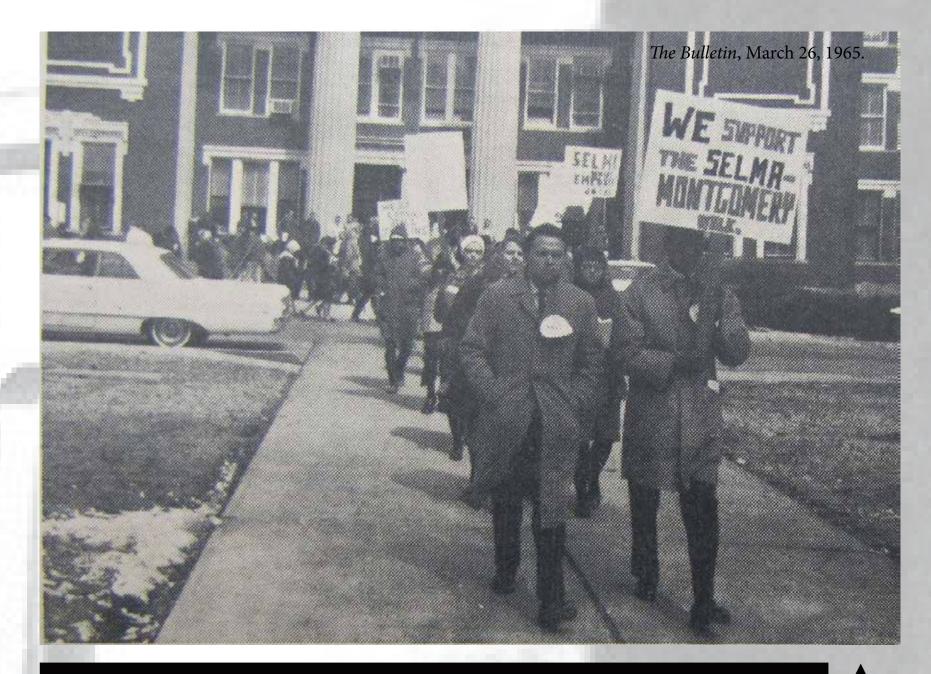


## Dr. King and SCOPE

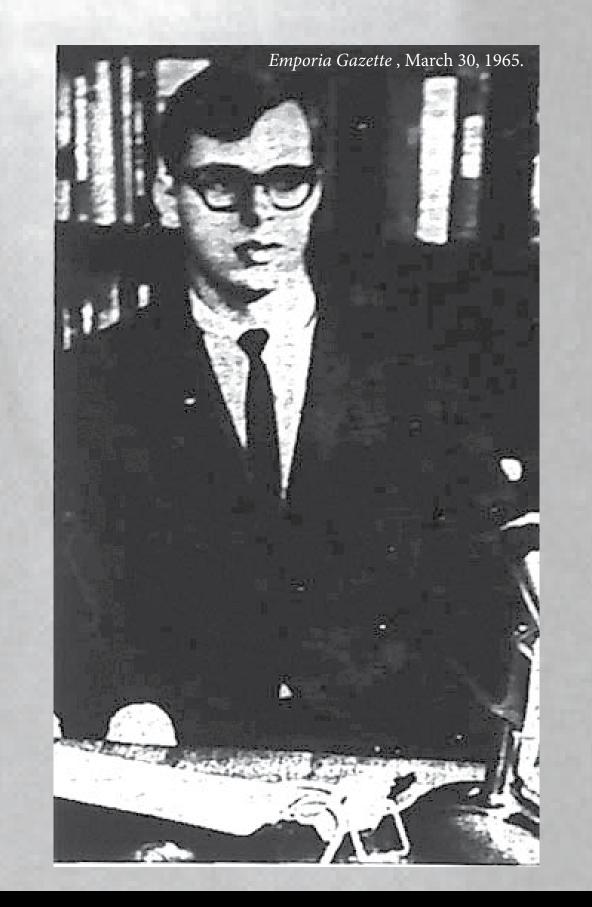
Martin Luther King, Jr. (January 15, 1929 – April 4, 1968) was an American minister, activist, humanitarian, and leader in the African-American Civil Rights Movement. He is best known for his role in the development of civil rights using nonviolent civil protests. King has become a national icon in the history of American progressivism.

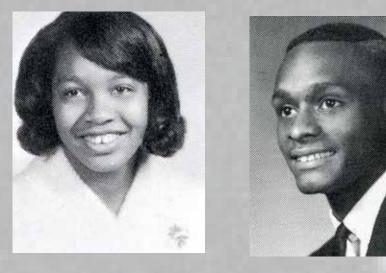
The Summer Community Organization and Political Education (SCOPE) Project of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) was a grass-roots organization, voter registration civil rights initiative conducted from 1965-66 in 120 counties in six southern states. Its goals were threefold: to bring the community together, register voters, and provide political education. Over 1,200 SCOPE workers (including 650 college students from across the nation, 150 SCLC staff members, and 400 local volunteers) served in 6 southern states to register African-Americans to vote. By the end of August 1965, more than 49,000 new African-Americans were registered to vote.

Students from both Kansas State Teachers College and College of Emporia participated in SCOPE, traveling to Madison County, FL. Those participating included, but are not limited to: Claudine Boldridge, Michael Edwards, John Hetlinger, Savannah Jones and Joe Keesecker (C of E).



Nearly 110 people composed of black and white students from colleges, a few instructors, ministers, and townspeople participated in a Sympathy Walk in connection with the Selma, AL, civil rights march.









As pictured in *The Sunflower* from left: Claudene Boldridge (1965); Michael Edwards (1966), William Jenkins (1965), and Savannah Jones (1966).



EMPORIA CIVIL RIGHTS WORKERS- Members of a delegation from Emporia that went to Madison, FL., this summer included members of SCOPE. Shown above are, from left: Miss Savannah Jones, Joseph T. Keesecker (C of E), and Miss Claudine Boldridge.

KSTC student William Jenkins was one of two students selected by The State Methodist Student Movement to go to Alabama. While there Jenkins participated in a march for voters rights. Armed with a sign stating 'One Man, One Vote, Register Now,' Jenkins was among fifty people jailed in an Alabama prison where he was sent for taking part in demonstrations in Montgomery.

In protest of the segregated cells, Jenkins joined a hunger strike for six days. Those arrested were given an opportunity to plead guilty and "take the next plane out," but Jenkins elected to remain in jail and stand trial.

## 334 Auburn Are, N.E. Atlanta, Georgia 30303 Telephone 522.1420 Southern Christian Leadership Conference

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September 30, 1965

John E. King, President Kansas State Teacher's College Emporia, Kansas

Dear President King

Nineteen hundred and sixty-five has been a milestone year in the Southern Negro's struggle for freedom. With a new sense of dignity Negroes are marching to courthouses all across the South striving to have their voices heard and respected in all realms of civic and public life. Many counties which had never seen a civil rights worker prior to this summer are presently engaged in conducting voter registration drives, teaching political education classes, developing labor unions, and organizing their communities.

This year's explosion of activity is due to a number offactors, one of which was our summer project SCOPE (SUMMER COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION AND POLITICAL EDUCATION). SCOPE's activity in over one hundred Southern counties across six states, resulting in the registration of over fifty thousand Negroes was undoubtedly one of the prime movers in stimulating the momentum that is presently growing across the South. But it will take years to measure the effect of this summer's work because these efforts arlike a pebble dropped into a pond--only time will tell new

wide a circle the ripples will make.

We of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference are grateful for the efforts that you and your school have wade loward this summer of progress. On behalf of myself, the Board of Directors, and staff of the Southern Christian Les dership Conference, we extend our gratitude in appreciation for your efforts in our struggle for human dignity. Only through the cooperation of the minds, bodies and resource of persons from all corners of our nation can we cure tro melady of racism in American life.

We are especially appreciative of the academic conmunity for the part that it continues to play in the resiszation of freedom and justice within our society.

Martin Lather King,

Letter dated September 30, 1965 from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. addressed to President John E. King recognizing and showing appreciation for student participation in the SCOPE project.

MLKICS

Background: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Speaking at Kansas State University, 1968. Photo courtesy Kansas Memory http://www.kansasmemory.org/item/221764/page/2