

EnAct for Survival,  
University of Michigan,  
Ann Arbor.

Call Preston

21<sup>st</sup> alerted him to the  
problem.

Will talk early next week

24<sup>th</sup> Met with Preston.

TF's not necessary

November 16, 1969

Robben W. Fleming,  
President,  
University of Michigan,  
Ann Arbor.

Dear Dr. Fleming:

As you know, we are planning a Teach-In on the Environment to be held at the University of Michigan from March 11 to 14, 1970.

Initial planning began with a small group of students in the School of Natural Resources and in Natural Sciences. We, along with many others, are alarmed by the rapid and continuing degradation of man's environment. In recent years it has become clear that man is even upsetting basic biogeochemical cycles on which his survival depends. Our technological society has not been sympathetic towards the social consequences, and has frankly ignored the ecological consequences, of industrialization. We feel all members of society share a common responsibility for solving environmental problems, just as we all share a common environment and contribute to its degradation. Thus we propose an event, both education and action-oriented, aimed at broad involvement of all disciplines on campus, the Ann Arbor community and beyond to the State and National level.

Already an almost unique alliance is emerging between students, faculty, University units and the community. Some 500 to 700 people are participating in planning, representing student groups, over 25 schools and departments within the University and several community organizations.

As the enclosed news release outlines, active planning is proceeding for a nation-wide teach-in to be held on



April 22, 1970. This event was conceived independently of our own, but we are cooperating in the planning of the national event. Undoubtedly the University of Michigan Teach-In will serve as a prototype for other campuses.

A prospectus and tentative budget for the Teach-In are enclosed. We would like to emphasize that our planning will not call for the cancellation of classes. It is our feeling that individual professors, at their option, may wish to devote class time to discuss environmental issues related to their course material. Individual schools and departments are planning in-house activities, arranged at their discretion. We anticipate establishment of a Teach-In "house" where informal discussions would be held throughout the day. We will schedule a symposium dealing with environmental problems during the Teach-In. This event will be held during the daytime and will involve industrial, government, university and community representatives in formal lectures, panel discussions, etc. The symposium will be structured so that students and faculty can attend freely, as their schedules permit. Events attracting large crowds will be held during noon hours and in the evening. We feel that the issues of the environment are broadly unifying, and any move to disrupt the University could only jeopardize our goals.

We seek strong support from the University administration for the Teach-In on the Environment. Specifically, we ask for:

(1) A letter of endorsement from you, as President, for use in fund-raising.

(2) An immediate "seed" grant of \$1000.00.

(3) Recognition of the educational value of this Teach-In by the appointment of three teaching fellowships (20 hours per week) for the 1970 winter semester. These positions would be assigned, at the discretion of the Teach-In Steering Committee, to the two co-chairmen who are currently teaching fellows in the Zoology Department and in the School of Natural Resources. The third fellowship would be split between two key organizers



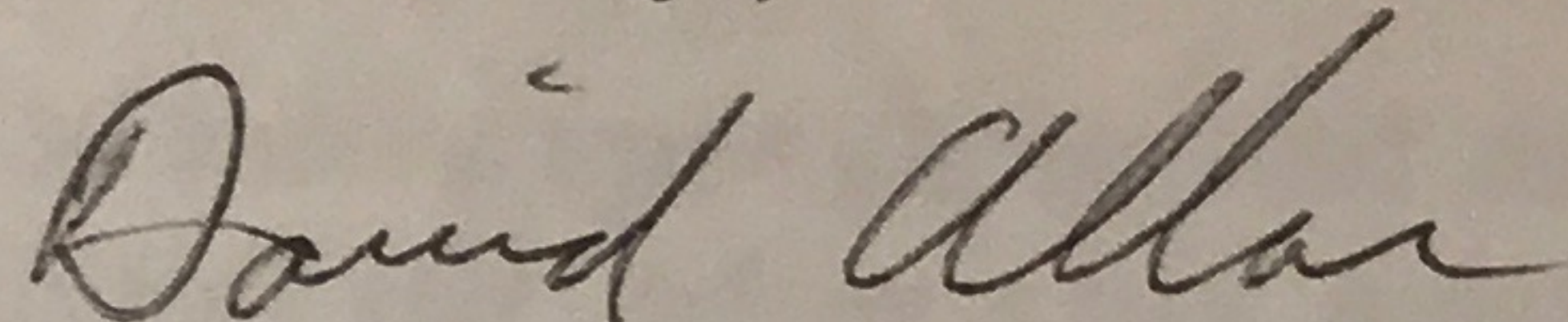
who are dependent upon teaching fellow support. It is clear that all will have great difficulty in carrying out their regular teaching assignments, academic work and Teach-In duties.

(4) An address from you at an appropriate time during the Teach-In.

The potential benefits of this Teach-In to the University are many. Perhaps most important is the potential for involving University and community elements in issues where all share a common concern.

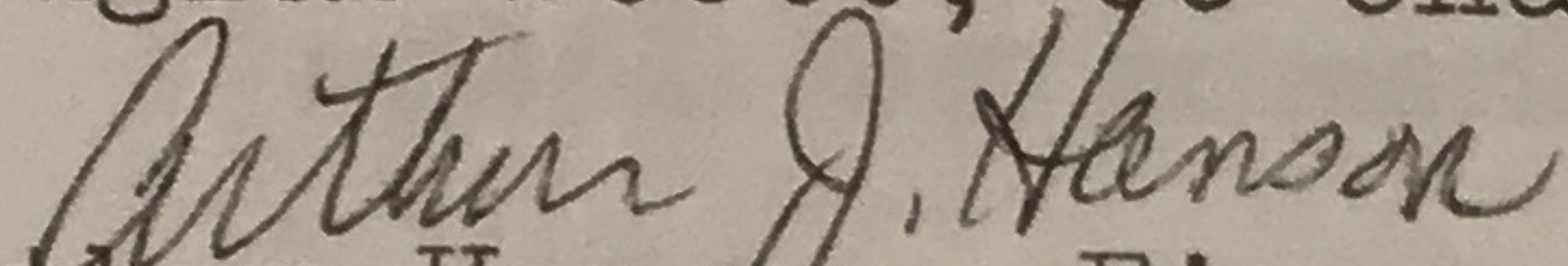
Members of the Teach-In Steering Committee will be pleased to discuss any aspect of our program with you or any member of the University administration.

Sincerely,



David Allan, Co-chairman

Douglas Scott, Co-chairman



Arthur Hanson, Financial chairman

Steering Committee for the  
University of Michigan  
Teach-In on the Environment

Copies: Vice-President  
Newell (15 copies)  
Steering Committee  
members

Enclosures: (1) Press release on national teach-in  
(2) Prospectus on University of Michigan  
Teach-In on the Environment