

August 6, 1985

NJ DIVEST COALITION
September 7, 1985 Meeting
Newark, N.J.

Dear Colleagues:

First, let me personally thank you for all your assistance in "persuading" the alumni and administrative leaders of Rutgers University to divest all University investments presently held in American companies operating in South Africa.

During the few minutes before the opening of the August 29th meeting, several members of the Joint Investments Committee (JIC), other members of the two Rutgers' Boards and the central administration were studying your letter dated August 27th. In my humble opinion, I certainly believe that your organization was another factor in exerting the pressure for divestment.

Subsequent to the public announcement of the intent to divest, Chris Berzinski and I wrote an editorial piece published in two key campus newspapers. We indicated our surprise in University President Edward J. Bloustein's proclamation that he recommended that the JIC take a pro-divestment position. During the JIC meeting, that is the portion that invited members of the public attended, neither the President nor any alumni leader present gave any indication that they would support or lead the charge for total divestment. Imagine our surprise when we read the University Statement which reported that the President recommended total divestment. You should know that Rutgers News Service, the public relations arm for the University, did not release any of the names of faculty, alumni and students present at the meeting to members of the professional press. I spent most of Friday afternoon calling members of the electronic and print media to release a statement and provide the names and phone numbers of the invited meeting participants. For any of you who read the Saturday Star Ledger my quote appeared to make me an advocate of the Sullivan Principles, which you know is not further from the truth. Overall, we beat the administration to the punch of its own game and contacted the key press representatives. You may have noticed that the New York Times did not report on the Rutgers action. I have already submitted an article for the editorial page and hope that it will be published.

Because of the aforementioned information, I did not compile the information for the proposed sub-committee on the Rutgers University Board of Governors and Board of Trustees outreach. It seems that your time could be better used for other outreach projects, especially the October 11th National Day of protest. As the Chairperson of the Rutgers University Investments Advisory Committee (IAC), my role is to work with faculty, students, administrators and alumni to monitor the sale of the South African stock. It is my sincerest wish that our committee will be able to conduct the necessary research to recommend, before the end of the academic year, the adoption of a social investment policy for Rutgers University.

It has been a pleasure working with you and good luck,



Susan Kozel

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