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Que Ondee Sola- August 1981

Irma Romero

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BOYCOTT IGNACIO MENDEZ'S CLASSES



QUE ONDEE SOLA

AUGUST 1981

U.N.I. REPRESSES ; STUDENTS FIGHT BACK

What is the Problem?

For nearly ten years there has been Puerto Rican Studies at U.N.I. In 1972 the latino students struggled to create a Puerto Rican History line and to obtain a Puerto Rican Historian sensitive to their cultural needs. Mr. Lopez was brought in by the latino students to teach in this position. Since his appointment, Professor Lopez's obligation to the latino students has been uncompromising. Que Ondee Sola points out that the Puerto Rican History position does not come out of the generosity of the U.N.I. administration, but of the constant work of latino students who had pushed for its creation.

Since the creation of the Puerto Rican History line and Professor Lopez's appointment, the History Department has tried to eliminate Puerto Rican studies. First, they fired Professor Lopez because he does not have a Ph.D. Secondly the History Department changed the name of the Puerto Rican History line to a Latin Americanist line with Puerto Rican specialization. Thirdly, the administration has hired Ignacio Mendez against the demands of the latino students.

Who is Ignacio Mendez?

Ignacio Mendez is a Colombian who is totally unqualified to teach Puerto Rican History. For the last twenty years that he has taught he has only developed three courses in Puerto Rican History and has

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ROMERO , LOPEZ SUE U.N.I.

WELCOME FRESHMAN TO ANOTHER YEAR OF STUDENT STRUGGLE

Welcome Freshman, to another year of student struggle. We encourage you to participate in the following U.N.I. organizations.

Union for Puerto Rican Students, (U.P.R.S.)

Meets Thursdays at 1:00p.m.

Centro Albizu-Zapata—(P-1), ext. 367

Services offered:

- Tutoring
- Cultural Awareness
- Study Groups and other Political Activities.

Chicano Student Union, (C.S.U.)

Meets Tuesdays at 1:00p.m.

Centro Albizu-Zapata—(P-1), ext. 367

Services offered:

- Cultural Awareness and other activities.

Que Ondee Sola

Latino Students Newspaper

E-041 ext. 514

Services offered:

- Photography Workshops
- Journalism Workshops.

Sociology Club

Meeting hours to be arranged.

Purpose: Sociological analysis fo present day society.

Centro Albizu-Zapata (Portable 1)

Centro Albizu-Zapata is the meeting center of the Chicano Student Union and the Union for Puerto Rican Students. Centro Albizu-Zapata was opened after student struggle and has survived only because of student struggle. All students are invited to use the facilities.

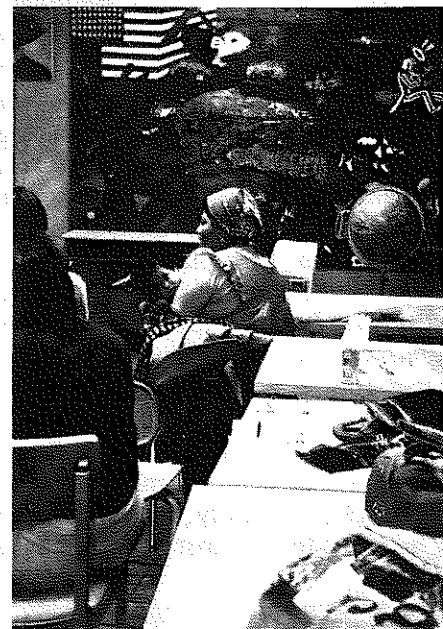
Counseling and Tutoring Services.

Proyecto Pa'lante

Portable 2, ext. 8210.

Special Services

Brown Portable, exts. 550, 551.



COMMENTARY

U.N.I. President Ronald Williams is an exhausted bureaucrat his insistence on rigid adherence to insensitive regulations has caused an uproar on campus.

As a bureaucrat Williams does not understand the needs of students, particularly the needs of latino students, he is suppose to serve. Williams purpose is to carry on a routine of shuffling papers and not committing himself to anything that would put his job on the line.

For students who don't know Mr. Williams and those who do, it must be granted that he does his job well. In 1969 as president of Federal University in Washington D.C. he destroyed the student struggle there. What is very interesting is that it was a BLACK STUDENT STRUGGLE. Mr. Williams did this by expelling black student activists who understood and exposed the insensitivity of the bureaucracy and gave the student body, direction and leadership.

At U.N.I. Ron Williams has begun this very same campaign against latino student leaders in an effort to defuse a large and angry student movement in the fall. Irma Romero co-editor of Que Ondee Sola has

received an expulsion letter while other student activist have been threatened with suspension if they participate in any student mobilizations.

President Williams has gone as far as intimidating faculty who are supporting the latino student struggle for a quality education. For example History Professor Charles Barber was threatened with a law suit by President Williams for his work in the History Department Search and Screen Committee.

Northeastern has been turned into an arm camp by President Williams, everywhere students conjugate to meet with university representatives, state troopers are called to intimidate students. President Williams and Provost Cownie are trying hard to discredit the hard work of latino students, and will stop at nothing to destroy the latino student movement on campus before it becomes stronger in the fall.

Support Irma Romero!
Attend Her Hearing Wednesday
September 9th, 1981
9:30 a.m. 2071 Class Room Building

(CONT. FROM PAGE 1)

taught only one. During Professor Lopez's seven years at Northeastern he has developed thirteen Puerto Rican History courses. Over and above that Dr. Mendez has not demonstrated any real commitment to the Puerto Rican community in the U.S., to its struggle, or problems. While Professor Lopez has dedicated his entire life to our cause.

What does U.N.I. Administration want?

U.N.I. administration wants to get rid of latino students particularly those who dare to struggle. During the past month student activist Irma Romero has been expelled and five students have been threatened with suspension, in which one student did not participate in the August 6th demonstration at the President's office. For one U.N.I. administration all latinos look alike.

What does Ignacio Mendez want?

Dr. Ignacio Mendez wants \$25,000 a year tenured position to insure his living and retirement off the backs of the struggle of latino students on campus.

What does the History Department want?

They want a yes man who will not rock the boat, who will not serve the students but who will play the game of sitting on useless committees and keep his mouth shut when the Federick, Sochen, Smith clique harass latino and third world students.

What is the solution?

The resignation of Ignacio Mendez.
The creation of a viable Puerto Rican/Chicano-Mexicano Studies Program directed and taught by qualified Puerto Rican/Chicano-Mexicano staff.

What can students do?

Support Irma Romero
Boycott Ignacio Mendez's classes

ROMERO , LOPEZ SUE U.N.I.

Lawyers Brian Glick and Michael Deutsch, have announced that they will enter a Federal Law Suit on behalf of Professor Jose Lopez and student activist, Irma Romero, for violation of their rights.

The lawyers intend to use every legal means, to have Professor Lopez reinstated as the instructor of Puerto Rican History, and Irma Romero as a full-time student. The Northeastern Illinois University administration, riding high in the Reagan reaction is attempting through dismissal to put an end to the student movement on this campus - the last university to have such an involved and committed student struggle.

The latino students are in full support of both, Professor Lopez and Irma Romero, the hiring of Ignacio Mendez will only create a stronger position for latino students to organize and express their discontent with this administration's policies. If the administration thinks they can get rid of Irma Romero by watering down legitimate student dissent then the administration better prepare itself for a hot fall semester.

PROFESSOR MACDONALD ANALYZES U.N.I. POLICIES

The consequences of the History Departments failure to retain Professor Lopez along with the admnistrations (U.N.I. President Ron Williams and Provost Cownie) unwillingness to resolve latino student issues on campus have created more problems.

In the following memo History Professor J. Fred MacDonald explains the current situation and repercussions of U.N.I.'s latest racist decisions affecting latino student education.

TO: History Department Faculty

FROM: J. Fred MacDonald

DATE: August 12, 1981

RE: A Few Predictions for Your Consideration.....

I have been doing a little gazing into the old crystal ball, and I thought I'd take a few minutes of your time to share what I saw. Based on the developments of recent days- new precedents established by the UNI administration, new concerns with legalities, relegation of university departments to secondary role in university governance - I saw some interesting patterns emerge regarding the Lopez - Mendez Puerto Rican - Latin Americanist confusion.

1) I saw that within two years the History Department will have the following:

two tenured, full Professors with general Latin Americanist orientations (Harrison and Mendez)
one tenured, Assistant Professor with Puerto Rican specialization (Lopez)

2) Mendez will be retained for next year, and then receive tenure and promotion to full Professor. This will happen no matter what the History Department recommends, because the UNI administration will extend all this if the Department does not.

3) Jose Lopez will threaten a legal suit against UNI and, without having to go to court, will be reinstated and given tenure by the administration. This will happen, according to the crystal ball, for the following reasons:

a) The Department's "requirement" of a PH.D. for retention and tenure will be found capricious and arbitrary and, thus, invalid.

b) The UNI administration has just proven that it hires, fires, promotes, tenures; and the vote of a department is purely a recommendation which is not binding. Thus, no matter what the Department has voted, the administration will do what it wants or must do.

c) Thus, moreover, university requirements - - and not departmental standards - - must be met to be retained and/or tenured.

d) There is no BOG or university-wide regulation demanding for retention and/or tenure the earning of a PH.D. or highest degree. Any department regulation in conflict with this must be considered unenforceable.

e) In failing to retain Jose Lopez, as I saw it in the crystal ball, the History Department never officially cited in writing any reason for its action, other than his failure to earn a PH.D. There is no written record critical of Lopez as a teacher, researcher, contributing colleague-- or as drawing insufficient numbers of students. In other words, my crystal ball revealed no substantive, university-recognized grounds for non-retention and/or non-tenure.

f) Lopez has been in the Department for more than six years. This is certainly a long enough period for the Department to have communicated official criticism of his professional performance. Yet, I saw no such communication.

g) The history Department has a long and noble history of granting tenure to non-PH.D. colleagues. Barber and Smith are specific examples. Further, both men rewarded our faith and eventually earned the doctorate. Smith, moreover, even served as Departmental Chairman; and even now he is Vice Chairman of the Department.

h) To create new ground rules in the case of Jose Lopez, as the crystal ball showed it, can be considered capricious, arbitrary, and--because Lopez in a member of a minority group with a chronic history of being discriminated against--discriminatory.

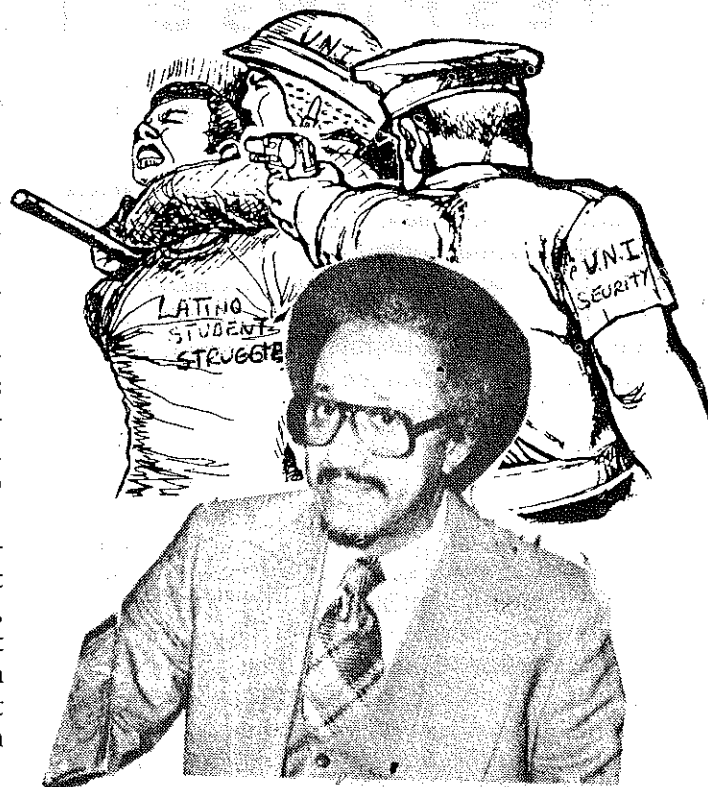
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STUDENTS CONFRONT WILLIAMS

On August 6, 1981, President Williams refused to meet with 35 concerned latino students. Thereafter the U.N.I. president made a statement that there would be no latino students in the fall semester to carry on the student struggle. The students began chanting "students rights must be met" while the Presidents Office was surrounded by the U.N.I. armed guards taking pictures of students.

Immediately after the attempted August 6th meeting with President Williams and his pack of hyenas, the administration wasted no time in devising a campaign of expulsion against student leaders. This vicious attack is mainly concentrated on Irma Romero, co-editor of Que Ondee Sola, and delegates from the Union for Puerto Rican Students, (U.P.R.S.) and Chicano Student Union, (C.S.U.).

The work of these three progressive student organizations have been successful in thwarting the racist and sexist policies of this university. For a long time, the university administration has been seeking to oust the leaders of these student organizations; but, on August 6, the administration realized that the student struggle had become too intense, therefore expulsion soon became Williams' "Final Solution."



(CONT. FROM PAGE 4)

- i) As well as the History Department, my crystal ball showed other UNI departments tenuring and promoting members who have not earned PH.D.'s or highest possible degrees. Many such colleagues have made singular academic contributions. One served several terms as a departmental chairman even though his highest earned degree was an M.A.
- j) The UNI administration has also recognized the value of academics who have not received the doctorate. One of Provost Cownie's most strategic assistants is a former tenured Associate Professor of English- -with no PH.D.
- 4) In the crystal ball I saw the greatest impediment to Lopez retention and tenure as being the terminal contract he signed for the 1979-80 academic year. Again, however, I saw that this was not really an impediment for the following reasons:
 - a) It was a contract signed under duress.
 - b) It was based on an illegal criterion- -the necessity of having an earned doctorate.
 - c) The criterion had a strategic purpose- -to pressure untenured colleagues to finish their dissertations or other requirements for their doctorates- -but the criterion had no legal weight and was unenforcable as legal.
 - d) The terminal contract, based as it was on capricious, arbitrary, and discriminatory requirement established by a department which, in reality, only recommends and does not have to be obeyed by the administration- -whose university laws supercede any and all departmental rules- -that terminal contract actually deprived Lopez of his Constitutional (USA!) right to due process of the law since it compelled him to surrender his job (property) and his legal rights (liberty).
- 5) My final vision was most interesting for I saw:
 - a) A superfluous Mendez
 - b) An alienated Lopez
 - c) A demoralized Harrison
 - d) A dismayed administration
 - e) A frustrated and impotent Department
 - f) A deflowered UNI faculty

Sic transit gloria

RESPONSE TO CONCERNED LATINO STUDENT

In a recent issue of Print, in the section "Letters to the Editor", a statement was submitted in which a "concerned" latino student made some harsh remarks about Que Ondee Sola. The student's remarks centered around our last issue in which we seriously criticized the Illinois State Scholarship Commission, (I.S.S.C.), and any party involved in the refunding of the \$100.00 that I.S.S.C. is demanding.

We at Que Ondee Sola stand firm on our position that the I.S.S.C. has no right to add a financial burden to the students by making them pay an additional \$100.00 this semester. We feel that this is only part of the ongoing process of continued cuts and the raising of academic standards that will eventually lead to a smaller latino student enrollment.

The "concerned" latino students who wrote this article used the I.S.S.C. situation as an excuse to discredit and falsely accuse our publication on various issues. In this article he/she says that Que Ondee Sola is merely a political newspaper, and that all this newspaper does is misrepresent the Puerto Rican students and embarrass them. Let us fill you in on the history of our newspaper.

Que Ondee Sola came about because of a struggle by Puerto Rican students in the late 60's and early 70's. These Puerto Rican, Black and other latino students, saw the necessity to struggle for and establish various programs and or publications (i.e., Proyecto Pa'lante, Project Success, Special Services, Black Studies, Puerto Rican and Chicano-Mexicano Studies Programs across the country) to insure their right to enter the universities of this country. It was because of the student struggle of the 60's that Financial Aid Programs, such as I.S.S.C. and B.E.O.G. were founded. And it was because of the struggle of the students at Northeastern, and in particular the Union for Puerto Rican Students, that fought to establish our newspaper Que Ondee Sola.

It is with this historical perspective in mind, that we must begin to look at our publication and at the struggle of all oppressed people on this campus. Latino and black students in universities throughout this country, have only the sacrifices of past students who have struggled to thank for their presence here. Before 1970, this university had only a handful of latino students attending and they never made any efforts to recruit latino students. So we ask you, "concerned" latino student, where was this university's commitment back in 1970? NOWHERE! Only student pressure forced the university to admit more latino students and open the door for the creation of Proyecto Pa'lante, which is the primary vehicle by which latinos are admitted.

So you see "concerned" latino student, our newspaper is part of a struggle that has brought many latino students and faculty to this university. It is a shame that students had to sacrifice their educational careers and risk getting expelled when they participate in demonstrations to get more latinos in universities. But nobody from the administration offered an open hand of help back then. So when you say that our publication is only a pure scam for political and who knows what else reasons, we ask how you can make a statement like this and not question the historical invasion of our island or the enslavement of black people. Is it not political when they continue to teach history courses that are biased and structured to meet their ends?

One has to question the fact that this university goes boasting about its urban mission and its commitment to bring in more minorities. Yet they continue to force latinos out of the university; (i.e. 90% of Puerto Rican students are pushed out of this university).

Que Ondee Sola's political positions are based on a historically documented facts, which tell the oppressed peoples side of the story. We look at the reality of minorities in this country and we don't try to paint a pretty picture for the administration, but instead we carry on a struggle so that our brothers and sisters will have a right to attend this university.

"...Those who profess to favor freedom and yet depreciate agitation, are men who want crops without plowing up the ground. They want rain without thunder and lightning. They want the ocean without the awful roar of its waters. This struggle may be a moral one; or it may be a physical one; or it may be both moral and physical; but it must be a struggle. Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will. Find out just what people will submit to, and you have found out the exact amount of injustice and wrong which will be imposed upon them; and these will continue until they are resisted with either words or blows, or with both. The limits of tyrants are prescribed by the endurance of those whom they oppress."

Frederick Douglass 1857

EDITORIAL

As the struggle for Chicano-Mexicano/Puerto Rican Studies continues, major events have occurred. Recently the naming of Ignacio Mendez as Puerto Rican Historian by the administration, the expulsion of student activist Irma Romero, who has been targeted by the administration (President Williams, Provost Cownie, Daniel Kielson Vice President of Student Affairs, Dorthy Patton) because of her ability to organize latino students.

Also letters of intimidation have been received by students who participated in the take over of President William's office after he refused to meet with students on August 6th.

In a series of meetings with President Williams and Provost Cownie the Union for Puerto Rican Students (U.P.R.S.) and Chicano Student Union (C.S.U.) Ad-Hoc Committee proposed many ideas which supposedly were solutions to the problems affecting latino students on campus. In the case of professor Lopez's, reinstatement the President stated there were no funds to rehire professor Lopez. He also stated that he does not have the power to hire nor fire faculty. The students proposed to the president (before Ignacio Mendez's hiring) that Professor Lopez's position had not been filled by the History Department and therefore should be transferred to the Chicano/ Mexicano Puerto Rican Studies Program with Professor Lopez as an instructor.

Professor Lopez's contract runs until the end of August. As of July, the History Department Search and Screen Committee had failed to hire a Puerto Rican Historian. Chairperson of that sub-committee Professor Charlie Barber sent a memo to the History Department concerning the issues confronting latino students, with solutions (See - July issue - Que Ondee Sola) But as of today bureaucratic administration has not made any attempts to resolve the problems - but have worsened the situation naming Ignacio Mendez as Puerto Rican Historian.

The latino students are furious and have come to the conclusion that President Williams and Provost Cownie never intended to appease the students. Williams who earlier stated that he does not hire or fire overrules the History Departments vote not to hire Ignacio Mendez.

President William's professed urban mission is only true in words. When he had opportunity to resolve the problems confronting latino students on campus two months ago, he failed and now has a greater problem. First of all, he has hired an historian, Ignacio Mendez, who has less experience than Professor Lopez, whom latino students want rehired. The U.N.I. president has met the students just anger with the expulsion of Irma Romero, and the threat of suspension to other student activists. Secondly he has threatened Professor Charlie Barber with a law suit because of his comittment to qualitative education for latino students. President Williams has also set a precedent in violating departmental autonomy which makes all departments susceptible.

President Williams is a bureaucrat and has no conception of a education, his only comittment is to the bureaucratic apparatus which is not sensitive to the unique needs of latino students which comprise 10% of U.N.I.'s student body.

President Williams named Ignacio Mendez as Puerto Rican Historian because of an affirmative action discrepancy which came out of the History Department's Search and Screen Committee failed to follow appropriate procedures making the university libal to a law suit. Williams states that Ignacio Mendez was not hired by the History Department because he wasn't Puerto Rican. A member of the Search and Screen stated the students wanted a Puerto Rican Historian. Even though correspondence points out that the History Department voted not to hire Mr. Mendez because he is a Latin Americanist lacking sufficient Puerto Rican History Background.

If President Williams commiment towards the Chicano/Mexicano Puerto Rican Studies Program is the same as his U.N.I.'s Urban Mission then it is about time that all students begin to ask when will it be our turn to lose the services we have because the latino students are yet to have them.

QUE ONDEE SOLA

Longest and most consistent Puerto Rican student newspaper in the country.

Northeastern Illinois University
Bryn Mawr at St. Louis
Chicago, Illinois 60625

QUE ONDEE SOLA is published at Northeastern Illinois University. The opinions expressed in Q.O.S. do not necessarily reflect those of the administration. Responsibility of its contents lies solely with its staff. We appreciate and encourage any and all suggestions or contributions.

Editor Irma Romero
Co-Editor Marvin Garcia
Staff Jose Hernandez, J. Arellano
Contributors Teodoro Anderson
Angel Perez, Antonia Rodriguez

OCCUPIED AMERICA

CHICANO HISTORY

The following is taken from Rodolfo Acuna's book, "Occupied America", the Chicano's Struggle toward Liberation. We hope to continue this series.

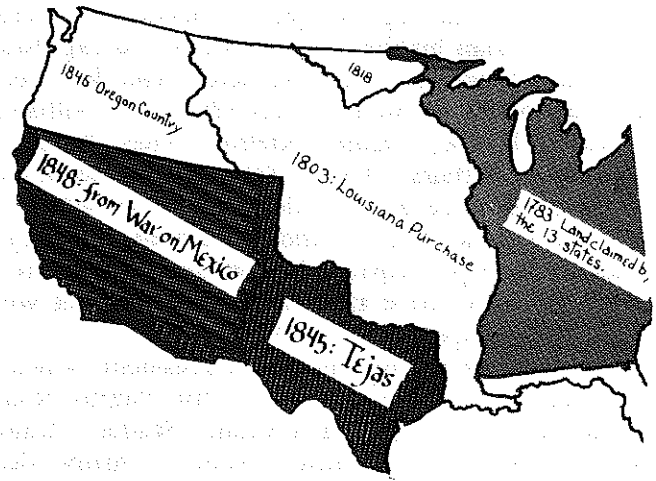
The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo

By late August 1847, the war was almost at an end, with General Winfield Scott defeating Santa Anna in a hard-fought battle at Churubusco. It placed the Anglo-Americans at the gates of Mexico City. Santa Anna made overtures for an armistice, and for two weeks negotiations were conducted. However, Santa Anna reorganized his defenses during this period, and, in turn, the Anglo-Americans renewed their relentless attacks. On September 13, 1847, Scott drove into the city. Although the Mexicans fought valiantly for their capital, the battle left 4000 of their men dead with another 3000 taken prisoner. On September 13, before the occupation of Mexico began, the Niños Heroes (the Boy Heroes) fought off the conquerors and leapt to their deaths rather than surrender. These teenage cadets were Francisco Marquez, Agustin Melgar, Juan Escutia, Fernando Montes Oca, Vicente Suarez, and Juan de la Barrera. They became "a symbol and image of this unrighteous war."

Although the Mexicans were beaten, fighting continued. The presidency devolved to the presiding justice of the Supreme Court, Manuel de la Pena y Pena. He knew that Mexico had lost and that it was his duty to salvage as much as possible. Pressure mounted, for the United States was in control of much of present-day Mexico.

Nicholas Trist, sent to Mexico to act as peace commissioner, had been unable to start negotiations until January 1848. Trist arrived in Vera Cruz on May 6, 1847, where he had a "vigorous but temporary tiff with Scott." Negotiations were conducted through the British legation, but were delayed by Trist's illness. This delay compromised a speedy settlement, and after the fall of Mexico City, Secretary of State James Buchanan wanted to revise Trist's instructions. He ordered Trist to break off negotiations and come home. Polk apparently had begun to consider demanding more territory from Mexico and paying less for it. Trist, however, with the support of Winfield Scott, decided to ignore Polk's order, and he proceeded to negotiate on the original terms. Mexico, badly beaten, her government in a state of turmoil, had no choice but to agree to the Anglo-American's proposals.

On February 2, 1848, the Mexicans agreed to the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, in which Mexico accepted the Rio Grande as the Texas border and ceded the Southwest (which incorporates the present-day states



of Arizona, California, New Mexico, Utah, Nevada, and parts of Colorado) to the United States in return for \$15 million.

Polk was furious about the treaty; he considered Trist "contemptibly base" for having ignored his orders. Yet he had no choice but to submit the treaty to the Senate. With the exception of article X, the Senate ratified the treaty on March 10, 1848, by a vote of 28 to 14. To insist on more territory would have meant more fighting, and both Polk and the Senate realized that the war was already beginning to be unpopular in many sections. The treaty was sent to the Mexican Congress for its ratification; although the Congress had difficulty forming a quorum, the agreement was ratified on May 19 by a 52 to 35 vote. Hostilities between the two nations were now officially ended. Trist, however, was branded as a "scoundrel," because Polk was disappointed in the settlement. There was considerable support and fervor in the United States for the acquisition of all Mexico.

Contrary to popular belief, Mexico did not abandon its citizens who lived within the bounds of the new U.S. territory. The Mexican negotiators were concerned about the Mexicans left behind, and they expressed great reservations about these people being forced to "merge or blend" into Anglo-American culture. They protested the exclusion of provisions that protected the Mexican citizens' rights, land titles, and religion. They wanted to know the Mexican's status, and they wanted to protect his rights by treaty.

The provisions that specifically refer to the Mexican and his rights are found in articles VIII and IX. Taken in the context of the reluctance of Mexican officials to abandon their people to a nation that had virtually no respect for Mexicans, it is easier to understand why Chicanos are so angry about violations to their cultural identity.

(CONT. ON PAGE 10)

IGNACIO MENDEZ

ACCEPTS HISTORY POSITION

As of July 24th a probationary contract was offered to Associate Professor Ignacio Mendez. To the understanding of the university population he has accepted and his contract will begin September 1st. Dr. Mendez will be teaching Puerto Rican History a position which was opened by the Puerto Rican students in 1972.

Since 1972 Puerto Rican History has been taught by Professor Lopez, and for the past two years members of the History Department have been trying to push him out of his position. The students and concerned faculty have recognized the dedication of Professor Lopez to his work and community that they began a campaign to retain him within the History Department.

Before July 24th the History Department Search and Screen Committee had no candidate for this position since they were limited to a Ph.D. Puerto Rican Historian. The students knowing the impossible task of the Search and Screen Committee put forward to President Williams that Professor Lopez be rehired to his Puerto Rican History position.

The peculiarity of Ignacio Mendez's hiring by the university is that the History Department voted not to hire him, but rather Provost John Cownie with the stamp of approval from President Williams hired him.

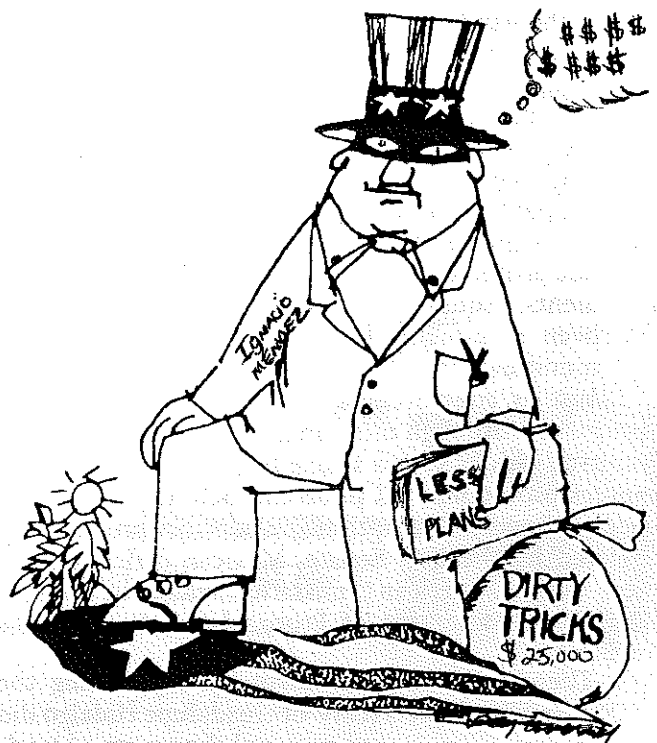
Dean Dobbs recommendations to hire Ignacio Mendez are as follows;

- 1) It seems to me that Dr. Hursh's (Affirmative Actions officer) belief that the rejection of Dr. Mendez will leave us vulnerable (to a law suit) is well founded. The unembellished fact is that the only available qualified candidate is a member of a target minority group.
- 2) The vote in the department was extremely close and indicates a division of sentiment within the department.
- 3) I think it is more than plausible that the reasons that individual members of the History Department voted against Dr. Mendez are unrelated to his qualifications.

These recommendation by Dean Dobbs have been the focal point used by President Williams to justify his overruling of the History Department and offering a contract to Ignacio Mendez.

First of all the university is afraid of an affirmative action law suit because they reason that the History Department and its Search and Screen Committee did not follow affirmative action guide lines by voting not to hire Dr. Mendez because he is not Puerto Rican. Never in the official memo explaining the vote of the History Department not to hire Dr. Mendez was there statement of not being Puerto Rican as the reason for not hiring Mr. Mendez. But it was Dean Dobbs who stated "if you do not hire a Puerto Rican you are defeating the whole spirit of the job." Secondly does the close vote of the History Department indicating a division of sentiment give the right to the administration to violate departmental autonomy?

Thirdly, Dr. Ignacio Mendez is not qualified to teach Puerto Rican History. In the last 20 years Dr. Mendez has taught one course in Puerto Rican History and has developed two, while Professor Lopez has developed thirteen Puerto Rican courses in the last seven years (He has also developed courses in other areas as well). For these reasons the latino students are calling for a boycott of Ignacio Mendez's Puerto Rican History courses and the resignation of Ignacio Mendez.



POETRY

Praise of Learning

Learn the elementary things! For those
Whose time has come
It is never too late!
learn the ABC's, it won't be enough
But learn it! Don't be dismayed by it!
Begin! You must know everything!
You must take over the leadership.

Learn, man in the asylum!
Learn, man in the prison!
Learn, woman in the kitchen!
Learn, sixty year old!

You must take over the leadership
Seek out the school, you who are homeless!
Acquire knowledge, you who shiver
You who are hungry, reach out for the book: it is a
weapon.
You must take over the leadership

Don't be frightened to ask, comrade!
Don't be talked into anything
Check for yourself!
What you do not know yourself
You don't know.
Scrutinize the bill
It's you who must pay it.
Put you finger on each item.

Ask: how did this get here?
You must take over the leadership.

Bertolt Brecht.