

November 1, 2006

Dear Friends:

After a very fruitful meeting with President Lou Anna K. Simon on October 6, I have been following up on a number of her suggestions for our reunion and working closely with Ms. Audrey Bentley, Coordinator of the Martin Luther King Jr. Commemoration, Karen McKnight Casey, Director of the Service Learning and Community Engagement Center, and Tina Houghton, Kellogg Center Conference facilitator par excellence to firm up our reunion plans. The program as it now stands is as follows:

Friday Night: Arrival of those traveling from out of State

Saturday: 8:00 – 9:00 Continental Breakfast at the Kellogg Center and registration
9:00 Welcome
9:15 Dr. King's February 11 Speech in the MSU Auditorium
10:15 Were You There?
10:30 Circles of Remembrance—Highlights of our journeys since STEP
12:00 Depart for the Coles House, the President's home for lunch
12:30 Lunch with President Simon
2:00 Tour of the campus
3:00 Public presentation and discussion of results of the study:
Paul Herron, Kellogg Center Auditorium with invited guests from
the University and the community
4:30 Reception at the MSU Museum, transportation provided
Special exhibit: **"Lest We Forget The Triumph Over Slavery"**
6:00 Return to the Kellogg Center and supper on your own with friends

Sunday, January 14, 2007

Meetings with Student groups: academic units and residence hall groups
Scheduled so far: (much more to come)
Breakfast at the Kellogg Center with Graduate Students of the African
American and African Study Program
Adult Ed class, Okemos Presbyterian Church with J. Duley

Monday, January 15, 2007

STEP alumni participation in student leadership conference for 300 MSU
and high school students from across the State
Numerous events during the day including commemorative march and
STEP participation in Community Dinner culminating the events of the
weekend.

I know that all of you cannot stay for the full weekend but we need to know from each of you how long you can stay. We also have two other requests.

1. Please send a recent photo of yourself (either jpg internet version or a regular photo and we will scan it. We want to develop a printed program for the reunion and want to include a picture of each STEP and Rust College alum, whether you are able to come or not.
- 2 Permission to share this information

We will also be doing 30 video taped interviews with 6 randomly selected participants in each of the four summer programs and Rust College alumni—We will be in touch with those folks to get their commitment and willingness to do the interviews as a part of the archival material(If we taped everybody we would have over 10 hours of material)

STEP REUNION UPDATE

August 1, 2006

Welcome to those who have recently responded to Paul's questionnaire and who have not received any of the information about the reunion. As most of you know, the dates set for the reunion coincides with the MSU celebration of Dr. King's life and work—January 12-15. I have reserved a small block of rooms in two of the MSU facilities and will attach detailed information about that. I can also find out rates at a Red Roof Inn and Super 8 Motel which are very close to the University and reserve a block of rooms there if there is interest.

Tentative Schedule for the weekend:

Friday evening: Arrival for those traveling some distance
7:30 P.M. Dr. King Commemorative Service
 St. Stephens United Church of Christ
 Rust College Choir participating
7:00-midnight Checking in of early arrivals (those coming
 from a Distance)

Saturday: 8:30 Coffee and donuts
 9:00 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Speech
 Dr. King launches STEP, February 11, 1965
 10:00 Reflections: "Were you there...?"
 10:30 Circles of Remembrance—Sharing our stories
 12:30 Lunch
3:00 2:00 Free afternoon for visiting with others, and the
Rust College Choir Campus
Concert Optional: Guided bus tour of the campus
 5:00 Reception with the President
 6:00 Dinner
 ~~7:00 Rust College Choir~~
 8:00 President Simon
 9:00 Paul Herron's report on the study

This is very tentative and open to modification by suggestions from participants and the President's office.

We also plan to video tape short (10 minute) interviews with each STEP participant from 10:00 through 12:00 and after lunch if necessary. We plan to have three camera/interview set ups and hope to get everyone taped before lunch. The interviews with MSU and Rust College STEP participants will have a limited and set format—something like:

Name and present responsibilities and/or civic involvement.

This is a tentative schedule; please give me your suggested modifications, additions or corrections. duley@msu.edu. Thanks

THERE ARE THREE THINGS YOU NEED TO TELL ME EITHER BY E-MAIL OR REGULAR MAIL:

- 1 YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS**
- 2. IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THE REUNION—TENTATIVELY OR OTHERWISE.**
- 3. IF YOU WANT UNIVERSITY HOUSING**

Please check the following website for full particulars about the year long program related to our reunion: www.MSUColloquy.

Housing accommodations: I have reserved a block of rooms in the Candlewood Suites, (a new conference center set up next to the University Faculty Club) and the Kellogg Center. Let me know if you would like to stay in either of these facilities. Some people live close enough that they will prefer to commute or have friends they will stay with. It costs nothing to book these rooms until one month before the event. Early in December folks will have to make their own reservations using these reserved rooms at the special rate they have given us. In order to see what the rooms look like, please go to the respective websites: Candlewood Suites: www.candlewoodsuites.com or Kellogg Center www.kelloggcenter.com. The per night rates I have been quoted are: Candlewood studio \$85 for one person or a couple, or \$95 with a rollaway bed for two individuals, or Suite \$105 with a convertible sofa in the living area, Kellogg Center basic room \$89. If you will need housing or think you might, please let me know which you would prefer.

Less expensive accommodations are available close to the campus in a Red Roof Inn and a Super 8 Motel, and other accommodations are relatively close to the University. The Red Roof Inn and Super 8 Motels each have their own web page. . You may want to find your own accommodations through www.Hotel.com or some other internet connection

Thanks. John