Haugen Denies Faculty Has 'Given Up' Fight For Woods

The chairman of the University Scandinavian Department denied that the faculty has "given up" its opposition to building in the woods. He stated that it favors limitation of construction to only one building.

The statement follows:

"If I take the liberty of addressing you directly, it is for the purpose of advising you not to fall into the error proclaimed in the newspapers today: that the faculty has 'given up' its opposition to building in the woods. This was the spirit of 'saving the peace' that more than a hundred faculty members signed the attached petition. In the weeks just before this meeting, they were not 'giving up,' but asking that the destruction be stopped. It should not also include the lower area which was buildings on the sketch-plan submitted to us."

"One thing is certain: the faculty would have voted thunderously against any building in the woods, if the building of a social studies unit had not been made contingent on this wanton destruction. There is widespread dissatisfaction at a policy which forced three departments to vote against the interests of the University community and their own convictions; in order to get a building for themselves. A mere fourteen votes changed at the meeting of Jan. 12 would have meant a clear defeat for the policy espoused by the Planning Commission and the Administration."

"Correspondence and calls received over the past weeks have convinced me that many are watching you with anxiety and concern at your coming meeting. At your public hearing, not one person appeared in favor of the Commission's plan. These woods form a natural resource of Wisconsin, which is easily destroyed and can never be recaptured."