

Dept. of Public Law,
University of the O.F.S.
Bloemfontein.
5th. Sept. 1959

Prof. Z.K. Mathews,
Dept. of African Studies,
University College,
Fort Hare.

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your letter of the 1st instant, and your kind remarks regarding my appointment to Fort Hare. I have no illusions regarding my own limitations and shortcomings in tackling such a big job! All I can say is that I will at all times endeavour to serve the best interests of the College. It is extremely encouraging to have the assurance that I will have the co-operation of those who will continue to be on the staff when I take over. With such co-operation I am sure that the change over need not be too disruptive although it is only natural that new adaptations may take a little time.

I appreciate your remarks regarding Prof. Blackwell. If, however, as you say, it has already been intimated that he will not be appointed further, there is, of course, very little I can do in the matter. I believe that Prof. Blackwell has been acting on a temporary basis. Assuming this to be the case, there is some reason in the argument to fill the vacancy with a more permanent appointment as soon as may be possible so that matters can be stabilised as soon as possible. I know that it is perhaps going to be difficult to find a suitable applicant to fill the post. On the other hand, now that finality has been reached and the uncertainty and insecurity in regard to appointments will no longer be a limiting factor, I am confident that suitable candidates will be forthcoming.

Far from considering you presumptuous in raising the matter, I appreciate it that you felt free to do so. I sincerely hope that anybody will always feel free to raise any point with me, whether I agree with him or not!

Yours sincerely,

