Campuses commemorate King

By John Gerth

In observance of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., all Boston area schools held commemorative services and activities. Northeastern University cancelled classes Friday, Monday, and Tuesday. On Friday about 300 students marched to Fenway Square and held a protest rally.

Monday at noon a Memorial Service was held in Alumni Auditorium, about 2000 persons heard BU’s President Ana Knowles, Bill Hunt of the Resistance, and Henry Cabarius of the Black Students Union speak on Dr. King and racism in America. The next day students were free to attend the Memorial services at Harvard, and on Wednesday all classes could be turned into workshops at the request of its students.

Boston University

The reaction at BU took the form of discussion groups, rallies, forums, and committees. Classes were cancelled on Monday and Tuesday, while Wednesday classes could be turned into discussions vote of the students. Tuesday night an ad hoc committee of about 100 members convened and presented a long list of resolutions. For example, they want the School of Nursing renamed in Dr. King’s honor, a group of BU in Roxbury, 100 additional Black students, withdrawal of funds from racially tainted sources, and the establishment of a Black, L. King chair in Ethics.

Harvard

Harvard’s Law School was closed on Monday and Tuesday and all the rest of the school on Tuesday. Black students at Harvard held squatter services calling the regular one a white sham. The Black Students Union also submitted demands asking for an endowed chair for a Black, courses relevant to Black students, more lower level Black faculty members, and admission of Black students in proportion to the US population.

Speakers probe US racism

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Shirley Jackson then expressed her conviction that whatever MIT could possible do would be too late for the extreme social change that is necessary. She then questioned whether society can possibly change rapidly enough. Miss Jackson’s comments touched off a vigorous response from a Negro student in the audience. He charged that the whites in the audience were hypocrites and that the students and administration lacked the interest in attempting to help the Negro in America get a better education possibly change rapidly enough. Miss Jackson’s comments touched off a vigorous response from a Negro student in the audience. He charged that the whites in the audience were hypocrites and that the students and administration lacked the interest in attempting to help the Negro in America get a better education.

The photos on this page were taken by George Flynn, Steve Gretter, and Dave Pack.