Black students make demands of SLU

Campus hate crimes spur call for greater minority recruitment and transparency

By Rebecca Rivas

Black students at Saint Louis University demanded on Tuesday that administrators respond to the campus’ recent hate crimes by increasing recruiting efforts of black students and faculty, as well as making curricula more inclusive.

On Sunday night, someone accessed the computer connected to a projector in the Busch Student Center at SLU and changed the text on the large screen to read, “Nazis rule f*** niggers and fags.” The week before, students discovered a swastika arranged out of tealight candles outside the Margarita Hall dorm.

SLU’s hate messages follow the result of lengthy demand by the Black Student Alliance held a press conference on Tuesday night to denounce the acts and request public support for its “list of demands” to administrators.

“These actions do not reflect Saint Louis University’s hope for inclusiveness, but instead give light to the reality that many students of African descent face while at Saint Louis University,” said Christopher S. Walker Jr., president of the alliance. “Students of African descent at Saint Louis University have been repeatedly ignored by university administration,” Walker said.

On Friday from Roosevelts High School’s shop program helped to unload pews from Temple Isaiah in Creve Coeur donated to the school with the assistance of Home Works, a teacher home visit initiative. Next semester the students will carpenter the pews into bookshelves to be given to the families of SLPS children who need them.

By Christopher S. Walker Jr.

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From pews to desks

Home Works facilitates temple’s donation to SLPS

By Chris King

Home Works, a teacher home visit program that works with SLPS, facilitated the delivery of a truckload of pews that were donated to Roosevelt’s shop program by Temple Isaiah in Creve Coeur, which also paid the movers.

"This will help younger children in St. Louis Public Schools. If we supply desks and bookshelves, it will increase their reading skills."

― Kenyon Robinson

Kenyen Robinson, 16, a sophomore at Roosevelt High School in the St. Louis Public Schools, has a desk and bookshelves at home. But he knows that many students do not, and that is why he was eager to work on a project that the Home Works organization brought to his school on Friday.

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Robinson and the school’s other shop students, under the direction of teacher Bart Adastral, will carpenter the pews into desks with bookshelves.

Starting next term, Adastral said, students will work in turns to turn the pews, which vary in length from 10 to 30 feet, into whatever they estimate will be 30 new desks with bookshelves. They will be donated to elementary school students working with the Home Works program that lacks desks and bookshelves at home.

The Roosevelt students were well aware of the purpose of the project, as Kenyon is a student of Home Works, who came up with the idea and organized the donation, met with them and explained the project in detail.

“That’s why it’s so important and such a