

A/BSSA

African/Black Student Statewide Alliance



Black Students on the Move!

A Call to Action

**The 7th Annual
A/BSSA Conference
April 8 & 9**

**Sacramento Spring Action '89
April 10**

**"If there is no struggle, there is no progress.
Those who profess to favor freedom,
and yet deprecate agitation, are men who want
crops without plowing up the ground.
They want rain without thunder and lightning.
They want the ocean without the
awful roar of its many waters...
Power concedes nothing without a demand.
It never has and it never will."**

— Frederick Douglass

On April 8th and 9th, Black student organizations across California will come together at Los Angeles City College as fingers on a hand closing into a fist. Then, on April 10th, we will travel in an A/BSSA Freedom Caravan to Sacramento where we will strike a blow for the future of African Americans in the Spring Action 1989 march and rally for educational rights.

The conference will provide an opportunity to strengthen our campus organizations and build unity and coordination between campuses to increase our clout and influence on a statewide level. We will make A/BSSA into a powerful force for change in the 1990s.

This historic weekend will mark the beginning of a new era. The 1990s will be a decade of transition as California prepares to become the first Rainbow state where people of color comprise the majority of the population. At our conference and Spring Action, A/BSSA will send a clear and unmistakable signal that African American students will play a major role in shaping the future of this state.

Our Mission

Black students have historically been on the cutting edge of social change and progress in this country. A/BSSA comes out of this tradition of struggle. Formed in 1982 to unite Black student organizations across California, A/BSSA's stated mission is "To defend and develop the interests of African American students in academic, professional, and political arenas."

We have sought to carry out our mission by organizing the 7,000 person-strong March on Sacramento for Education in 1987 and the 1988 education conference, "Taking Action for Our Future" which drafted an Education Bill of Rights that we are now trying to make into state law.

We recognize that our generation has been handed the baton for this latest lap in the 400 year African American race for freedom. Let the word go forth that we have accepted the baton and will run with the speed of Jesse Owens, the determination of Rosa Parks, and the endurance of Thurgood Marshall.

The blood of African American people has been shed so that we might have our birthright of a quality education. This country declared it a crime to teach slaves to read, but we are slaves no more. A new era is on the horizon, and we have a dream. It is a dream of an education system where every person has an equal opportunity to learn and grow and develop to their fullest human potential, and where oppressed people can discover the knowledge that leads to power.

We will make this dream a reality by any means necessary.

*Black Students
on the move at
the March on
Sacramento for
Education
April 6, 1987*



A/BSSA Conference

On April 8 and 9 we will hold the 7th Annual A/BSSA Statewide Conference. At critical times in our history, we have come together as a people to assess our situation, determine where we must go, and devise a strategy to move us forward. Looking toward the 1990s, it is time to come together.

The Seventh Annual A/BSSA Conference 1989 will be a landmark gathering of Black students from across the state to accomplish some very serious tasks. Now more than ever we have to see ourselves as today's leaders fighting for a just society with equal educational opportunities. With the rise in gang membership, crack invasions, and high school drop out rate, we need to make education a real alternative. Conference keynote speakers and workshops will be addressing some of the critical issues facing us today. Also this year A/BSSA will give special recognition awards to local leaders and the A/BSSA Positively Black Award to Assemblywoman **Maxine Waters** for their efforts to empower the African American community.



A/BSSA
Caucus at the
Education
Conf.
"Taking
Action for our
Future"
May 14, 1988



Saturday, April 8 University of Southern California

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 6:30 p.m.—7:30 p.m. | Conference Registration |
| 7:30 p.m.—11:00 p.m. | Positively Black Awards Reception |
| 11:00 p.m.—2:00 a.m. | Dance |

Sunday, April 9 Los Angeles City College

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 9:00 a.m.—10:00 a.m. | Conference Registration |
| 10:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m. | 1st General Assembly |
| 11:15 a.m.—1:15 p.m. | Workshops |
| 1:15 p.m.—2:15 p.m. | Lunch
Arts & Crafts and Business Exposition |
| 2:15 p.m.—4:00 p.m. | 2nd General Assembly |
| 6:00 p.m. | Buses leave for Sacramento |

Monday, April 10 Sacramento State Capitol

- | | |
|------------|---|
| 10:00 a.m. | Sacramento Spring Action '89
March and Rally for
Educational Rights |
| 4:00 p.m. | Buses leave Sacramento |

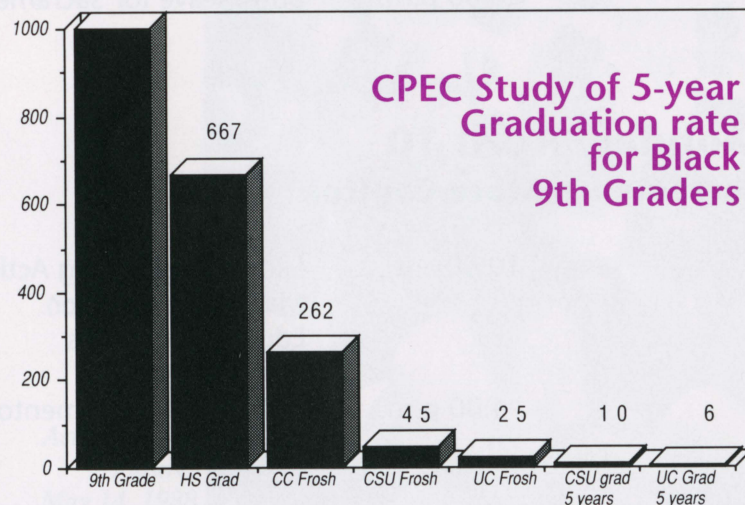
Spring Action

Young Black America has the talent and potential to treat and cure sick people; to build and design affordable housing; to develop businesses which provide meaningful jobs; and to teach the next generation the truth about the world, this nation, and their people. All we need is the opportunity to obtain the necessary education and training.

The majority of students in the K-12 schools in California are people of color. It is time for education policy and allocation of resources to reflect our needs and concerns. Towards that end, we are working with various state legislators on drafting a higher education reform bill that will remold higher education so that colleges and universities address our issues and speak to our reality.

- **We want concrete steps taken to ensure retention and graduation of African American students.**

- Increased funding for student services, especially for Community Colleges.
- Ethnic Studies graduation requirement.
- Increased financial aid in the form of grants.
- Anti-racism clauses in all student conduct codes.
- Expansion of remedial courses.



- **Specifically, we will fight representation on campus the population.**

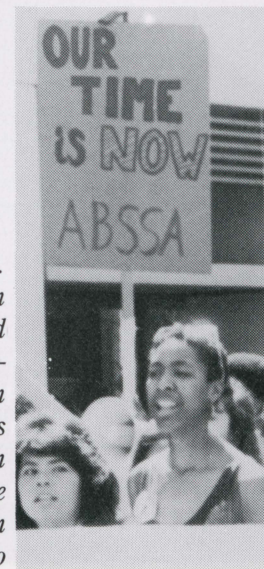
- Increased admissions slots to at least 1
- Graduate school, affirmative action

- **In acknowledgement of the state, we are demanding permanent voice in the**

- State funding for APSU, and MECh monitor the development

On April 10th, we will convene at the Capitol to send notice that is is thousands of students, coming enter the capitol and spread the message. Every school should send a delegation to introduce themselves in a way that adds in addition, we are demanding a the power to veto any bill that There, we will challenge him to march marching forward into the sun

The Rev. Jesse Jackson and Assemblywoman Maxine Waters join with students at the March on Sacramento



Workshops

- Black Student Unions: How to start them, sustain them, and fulfill their mission
- Toward Victory: Our Statewide Educational Rights Campaign
- Community Service and mentoring Black Youth
- Community Colleges: Dead End or Way Out?
- Economic Empowerment: Black Business and Careers with Commitment
- South Africa: Prospects for freedom
- Recruitment and Retention: Whose responsibility is it?
- Black Art and Culture: Tools for Survival and Triumph
- High School Students Take a Stand: LA High School Walkouts
- Know Thyself: the struggle for Black Studies Dept's.

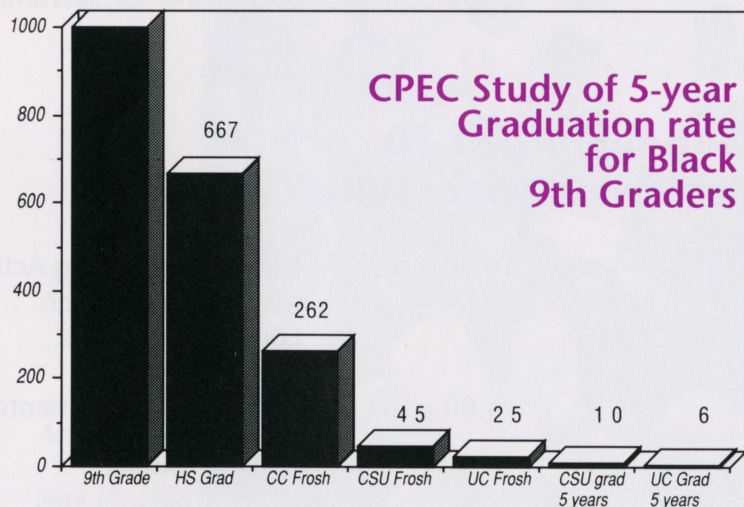
Spring Action

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- Expansion of remedial courses.



Specifically, we will fight for programs that ensure representation on campus that reflects our numbers in the population.

- Increased admission by increasing EOP special admit slots to at least 12 1/2%.
- Graduate school, staff, faculty, administration affirmative action.

In acknowledgement of the changing demographics of the state, we are demanding accountability and a permanent voice in the State Capitol.

- State funding for a legislative watch office for A/BSSA, APSU, and MEChA so that we can have our staff people monitor the development of state policy.

On April 10th, we will come from all corners of the state to the Capitol to send notice that it is time for a change. We want thousands of students, coming from every school in the state, to enter the capitol and spread the gospel of higher education reform. Every school should send a delegation to their local legislator and introduce themselves in a way that won't soon be forgotten. In addition, we are demanding a meeting with the Governor (who has the power to veto any bill that we get through the legislature). There, we will challenge him to support our bill and join us in marching forward into the multicultural future.



The Rev. Jesse Jackson and Assemblywoman Maxine Waters join with students at the March on Sacramento

Please print all information and return by March 24, 1989

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

School _____

Org. _____

Need Transportation yes no
 Need Housing yes no
 If yes: free housing or hotel*

*The Midtown Hilton Hotel is offering reduced room rates for conference participants—call 1-800-950-4458 and say you are attending the A/BSSA Conference (est. \$25 evening)

Yes, I am including my pre-registration fee of \$7.00

No, I am not pre-registering. I will pay \$10.00 on the day of the conference

Yes, I am going to Sacramento Spring Action '89

Please assign me to the following workshops (circle top 3 choices):

- Black Student Unions
- Statewide Educational Rights
- Mentoring Black Youth
- Community Colleges
- Economic Empowerment
- South Africa
- Recruitment and Retention
- L.A. High School Walkouts
- Black Art and Culture
- Black Studies
- Black Community Health

Address on reverse

A Call to Action

April 8-10

The 7th Annual A/BSSA Conference

Featuring

Maxine Waters

Danny Glover

Along With

Darryl Bell

Kim Fields

Pedro Noguera

And Others

**Sacramento
Spring Action '89**

**A/BSSA
c/o LACC Black Student Union
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Los Angeles, CA 90029
Contact: (213) 669-4304 (213) 839-0564
(415) 725-0031**