



**Smithsonian Institution**

*Smithsonian Institution Archives*

## **Proceedings of the Board of Regents Meeting held on January 28, 1985**

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Against the Odds." Outreach messages about the Institution were placed in minority and women's media published by the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), Federally Employed Women (FEW), African Heritage Studies Association, and Southeast House.

The Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service, the Smithsonian's education offices, and various other organization units continue to involve minority and women's organizations in Smithsonian activities and services. The following is an example of such activity:

During the month of February 1984, the Resident Associate Program sponsored a number of activities in commemoration of Black History Month. Two examples took place the week of February 13: Geoffrey Holder in "Instant Theater," and "Langston Lives," an homage to Langston Hughes. The Holder evening was sold out immediately, received a wonderful Post review, and an enthusiastic reception. The "Langston Lives" event attracted over 500 persons on the Saturday of the long George Washington Birthday weekend, over 70% of whom were black. Mayor Barry introduced the program. The Resident Associate Black History eight week course, "Modern Black Writers," has an enrollment of 33 persons with 9 adult scholarships given.

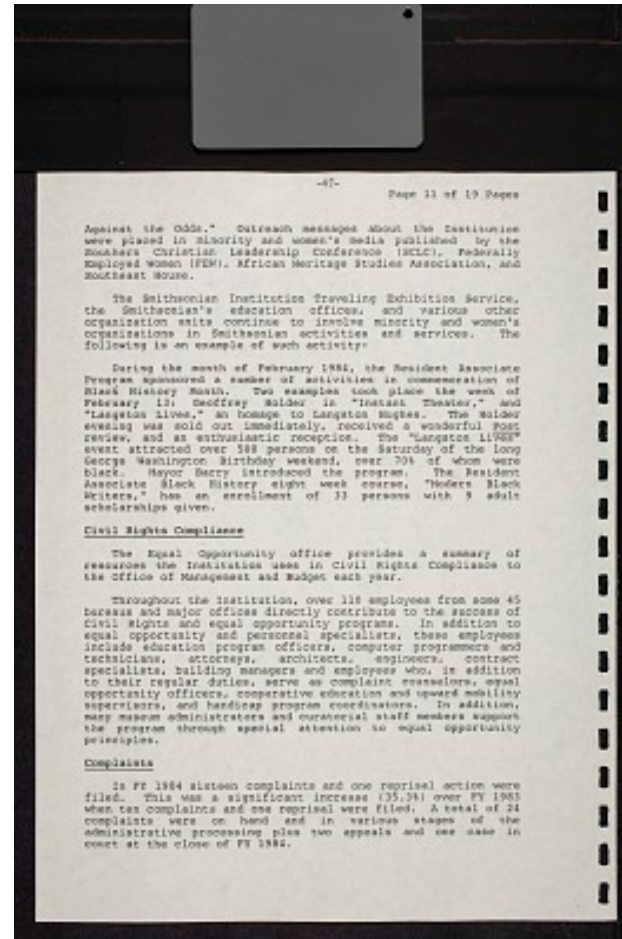
#### Civil Rights Compliance

The Equal Opportunity office provides a summary of resources the Institution uses in Civil Rights Compliance to the Office of Management and Budget each year.

Throughout the Institution, over 110 employees from some 45 bureaus and major offices directly contribute to the success of Civil Rights and equal opportunity programs. In addition to equal opportunity and personnel specialists, these employees include education program officers, computer programmers and technicians, attorneys, architects, engineers, contract specialists, building managers and employees who, in addition to their regular duties, serve as complaint counselors, equal opportunity officers, cooperative education and upward mobility supervisors, and handicap program coordinators. In addition, many museum administrators and curatorial staff members support the program through special attention to equal opportunity principles.

#### Complaints

In FY 1984 sixteen complaints and one reprisal action were filed. This was a significant increase (35.3%) over FY 1983 when ten complaints and one reprisal were filed. A total of 24 complaints were on hand and in various stages of the administrative processing plus two appeals and one case in court at the close of FY 1984.





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The mission of the Smithsonian is the increase and diffusion of knowledge - shaping the future by preserving our heritage, discovering new knowledge, and sharing our resources with the world. Founded in 1846, the Smithsonian is the world's largest museum and research complex, consisting of 19 museums and galleries, the National Zoological Park, and nine research facilities. Become an active part of our mission through the Transcription Center. Together, we are discovering secrets hidden deep inside our collections that illuminate our history and our world.

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