



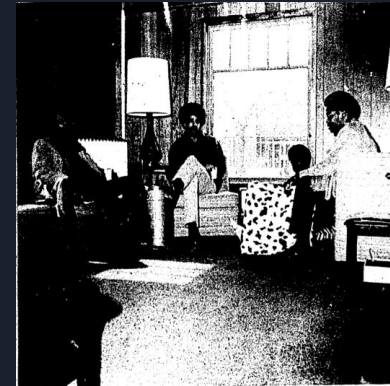
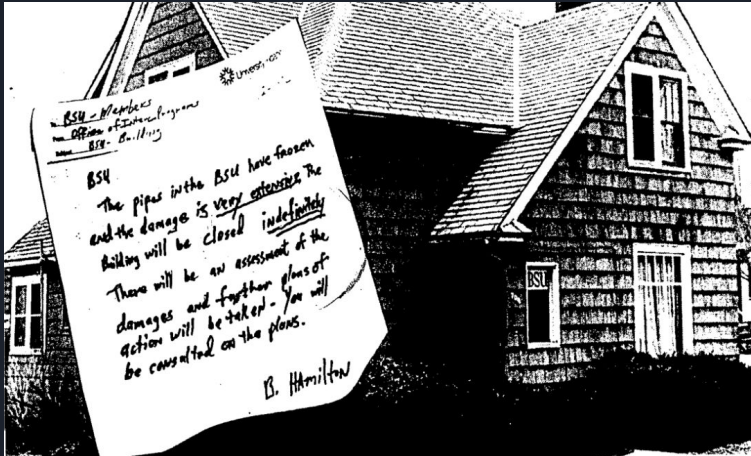
# Black Cultural center in ISUB

Presentation by: Black Student Union

# History of space

We the Black Student Union (BSU) are requesting the space currently being utilized by the information technology services department to serve as a Black Cultural Center space. We are requesting that the proposed Black Cultural Center be located either in (1) Student technology center: room 128 or (2) Region 7 technology solution partner: room 132. We would like the Black Student Union space to be one that is visible and accessible to students. The space would include a lounge and meeting space. We would also be requesting 2 office spaces one for a director, and 1 for a study space that can be converted into office space for a work study student(s), graduate student(s), or administrative assistant as the center grows

The University of Idaho previously had a Black Cultural center on campus in the early 1970's. The Black Student Union's goal is not new but to restore what was once on campus before.



RELAXING ATMOSPHERE—Members of the Black Student Union relax in their new cultural center which opened formally with an open house yesterday. The building, formerly the old College Master's House, was converted for use by the Black Student Union through funds appropriated by the ASUI and the University. Photo by Erich Korte



# Justification for change

Black Cultural Centers serve as a home away from home for Black students at predominantly white institutions. Whether you are from the United States, the Caribbean, Africa, or another part of the diaspora, Black cultural centers can foster leadership skills, enhance academic abilities, provide peer mentors, and bring a sense of cultural identity. The center will serve as a place of academic, social, emotional, and psychological support for Black students. The benefits that come with allocating a designated area to congregate are those which will bring alumni back frequently for years to come.

## Information about the history of higher education Black Cultural Centers in the United States

The implementation of BCC's started in the 1960's when the Civil Rights Movement began. In the subsequent years around the early 1980's there was a great influx of African American students attending predominantly white higher education institutions.



# Financial Solution

The office of Equity and Diversity will financially support and assist BSU with identifying funds to renovate a Black cultural center space. For the year 2020, funds for the Black cultural center will be requested from the office of the president for the director position and the office of Equity and Diversity will work with the future director of the Black cultural center to secure sustainable future funding for its programming.

When the first Black Cultural Center was established at University of Idaho in 1971, the funds to operate the center came from ASUI and the president's office.

## BSU approved

A university-owned house at 706 Deakin St. will be rented to the University of Idaho Black Student Union at a nominal cost after May 1971 for use as a meeting place, following regents' approval Friday.

The decision is an extension of a Board of Regents' policy to approve development of special programs and services for Native American minorities. Faculty Council has endorsed the concept of special services for ethnic minority student groups and is formulating a policy statement for faculty consideration.

The ground floor of the house was recently refurbished and is now in use as a Black cultural center.