Frautschi Point: UW's new resource

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Frautschi Point, like the Arboretum, will be an important educational setting for the university community—"a resource for the spirit and the mind," Chancellor Donna E. Shalala said August 14 at the dedication of the prime shoreline property.

With the acquisition of Frautschi Point, a gift from the Frautschi family in honor of patriarch Walter Frautschi, the university now owns more than 24,000 feet of virtually undeveloped Lake Mendota shoreline.

"Looking over toward Frautschi Point, you can see that the property is a developer's dream: 1600 feet of Lake Mendota shoreline, nearly 17 acres of beautifully wooded land," Shalala told a gathering of university, UW Foundation, city and state officials during the ceremony in Van Hise Hall.

Thanks to the efforts of UW Foundation officials and the generosity of John and Jerry Frautschi, the property will not be commercially developed, Shalala said.

Except for the creation of a few hiking trails, Frautschi Point will remain in its natural state, she said. It will be administered like neighboring Picnic Point.

UW System President Kenneth Shaw told the gathering that Frautschi Point symbolized "Walter Frautschi's lifetime love affair" with the university and its lake area.

Madison Mayor Paul Soglin noted that the property formerly owned by the late Reginald Jackson was "the most significant lakeshore property that could have been developed." The city greatly benefits from having this property preserved, he said.

FRAUTSCHI POINT, shown in the shaded area above, is bordered by Picnic Point (A) and Eagle Heights family housing complex (B). University Hospital and Clinics is in the lower center of the map (C). UW-Madisoa officials said at a dedication ceremony last week that Frautschi Point will remain in its natural state.