

Dr. HUDSON. A flat amount. One-third in the case of higher educational institutions, and 40 percent in the case of public community colleges.

Mrs. GREEN. Because of the differential in the financial resources of individual institutions, would there be any merit, as is done in some States, to have a sliding scale, so that one institution might have 10 percent matching funds, and another 33, and one junior college might have 10, and another 40 percent?

Dr. HUDSON. We appreciate this privilege, and we have it. We could allocate our funds in this manner. However, it is almost impossible for an educational institution, Madam Chairman, to apply for money and not know how much they are going to get, and work out a budget for a construction project.

We want to put up a hundred thousand dollar building. Can we get 40 percent? Do we get 40 or 30 or 20 or 10?

It makes it extremely difficult for the institution to organize a program to get a project constructed, because they would be uncertain about the financial portion of it.

Mr. ERLNBORN. Would you yield to me?

I have a couple of questions now.

Have you had any difficulty in dealing with the Department of Housing and Urban Development in the engineering and architectural services? Do you think this could better be done by the Office of Education?

Dr. HUDSON. Possibly it could. We have not had any difficulty, because the office is located here in Atlanta, and we have personal contact with them. If a problem arises, we can go directly to them and work it out.

Mississippi, for instance, if they had to travel all the way into Atlanta, would be at a greater disadvantage. Possibly the Office of Education could handle this portion of this work. I would think that the coordination would be improved.

Mr. ERLNBORN. It would not be an improvement, however, if they would concentrate that in Washington?

Dr. HUDSON. No. We would lose the local contact. That is true.

Mr. ERLNBORN. That leads me to my next question: How do you feel about the decentralization of the Office of Education, admitting, of course, that it has not been completely effective, even though you are farther ahead here in Atlanta than elsewhere in the country?

Dr. HUDSON. Sir, I am already acquainted with, have worked with, the individual in the college branch section that will be assigned to this region. I will be delighted to have him here in Atlanta, because again our contacts will be much closer.

However, he is only a telephone call away. As long as I can get the answers to questions that I can't answer, that institutions bring to me, as long as I can get those answers, I don't care whether he is located here or in Washington. I think he could possibly do a better job here. He would be closer to our problems.

Mr. ERLNBORN. You really have experienced no difficulty in your relationship with him presently?

Dr. HUDSON. No difficulty at all.

Mr. ERLNBORN. You are not required to travel frequently to Washington and consult with him?

Dr. HUDSON. I am in Washington four times a year, if this is necessary.