

FACULTY PLEADS

FOR WOODS

Petition Calls For Meeting

*Says Campus Fate
Involves Education*

By HERBERT MARCUS
Eleven University professors have prepared a petition asking University Pres. C. A. Elvehjem to call a special faculty meeting to vote on a resolution, directed to the Board of Regents, which lashes the recommendation to erect a building in the lakeside, wooded area of Bascom Hill.

It was learned that the group, which includes several department heads, feels that the location of campus buildings "is an educational matter that falls within the province of faculty responsibility, as outlined by the laws of the Regents," and that the faculty has had "no time or opportunity" for discussion of the proposal.

The University Campus Planning Commission, established by the Regents, has recommended to the Regents construction of a sociology-economics building in the wooded area of "the hill" between the carillon tower and Elizabeth Waters Hall. A survey by The Capital Times Wednesday showed six of the nine Regents are favorably disposed towards at least a limited building program in the area.

The resolution upon which the petitioning group wants the faculty of the University to vote states that "it is the consensus of this faculty":

1. That every effort should be made to preserve the natural beauty of the campus in planning the expansion of the physical plant of the University.

2. That every effort should be made to prevent any further encroachment on the wooded areas of the present campus, above all the woods between Ob-

(Continued on Page 4, Col. 1)

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Petition Calls for Meeting

Preserve Woods, Professors Plead

(Continued from Page 1)

3. That positive efforts be made to provide for future expansion of the physical plant in the area south of University Avenue.

4. That the faculty as a whole be given an opportunity to express its judgment prior to any decision on campus planning which involves a major change in the natural landscape"

The signers of the petition, who also drafted the resolution to be presented to the faculty, are:

Prof. Andrew H. Clark, chairman of the Geography Department; Prof. William L. Sachse, chairman of the History Department; Prof. Helen C. White, English Department; Prof. Joseph E. Tucker, French Department;

Prof. Roe-Merrill S. Heffner, chairman of the German Department; Prof. Raymond J. Roark, mechanical engineering; Prof. Lowell E. Noland, zoology; Prof. E. R. Mulvihill, Spanish Department; Prof. Herbert M. Howe, Classics Department; Prof. Einar Haugen, chairman of the Scandinavian Department, and Asst. Prof. Helen Northup, library science.

One of the University's most distinguished faculty members, Prof. Walter R. Agard, of the Classics Department, also raised his voice in protest today against the notion of placing a building in the wooded area.

"I hope that a flood of protests will drown this wretched suggestion," Agard told The Capital Times.

"In spite of much faculty opposition, the Campus Planning Board recommends that the lake side of Bascom Hill, one of the few spots on our campus that we have allowed to retain its natural

Agard said.

"The University owns a great deal of property near University Avenue. Why cannot substantial buildings be erected there (Incidentally they would keep Chadbourne Hall from sticking out like a sore thumb) and let Bascom Hill retain the beauty which has been our justified boast, and which provides one far from insignificant element in our education?" Agard asked.

Prof. Haugen, one of the signers, said that the group actually drew the petition up several days before the recommendation of the planning body became public news.

"It was drawn up several days ago by a group of people who expressed interest in this problem and want to request a special meeting to discuss alternatives presented by the Planning Commission to the faculty at an earlier meeting," Haugen said.

"There was no time or opportunity for discussion on the part of the faculty at the previous meeting. The commission asked for questions but there was no discussion. We felt there was a need for talking it over more widely in the faculty and giving an opportunity for the faculty as a whole to be heard.

"The Planning Commission is appointed by the Regents and is not responsible to the faculty, although it includes a few faculty representatives.

"A few members of the faculty gathered to prepare a request of the president that a special faculty meeting be called to discuss the problem.

"This is an informal, self-appointed committee. No attempt has been made to secure signatures widely," Haugen said.

The Planning Commission's recommendation will go to the