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DIRECTORS OF THE BLACK EDUCATION PROGRAM AT EWU

The information herein has been pulled from the personnel files of persons who served as Director of the Black Studies Program at Eastern.

October 29, 1970. Dr. Charles B. Minor was appointed Temporary Director of the BEP. No specific information about the period from this appointment until 1972, but apparently there were delays and difficulties getting the new program up and running. According to records of the Academic Senate, the Black Studies Proposal was approved at the May 18, 1970 meeting of the Undergraduate Affairs Council, which stated that the Black Studies Program was to begin operations Spring Quarter, 1971. In the meantime, the search for a director was to commence.

June 19, 1972 - August 11, 1972. Dr. Charles B. Minor, Acting Director of BEP. During this time, a search was under way for a permanent director. Dr. Minor was first hired by Eastern in 1969 as a member of the English faculty. He was greatly interested in the development of the black Studies Program, and at the time of his hiring expressed interest in being placed in Black Studies, although his degrees and academic experience were in English.

September 1, 1972 - May 31, 1975. Edward L. Powe, Director. Mr. Powe had a Master of Arts degree in Linguistics from the University of Indiana (1970) at the time he was hired. He served until 1975. In October of 1974 he wrote a letter expressing his wish to resign from EWU effective in the Spring, 1975 term. He apparently returned to Patterson, New Jersey, where he had come from in 1972.

June 1, 1975 - July 15, 1976. Clarence L. Williams, Director. Mr. Williams had an MA in Sociology from the University of California at Los Angeles, and was working on this Ph.D. at the University of Oregon at the time he was hired in 1975. Mr. Williams resigned from EWU after a little more than a year on the job. Other universities made more lucrative offers, and Eastern could not match them. The resignation letter came in early July, and within two weeks, Mr. Williams had departed.

July 16, 1976 - November 30, 1977. Linda K. Edward, Acting Director. Linda Edward was initially employed by Eastern as an Administrative Assistant for the Black Education Program in January, 1976. She had previously been employed in Spokane. During this time, she was in the process of completing her BA in Applied Psychology at Eastern. The degree was received in the spring of 1976. With the abrupt

departure of Mr. Williams, Linda Edward was made Acting Director of the BEP while a search for a permanent Director could be conducted. In November, 1977, she resigned the Acting Directorship, noting that she and her husband planned to move because he had accepted a job in another region.

January 1, 1978 - September 30, 1981. C. T. Wright, Director. C. T. Wright holds the Ph.D. in History from Boston University (1977). In the fall of 1981, he was offered an opportunity to take a leave of absence for a year to accept appointment as Vice President for Academic Affairs at Talladega College. The position at Talladega worked out well, and Dr. Wright officially resigned from EWU in the fall of 1982.