

UNIVERSITY OF
WISCONSIN
M A D I S O N

April 12, 2002

TO: John Harrington, Chair
Campus Natural Areas Committee

FROM: John Wiley, Chancellor

Thank you for your committee's report and recommendations regarding space and user issues in the Eagle Heights/University Apartments garden areas. I appreciate the special attention given to the complicated issues generated by the CALS biocore needs and the prairie restoration initiative. I believe that you have, in the end, demonstrated a reasonable accommodation of widely varied user interests.

I accept the CNAC report, and endorse its recommendations. I also support the CNAC Master Planning Process.

You have indicated that the CNAC should refrain from participating in day to day governance issues of the Eagle Heights Gardens, and I concur. I am establishing a Garden Oversight Committee (GOC). The GOC will be comprised of administrative staff appointed from University Housing (2), Facilities Planning and Management (2), the CNA coordinator, and two, non-voting, members from the Eagle Heights Garden Committee (EHGC). The GOC will be guided by co-chairs; one appointed by the Director of University Housing and one appointed by the Assistant Vice Chancellor of Facilities Planning and Management. The GOC will develop broad policies and procedures ensuring fair and equitable use of the gardens. The GOC, in turn, will establish an operation and management unit; the Eagle Heights Garden Committee (EHGC), to develop, implement and enforce appropriate gardening principles and guidelines for garden plot use.

We have sufficient space to reasonably accommodate the needs of all gardeners. The GOC is to determine plot size, determine the maximum number of plots each household will be allocated, set a time limit policy (suggest 8 years, where extension of the time is at the discretion of the GOC), establish fees, and allocate plots in accordance with the following priority:

1. University Apartments residents (Eagle Heights / University Houses)
2. Other University of Wisconsin-Madison students
3. University of Wisconsin-Madison faculty/staff
4. Non-University of Wisconsin-Madison affiliated parties

I understand the need for diversity and "mentorship" by non-UW affiliated gardeners but want to ensure that Eagle Heights / University Houses residents (for whom the gardens were started) have top priority in the assignment of plots. I also understand the desire of returning gardeners to

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continue with their same plot and acknowledge their significant contribution as mentors but believe returning gardeners should have priority only within their own category. I would expect a returning non-UW affiliated gardener to have priority over a new non-UW affiliated gardener, but not over a new Eagle Heights resident who wishes to garden there.

The collection of fees and the retention of staff will be the management responsibility of University Housing – University Apartments office.

cc: Representative Spencer Black
Kathleen Arrington, Eagle Heights Gardens Representative
LaMarr Billips, Chancellor's Office
Bruce Braun, Assistant Vice Chancellor, FP&M
Paul Evans, Director University Housing
John Harrod, Director Physical Plant
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