

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

007 19 1967

#### MEMORANDUM FOR HONORABLE VINCENTE T. XIMENES

Secretary Gardner has asked me to reply to your inquiry of October 2 concerning the collection of racial data for the Higher Education Compliance Report. Please be assured that the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare has no desire or intention to categorize students of Spanish American ancestry as other than white. In a telegram to Dr. Tom L. Popejoy, President, University of New Maxico, I have stated:

...in completing the H.E.W. Compliance Report of Institutions of Higher Education under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, list students of Spanish American origin under the column 'white' in Fart III and insert under 'Remarks' the number of students with Spanish American surnames included in each of the items in the 'white' column in Fart III.

As indicated in the attached article from the Albuquerque Journal of September 24, 1967, this statement served to clarify our purpose and intention for University officials. We regret any misunderstanding occasioned by the wording of the report and we hope to amend the report for 1958 to delete the "other" category.

If I can be of further assistance, please contact me at any time.

Peter Libssi Director, Office for Civil Rights

Attachment

U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare Office of Public Information

# Salected News Items from the Regional Offices



Albuqueroue Journal Sept. 24, 1967 Change in Regulations

## University to Give HEW

### Student Racial Figures

The regents of the University of New Mexico Saturday agreed to furnish the Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare with information on racial breakdown of through the pages of the stu-UNM students after the HEW changed its regulations UNM students after the HEW changed its regulations on the reporting of Spanish-American students.

The regents agreed to comply after it was determined that no differential will be made between "wintes" and "Spanish-Americans." All will be listed as "whites." The regents had previously noted the impossibility of determining just who is a Spanish-American and had exhibited decided reluctance to submit any such questionnaire to students.

The original HEW instruc-tions had asked the university to supply HEW with a break-down of white, Negroes and "others," — "others to include Orientals, American Indians and Spanish-Americans." However, in a telegram Aug. 31, Peter Libassi, director of the Office of Civil Rights of the Office of Civil Mights of the HEW, instructed that no differ-ential be made between "whites" and Spanish-Ameri-cans. He did ask that a separate count of Spanish surnamed sta-dents be furnished, a request that President Tom Popejoy said could easily be complied

He said he could understand

He said he could understand why the HEW wanted such information, and said he could see no objection to the new way of handling it.

Dr. Ferrel Heady, academic vice president, reported to the regents on the number of night classes — especially in the fields of engineering, clucation and business administration—if they were offered in them. The university had meeting with legislative representatives to discuss the whole the study this situation.

Bern.) said questionnaires by cost about \$1.3 million.

Among faculty contracts approved was that of Dr. John attending the classes — especially in the fields of engineering, clucation and business administration—if they were offered in the member of night courses offered by the university and the students enrolled in them. The university had meeting with legislative representatives to discuss the whole the staff will allow the UMM Medical School for the first time trative vice president, discussed surgery.

CITING THE increased costs of night classes because of the lower faculty - student ratio,

He said there seems to be a will discuss this with the BEF

with by checking registration records, "or even flipping through the pages of the students dent directory."

IN ANY EVENT, the students will not be polled.

Regent Arthur Ortega, commenting on the HEW change of rules, said "I'm happy to see they have discovered the difference between racial and ethnic backgrounds. I think this should eliminate some of the considered.

He said there seems to be a special reced in anthropology, at its next meeting. Under the present estimates, tory, phislosophy, so ciology, his tory, phislosophy, so ciology, his tory, phislosophy, so ciology, the BEF has tentatively allocated the university \$15.2 million of the approved \$42.5 be considered.

State Sen. Tony Lucero (D. bids. The commons building Bern.) said questionnaires by cost about \$1.3 million.

lower faculty - student ratio,
Heady suggested that no attempt be made to duplicate all
day credit offerings at night
(as the legislature had asked). Doard of Educational Finance
He asked, however, that consideration be given to schedulsident by 1975. Smith said he
ing more lecture courses at 6 felt in several categories —
p.m. and later, especially in
high enrollment departments, inates are insufficient and he
He said there seems to be a will discuss this with the BEET

the university is about to open