

3/11/86

## Voices carry

Up to now faculty members have, for the most part, remained silent about the University Board of Trustees' decision not to divest from companies doing business in South Africa.

However, the recent organization of a week-long liquid-diet fast by faculty members reminds us that the Dec. 10 decision of the Faculty Senate to support divestment wasn't made lightly and hasn't been forgotten.

For the fast, each participant is asked to refrain from eating one to three of seven days beginning March 24. Organizers also want participants to spend a portion of their fasting time on the steps of Old Main.

Behind the decision to fast is support for what student groups are doing to oppose the University's decision not to divest.

"The idea of the fast is to let students know that we are supporting their efforts," said Robert Corrington, one of the event's organizers.

Such support is important for two reasons. It shows, as some would like to ignore, that more people than just idealistic students out to change the world are protesting the University's decision. It also makes clear that University policy decisions don't necessarily reflect how faculty members may feel — a point often blurred in the minds of students.

As well as a renewed commitment to the fight against the board's decision, the fast also gives some faculty members a chance

to show they are protesting the University's policies "out there on their own," as Corrington put it.

Corrington said they would like to have two or three faculty participants at a time sitting on the steps of Old Main from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. each day of the fast.

So far about 25 faculty members have signed up to participate in the fast. But Corrington added that at least another 10 to 15 are needed to have the desired number of faculty on the steps of Old Main throughout the week.

The search for support from faculty members, however, has revealed that some are reluctant to make such a statement against the University for fear of risking their livelihoods here at Penn State.

One must hope such fears are unfounded since the administration has said it encourages dialogue on both the decision concerning divestment and the issue of apartheid in South Africa.

An organized show of support by University faculty and staff members is an unexpected but welcome addition to the current air of controversy surrounding divestment at Penn State.

While it doesn't mean that all faculty members are calling for University divestment, it does mean as long as more voices than just those of students and administrators are out there to be heard, Penn State has a better chance of making an informed decision about the issue.

3/21/96

# S. African calls for support of shantytown at PSU

By CHARLES R. BRUA  
Times Staff Writer

“Support those shantytown folks out there,” a black former journalist who fled South Africa after police harassment said at Penn State last night.

Dumisani Kumalo, coordinator of divestment efforts in 40 states with the American Committee on Africa, told an audience of about 200 in Schwab Auditorium that he was “very, very proud” of the shanty builders calling on Penn State to divest its holdings in companies dealing in South Africa.

Apartheid can't be improved — it can only be ended, said Kumalo. Supporting the Sullivan Principles, which require American companies in South Africa not to discriminate and to improve black workers' conditions, implies there are ways of being oppressed more humanely, he said.

Penn State trustees voted in January to consider divesting from companies not living up to the

## Speaker describes life under apartheid

The book “Black Beauty” was banned in South Africa for years because authorities thought it was about a woman instead of a horse, said Dumisani Kumalo, a South African black who now coordinates divestment efforts in the United States.

Kumalo last night told an audience of 200 at Penn State a bit about life under apartheid.

Three weeks into his marriage he was arrested for sleeping with his wife without government permission because she was from another town, he said.

Police ransacked his home after he invited children of “victims of apartheid” to his son's birthday party. Police were angry when they found nothing amiss so they trampled his son's birthday

presents. His wife, three months pregnant, screamed and tried to stop the police. They threw her against a wall, causing an immediate miscarriage, he said.

His father, a migrant from northern Zululand, was allowed to visit his wife only for one month a year, Kumalo said. In 10 years his parents spent 10 months together. They had one child a year, he said.

A shanty built by Penn State students reminded him of one he grew up in, he said.

Blacks in South Africa need passes to walk outside their houses and permits to be inside, he said. “It's not like you're safe at any point.” — By Charles R. Brua

Sullivan Principles. The university invests only in companies that have signed the principles.

“It would make a big difference” if Penn State divested its approximately \$6 million in companies dealing in South Africa, Kumalo

said. People argue that Penn State should use its stock as influence against apartheid, but his work has shown him that shareholders in major corporations have little chance for influence, Kumalo said.

There are prudent alternatives to

investing in companies working in South Africa, he said.

Of the states, cities and colleges that have divested fully or partially, all have made a profit, Kumalo said.

U.S. companies in South Africa

support the Botha regime by paying taxes, he said.

No black South African supports the Sullivan Principles, Kumalo claimed. “We don't want anything to shine our chains — we want to cut our chains,” he said, quoting South African Bishop Desmond Tutu.

“We are not fighting for integrated toilets,” he said. Because he's black, he can't vote or own land in South Africa, he said. Ending apartheid means South Africa would be ruled by a government representative of the people, he said.

A 1985 Gallup Poll showed 77 percent of black South African workers want other countries to use economic sanctions to pressure for the end of apartheid, Kumalo said.

“Living under apartheid is a daily risk,” Kumalo replied. People would rather have no job than live under apartheid, he said.

Kumalo's speech was sponsored by Colloquy and the Black Arts Festival.

**CONVOQUY**

*presents*

**APARTHEID:  
HEAR ABOUT IT  
FROM A MAN WHO'S  
LIVED IT**

# **DUMISANI KUMALO**

**FORMER SOUTH AFRICAN JOURNALIST  
WHO FLED HIS COUNTRY  
AFTER POLICE  
HARRASSMENT**

**THUR.  
MARCH 20,  
8:00 PM  
SCHWAB**

**-FREE-**



W. W. WEA  
Chicago Tribune  
© 1985

CIRCLE THE  
WAGONS!!

South  
Africa



4/21/86  
Colleagues  
**We, the undersigned, having participated in the faculty/staff fast for divestment, re-affirm our commitment to the elimination of apartheid in South Africa and the overcoming of racism within our own community. In the weeks and months ahead, we will work in non-violent, non-confrontational ways to secure these goals. Specifically, we will continue to urge the Board of Trustees of The Pennsylvania State University to divest all University holdings with companies which conduct business with South Africa.**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Robert Corrington – Philosophy                    | Philip Jenkins – Administration of Justice                   |
| Leola Johnson – Journalism                        | Daniel Katkin – Administration of Justice                    |
| Ed Messersmith – Eisenhower Chapel                | Shirley Freeman  |
| Jim Blackwood – CMPSC                             | Thomas Bernard – Administration of Justice                   |
| Mary Mander – Speech Communication                | Lynn Hinds – School of Communication                         |
| Peter Hagen – Liberal Arts, Undergraduate Studies | Audrey Maretzki – Agriculture, Cooperative Extension Service |
| Larry Young – Robeson Center                      | Arthur Heilman – Education, Emeritus                         |
| Patrick Keating – Accounting & MIS                | Thelma Price – Assistant V.P. Academic Services, Retired     |
| Richard Devon – Engineering                       | Anne Ard – United Ministry                                   |
| Bob Allen – Philosophy & Speech Communication     | Kofi Nti – College of Business Administration                |
| Don Smith – Speech Communication                  | Veronique Foti – Philosophy                                  |
| Bill Lochstet – Physics                           | John Buck – English  |
| Gail Corrington – Classics & Religious Studies    | Emily Toth – English   |
| Jean Morrow – Film                                | Andy Mozenter – Student Services                             |
| Kay Washlohn – Campus Ministry                    | Michael Yonkovig – Career Development & Placement Center     |
| Harold Cheatham – Education                       | Gretl Yeager   |
| Drew Hyman – Human Development                    | Ray McCoy – Minority Programs, Liberal Arts                  |
| Christine Makward – French                        | Barbara Nilsen   |
| Paul Healy – Human Development & Philosophy       | Stan Shephard – Physics                                      |
| Helen Rallis-Reeder – Graduate Admissions         | Thomas Hale – French & Comparative Literature                |
| Laura Campbell – Human Development                | Ronald Filippelli – Labor Studies                            |
| Richard Villastrigo                               | Robert Berrettini – Materials Research Lab                   |
| Paul Harrison – Religious Studies                 | John Rippey – Journalism                                     |
| Jennifer Mastrofski – Human Development           | Joan DeForeest – Speech Communication                        |
| K. Osseo-Asare – Materials Science & Engineering  | Bonnie Leonard – French                                      |
| W. Terrell Jones – Counseling                     | David Westby – Sociology                                     |
| Jennifer Morris – Administration of Justice       | Lauri Perman – Sociology                                     |
| Lynn Goodstein – Administration of Justice        | Ernest Hawk – Science, Technology, Society                   |
| Stephen Mastrofski – Administration of Justice    | John Packard – Nursing                                       |
| Gary Potter – Administration of Justice           | Thomas Poole – Religious Studies & Eisenhower Chapel         |
| Tracey Adams – Administration of Justice          | Wilbur Zelinski – Geography                                  |
| Melissa Ferguson – Human Development              | Cynthia King – Chair: Commission for Women                   |
| Walter Freeman – Administration of Justice        |  |

A Protest for Divestment

—Ring Around Old Main—

Wednesday, April 16

12:15



**RINGING OLD MAIN:** About 150 students and others protesting Penn State investments in companies doing business in South Africa formed a human ring around Old Main on campus yesterday. Blacks and whites joined hands in the protest, top photo, and student Darrick Johnson, above, joined in chants during the half-hour demonstration. The rally was the last scheduled for the semester, topping off protests, two short sit-ins, the building of a shantytown and a faculty fast. Protesters have been calling for Penn State to stop investing in companies that do business in South Africa, where the black majority is oppressed by the white minority. The university says it invests only in companies that abide by the Sullivan Principles of equality in the workplace.

4/17/86



# Prof says U.S. must keep hope to deal with shuttle

## *Positive expectations are needed*

By SHELDON JONES  
Collegian Staff Writer

The space shuttle Challenger represented for mankind a "transcendence beyond mortality"; its destruction "shook our culture," but Americans need to reaffirm their positive expectations for the future in order to deal with this tragedy, an assistant professor of philosophy at the University said.

Robert Corrington and six other panelists participated in a panel discussion in the Kern Graduate Center yesterday titled "Impact of the 'Challenger' Future."

The program, sponsored by the science, technology and society program, dealt with the scientific, technological, managerial, political, ethical and philosophical aspects of the Challenger mission and the space program in general.

Corrington, speaking about the ethical and philosophical issues of the Challenger mission, said Challenger revealed two fundamental dimensions of human nature — that humans intrinsically have both a "sense of finitude" and a "drive toward transcendence."

Corrington explained that the Challenger catastrophe strengthened people's sense of 'finitude' — forcing them to realize that they are mortal and stifling their desire to go beyond normal human achievement — what he called a drive toward transcendence.

Corrington said the recent terrorist actions are another example in which Americans have been made to realize how vulnerable they really are as

humans, but that they, as Americans, need to keep a sense of hope.

"While Americans are still trying to recover from the tragedy of the shuttle disaster they should remember that they have to keep a sense of hope and continue to go forward in their exploration efforts."

Leslie Hale, University professor of electrical engineering, said the shuttle missions have been amazingly reliable technically.

Hale added that he was not surprised by the Challenger accident.

"I was expecting it every time they pushed a button. What we need is a more balanced, effective scientific program," Hale said.

Larry D. Spence, University associate professor of political science, said he does not favor the idea of manned space flight because of the potential risk involved.

"It amazes me that people think it's great to have factories completely automated with robots but yet these same people are those who want to see manned space flights."

Spence said he believes the space program needs to focus more on its political and managerial aspects.

"If we cannot do a better job with the political and managerial side of the space program then the shuttle program probably will not be successful in the future."

Other members on the panel were: Theodore Vallance, professor emeritus of Human Development; William Adams, professor of electrical engineering; Robert Melton, assistant professor of aerospace engineering; and Jurg Hulliger from the Materials Research Laboratory and Swiss Federal Institute of Technology.



# Divestment effort will continue

In a recent editorial, the Centre Daily Times, in calling for divestment, expressed concern about the ability of those working for divestment at Penn State to keep the struggle going as strongly this year as last.

This is an important concern, especially since the collegiate calendar necessitates a three-month break in the momentum of any movement. As one who has been involved during the past year with the divestment campaign, I would like to respond to such a concern.

When the university's board of trustees failed to take effective action in response to the worsening crisis in South Africa last January, the campus divestment movement decided to develop a campaign that would bring statewide, and even national, attention to the iniquities that were being promoted at the university. During this campaign last spring, many of Penn State's black students and faculty began to recognize parallels between the racism that university administrators were promoting abroad and the racism they were practicing right here in State College, and they directed their activities toward coping with these intertwined problems.

As we struggled, we came to see that the trustees and the administration were not

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## EDITORIAL REPLY

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going to be moved by reason alone. Although their arguments against divestment had become recognized throughout much of the community as feeble and discredited, the policy of investing in firms that do business in South Africa remained. And it seemed that the administration would be willing to counter public outrage by laagering the wagons, Afrikaner-style, in the hopes that it would go away.

However, the campaign of public protest was only one facet of the ongoing effort to pressure the university into a policy for which reason alone was not enough. Outreach to high schools and other college campuses, negotiations with groups outside the university trying to encourage either boycotts or public statements, and education of the State College community were among the activities that, though not in the public eye, have been an integral part of the campaign for divestment since (or even before) the January meeting. These activities continued throughout the summer, and will continue throughout the fall.

This does not mean that there will not be public action whose purpose will be to educate the community about the official

university policies of hypocrisy and racism. We will certainly launch Penn State more fully into the national spotlight so that its dark policies of oppression can be exposed to the healing light of scrutiny. But, as public confrontation without private education is mere showmanship, as vocal frustration without organized pressure is but disparate and helpless thrashing, and as individual demonstrations without coordinated planning are just the shadow of a movement, there will be much more to the divestment campaign than what is reported by the media.

Injustice, practiced by no matter how large or imposing an institution, has only a limited lifespan. Penn State's racial policies are no exception to this; and as the hundreds of us who worked last year on the divestment campaign return with renewed vigor and motivation, we hope this year to lay finally to rest what will be viewed in retrospect as an ignominious period in the history of this university.

**TODD G. MAY**  
State College

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The author is a member of the Committee for Justice in South Africa, the student group protesting Penn State's investing in U.S. companies doing business in South Africa.

CDT 9/11/86

THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY  
DELAWARE COUNTY CAMPUS  
25 Yearsley Mill Road  
Media, Pennsylvania 19063

Area Code 215  
565-3300

27 Sept. 1986

Robert Covington,

Thank you for the humane  
and eloquent letter in the CHRONICLE  
of HIGHER EDUCATION. Yours is the  
voice of caring and reason that belongs  
to philosophy.

Your colleague,  
Robert Dierberg

# reader opinion

COLLEGIAN 11/7/86

## No pride

Recently, I received a membership dues request from the Penn State Alumni Association. Enclosed was a decal proclaiming "Penn State and proud of it!" I am indeed Penn State (I am an alumna), but I regret to say, I am *not* "proud of it!" I am not proud of my University for the following reasons:

- I am not proud of a university that obstinately refuses to divest itself of its South African interests while other Pennsylvania universities — and indeed the Commonwealth itself — have begun to do so.

- I am not proud of a university that insults its many feeble students

— and its few feeble faculty members — by inviting Don Regan to address a fund-raising rally.

- Finally, I am not proud of an alumni association that has not spoken out on either issue.

I would urge you to consider the fact that I am not the only alumna or alumnus who is not proud of this University. Perhaps some day I shall be, but not until such behavior and attitudes change. In the meantime, I regretfully refuse to support, either financially or otherwise, the alumni association.

Karen J Harvey  
class of 1969  
instructor, Altoona Campus

## Appreciation

I am writing to express my appreciation for those who are fasting in sympathy with the children starving in South Africa. Their fast may help to draw attention to the policy of corporations and trustees of various universities of continuing to invest in the racist and oppressive apartheid economy.

The desperate conditions in South Africa, including the profound needless hunger, are a direct consequence of the support being given by investment in the vicious regime. We must end it now.

Dennis Bruteis  
University of Pittsburgh

## PSU divestment

As an ardent supporter of divestment, I was delighted at the recent decision of Penn State's trustees to sell the university's holdings in companies that operate in South Africa. The trustees deserve to be complimented for their courage in reversing their previous position on the issue.

But I am disappointed at the type of response the divestment decision evoked in some quarters. Your editorial on the subject (Sept. 19) is a case in point. You commend the trustees for acting "in the best interests of the board and the university," and praise them for taking a stance that will help minority recruitment, and appease the governor.

That is, of course, all true, but it misses entirely the major issue underlying the whole divestment debate. Divestment is a moral act, designed to put Penn State's weight behind efforts to bring peace and justice to South Africa. That is why it was so widely supported in the university community and beyond — and it was for this reason that the board was ultimately forced to divest.

Yet your reaction, and that of many others, mentions apartheid and South Africa only incidentally. By concentrating on divestment as a means of resolving conflicts within the university, you demean the action and the motivations of those who supported it.

As you portray the divestment issue, it is now over and done with. Indeed you suggest that now "trustees and administrators can focus on other issues."

But apartheid still exists — and as long as it continues to exist, all principled people and institutions have a moral obligation to keep fighting it.

South Africa needs the help of universities like Penn State now more than ever before. Press censorship has taken the apartheid issue out of the international spotlight — but conditions inside the country are as bad as ever. The state of emergency is still in effect, and the crack-down on opposition continues. Thousands of people are still in jail without charge — and the youngest political detainees are only seven years old. The police and army continue to terrorize black communities under cover of legal immunity and a news blackout.

Penn State can still help. And the way it can help is by doing what a university does best — education. In the absence of news from South Africa, and in a time when apartheid has been displaced as the fashionable issue of the day, education becomes more important than ever. The university needs to continue and expand its SHARE program, and to devise new ways of using Penn State's resources and expertise to help South Africans.

The divestment decision may be remem-

bered as the moment when the Penn State community united in the fight against apartheid. But it could mark the time when Penn Staters appeased their consciences and moved on to other, more topical issues.

DONALD N. RALLIS  
University Park

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The author is a white South African graduate student at Penn State.