



News Service

DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION SERVICES

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News Service

FOR RELEASE: ON RECEIPT

BUFFALO, N.Y. - An intensive, 10-week Total Orientation Program for some 400 disadvantaged students who will be entering State University at Buffalo in September will begin Saturday, July 12 at the University. It is being conducted by the summer orientation committee of the Black Students Union.

The new students will be entering the University through regular admissions and through several specialized programs: Experimental Program for Independent Studies (E.P.I.S.), SEEK, Upward Bound and 100-Plus. They will be aided in the Total Orientation Program by similar students who have spent a year at the University as well as by faculty, administrators and outside community groups.

The Program will operate on a 7-day-a-week basis and each week will explore different areas of concern to the incoming students.

"These students, many of whom have been out of school for long periods of time, come from all walks of life and have little idea of what they will be confronted with academically and administratively when they enter the University," said a member of the planning committee for the orientation program.

"A number will face tremendous problems in adjusting to a university environment which, at times, may seem hostile and confusing to them. Thus, members of the Black Student Union feel that orientation is a necessity. They feel that a student who is properly prepared and knows what it takes to graduate will be able to make a positive contribution to society."

The orientation will begin officially at 9 a.m. on Saturday, July 12 in Norton

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Union with a conference entitled "Minority Students and the Community." Panel discussions will be held with various student organizations and with community groups such as BUILD, N.A.A.C.P., and East Side Community Workers. In addition, Mr. Archie Shepp, jazz musician and director of arts and culture at the University, will moderate a panel discussion.

On succeeding Saturdays, day-long sessions will be held on different topics such as how the University and its various programs and departments are run, career guidance, education, housing, financial aid and counseling. These will be followed up during the week with small seminars. Academic workshops in various skills such as English also will be held as well as tours of the University and of community agencies.

Faculty Advisor and Coordinator of the Total Orientation Program is Mrs. Carolyn Ball. Assistant coordinator is Mr. Roosevelt Rhodes. Planning committee members are Albert Baxter, Mrs. Audrey Dennard, Paulette Grice, Hazel Morris, Frances Nicholson, and Beverly Washington.

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