

Asian Students Confront SEP

by Dick Dykeman

A confrontation last Friday between Dr. Charles Evans, director of special programs, and about 20 members of the Asian Coalition for Equality has resulted in the inclusion of Filipino and other students of Asian ancestry in the University's Special Education Program.

Anthony Ogilvie, spokesman for the Asian Coalition stated at the meeting that "the University was discriminatory to leave Asian-Americans out of the S.E.P., which includes blacks, Mexicans, Indians and 'poor whites.'"

Dr. Evans responded, "There was no intention to exclude Asians, but I can see how it could be interpreted that way. I am delighted that these students came forward to promote Asian recruiting, that I didn't think we'd be able to start until next year."

At the press conference Ogilvie adamantly insisted on the verbal recognition and agreement to seven demands.

Ogilvie said, "Rev. Katagiri, chairman of the Asian Coalition, sent a letter to Dr. Evans for an Asian recruiter, but the answer he got was a delay, like not enough time. Then I sent a letter expressing the need, but didn't receive a reply. The Asian Coalition was then called and action taken because of inaction by the University."

The insistence on verbal acceptance was made because of the feeling that no action would be taken unless these activities were made public.

Larry Matsuda, another mem-

ber of the group said, "The S.E.P. program recruits all other races but Asians and Orientals. It is ridiculous to ignore this population of about 30,000 people in the Greater Seattle area."

The demands were:

1. For the University to commit the S.E.P. program to formation of a recruiting committee for Filipino and needy Oriental students.

2. To recruit Filipino and needy Oriental students.

3. To change the 1969 S.E.P. brochure to include Filipino and needy Asian students as well.

4. To name Asian recruiters for the summer.

5. That the addition of Asians will not exclude students from other minority races.

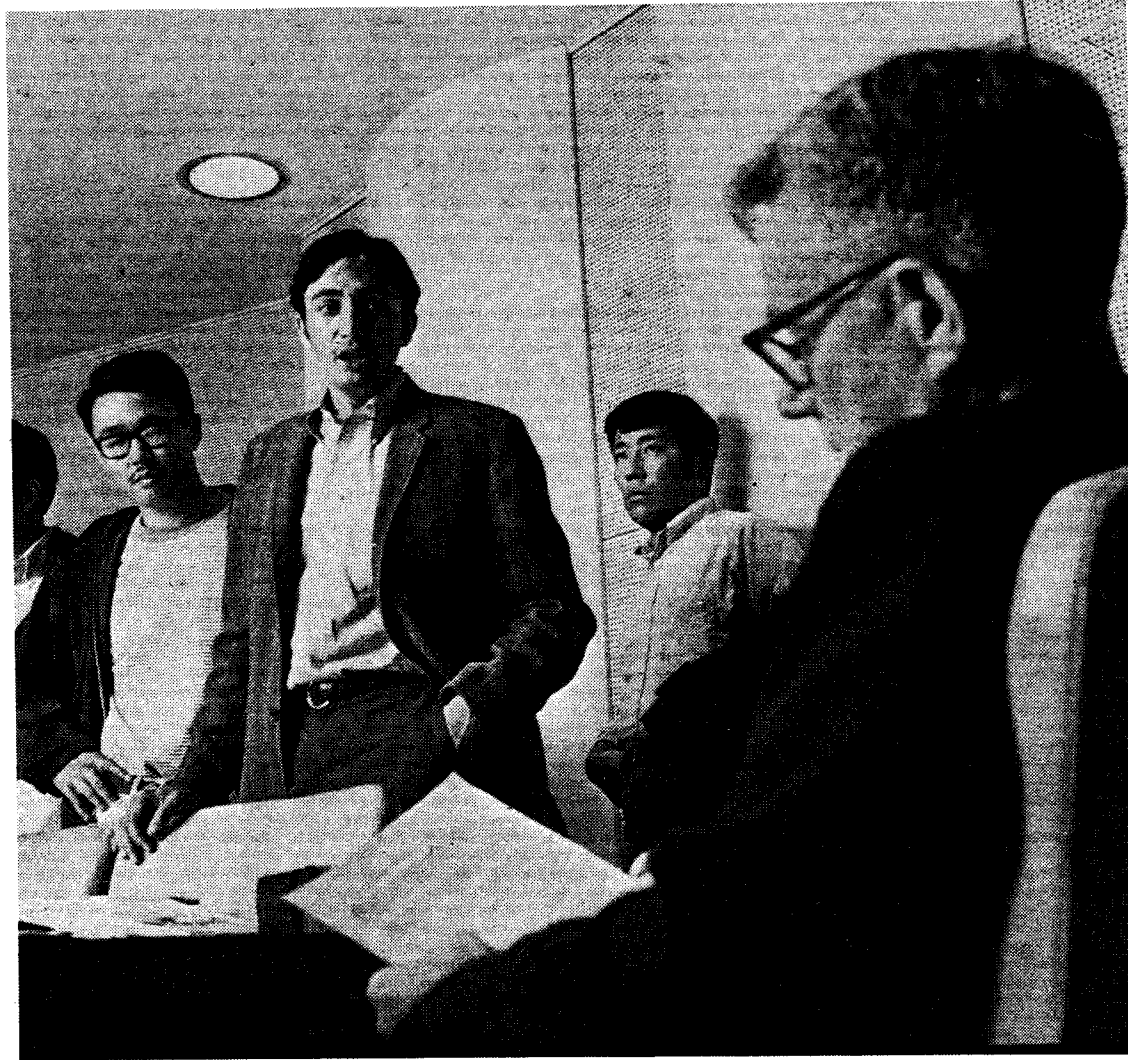
6. For the University to hire a Filipino or Oriental counselor as the need warrants.

7. The S. E. P. Admissions Committee membership to be opened to students of Filipino and-or Oriental descent.

At the press conference, Dr. Evans appointed five students to form the recruiting committee. They are, Woody Wong, Larry Matsuda, Anthony Ogilvie, Ruth Ann Kurose and Theresa Escobar.

Dr. Evans agreed to the other points, except the questions concerning money. Ogilvie gave him 10 days to find if finances were available.

If the questions are not settled within the 10 day period, Ogilvie said he would return to the Asian Coalition, and further actions would be decided upon at that time.



—photo by dick Conrad

Anthony Ogilvie, surrounded by other members of the Asian Coalition, confronts Dr. Charles Evans with a list of demands for inclusion of Filipino and needy Oriental students in the University's Special Education Program.

The recruiters reported by publication time, that 10 applications had been received, after two days recruiting.

Ogilvie says that of the 190 high school graduates, plus other students that qualify for

the S.E.P. program, they hope to recruit 50, by the July 28 deadline.

The problem lies in the fact that because of the late date, most of those eligible have made other plans.

"The University was delinquent in its responsibility to Asian students, and by now many of those eligible have made plans like other schools, or have given up and signed for the draft," said Ogilvie.