Motion passed by the Academic Senate at its meeting called on Wednesday, May 13, 1970.

In response to the request from the President for advice of the Academic Senate in regard to the matter of dismissing classes, the Senate offers the following statement.

With regard to the suggestion that classes be dismissed and in view of the generally perceived opinion that the action of simply dismissing classes last Friday was ineffective and in recognition of the death of six Black people in Augusta, the Academic Senate in lieu of suspending classes resolves that on Tuesday, May 19, the entire university community focus its attention on the issues of faculty-student relationships, racial tensions, and other issues of national and local importance.

During this day students are urged to go to their classes and to participate in other relevant activities related to the on-campus teach-in being conducted on the above issues. No penalties shall be applied to students who exercise their freedom of conscience to participate or not to participate in any of the activities on that day according to their best judgment.

The Senate recognizes the misunderstanding and tensions which exist on the campus, particularly the difficulties faced by Black students, and reaffirms its commitment to the university community as an environment dedicated to removing barriers between human beings.

Voting was:

Yes – 24

No – 4

Abstained – 2