in effort to pass anti-apartheid restrictions on municipal investments and expenditures.

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Ruth J. Simmons

Provost, Spelman College, Atlanta, Georgia.

B.A. summa cum laude, Dillard University, 1967.

A.M., Romance Languages, Harvard University, 1970.

Ph.D., Romance Languages, Harvard University, 1973.

Danforth Fellow, Fulbright Scholar [France], Senior Fulbright Fellow [Germany].

Scholar of African Literature in French.

1973-75: University of New Orleans, Assistant Dean of the College

1983-89: Princeton University, Director of Studies, Butler College (1983-86); Acting Director, Afro-American Studies (1985-87); Assistant Dean of the Faculty (1986-87); Associate Dean of the Faculty (1987-89).

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