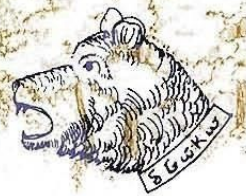


# Order of the Golden Bear



The Usual Place, October 11, 2016

The topic of tonight's discussion was on land use and development on the UC Berkeley campus.

The conversation was centered on a number of significant capital projects are underway including the building of a new aquatic center, the Stiles Hall housing project, the Berkeley Way West project, and the unveiling of plans to build a hotel on Shattuck.

Fellows described the current uneven and ineffective approach the university has toward capital projects. They highlighted this disconnect when projects such as a the new aquatic center eliminate hundreds of parking spaces that are not replaced thus affecting commuting employees. Another Fellow added that the campus has been planning as if it has access to unlimited space. This Fellow stressed that the university does not have unlimited space and should build for long term solutions not short term. This Fellow also addressed the fact that the campus will need to start thinking about enforcing a hard cap on enrollment, as we are exhausting our building potential. Another issue that was brought up by Fellows was the lack of general assignment classroom space. A Fellow described the classroom shortage as impactful as many classrooms are unavailable due to construction.

Following the discussion on classroom shortage began a conversation on increased enrollment. A Fellow mentioned that several deans were told that they would need to enroll 1,000 additional students. This Fellow added that the university does have more land that it could develop in order to provide additional student areas. A few Fellows were interested in the future development of the old Berkeley Art Museum. These Fellows urged that plans be made wisely in regard in housing development versus other types of capital projects. Fellows discussed the

development of Stiles Hall, which is set to provide an additional housing option in the near future.

Increased enrollment sparked a discussion by a few Fellows on the larger impact of population increase on public transportation and green spaces. A Fellow noted that BART is working at maximum capacity which has led for major delays. Another Fellow, mentioned that the AC Transit pass needed to be kept but that certain routes should be added, especially where sororities are located. This Fellow was concerned with the university's plan to build a hotel rather than address the housing crisis. Another Fellow highlighted that other campuses, Mills College and Holy Names University, were being used for housing. Furthermore, Fellows discussed what the carrying capacity is for the university to maintain a good environment.

Additionally, Fellows discussed facilities that the campus lacks. Fellows agreed that lack of safe student housing was a major issue. Some Fellows discussed plans for an emergency shelter as well as the Stiles Hall project as options in the future. Fellows mentioned the Bancroft Student Housing project, formerly Stiles Hall, will become the site of new student housing providing the campus with 600 to 800 beds by Fall 2018. Many Fellows noted that rent costs are on a rise. Additionally, Fellows were concerned with the lack of priority on behalf of the administration towards student housing. Fellows highlighted that a decrease in affordable student housing leads students opting to live in dangerous buildings with poor infrastructure.

Traditionally the last few minutes of every discussion Fellows provide action items. Fellows added that they would like to see an increase in the availability of classroom space for students. Fellows seek to ensure that the university is well maintained to accommodate student increase.