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BSU officials hope to fill their office this semester with a new group of young students.

BSU: new enthusiasm in '89

"Youth movement" brightens future

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Officers of the Black Student Union are predicting change for the organization.

Diversity, enthusiasm and an influx of younger members are bringing change to both the organization and the University, according to BSU President Sha-King Alston and Vice President Umar Adeyola.

Increased minority participation in the UB political and administrative system is an important BSU goal, Adeyola and Alston said. "The reason we have a Black Student Union is because the representation that we have on campus does not address our needs," Alston said.

Adeyola concurred, saying, "without politics we have no say in what goes on." He added that to have a greater voice on campus, more minorities need to get in-

volved in the student government.

Surge of young students

Increased participation from the freshman and sophomore classes is reshaping the BSU, he continued. "I'm not saying that the juniors and seniors have died out, but there needs to be a new surge to boost things, and that's the way things are going now."

Alston spoke of "students coming in from diverse areas of New York City, the state, even from other countries that come by the office every day with new ideas (and) wanting to implement new programs." This, he explained, contributes "energy and enthusiasm that's necessary to help our organization."

Alston added, "If this is a University where we all come together to learn, then we should all be aware of other people. Our purpose is to go out and try to teach others about our culture."

BSU activities

To do this, the BSU sponsors various activities on and around campus. These programs include Black History Month, a Kwanza program, and a children's Halloween party. Alston noted that BSU programs are not only for black people. He discussed the annual dialogue held between BSU and the Jewish Student Union and mentioned plans to establish programs with the Women's Caucus Coalition.

Adeyola is seeking an expansion of the organization's programs into the greater-Buffalo community. He described plans for an outreach program, involving tutorials for local young people, and explained the need to reach youths of all ethnic groups.

"I am not speaking on an African-American level, he said, "but I am speaking on an American level. Our youths are the people that are going to bring things together."