



University housing: Knapp House. 1949/1999

[Madison, Wisconsin]: [s.n.], 1949/1999

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NEWS

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UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Housing
Humphreys

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

8/25/99

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BACK TO SCHOOL SPECIAL:

STUDENTS MOVE IN AT RESIDENCE HALLS THIS WEEKEND

MADISON - About 7,000 students will move into University of Wisconsin-Madison residence halls beginning this Friday and Saturday, Aug. 27-28.

Teams of faculty, staff and "Badger Buddies" -- returning student residents who can answer questions -- will greet new students during move-in day. Residence halls open at 7 a.m.

The Division of University Housing takes great care to spread out the moving process to avoid logjams, but Madison commuters traveling on or near campus Friday may want to rearrange their routes to avoid streets near the southeast residence halls along West Johnson Street and the west campus near the lakeshore residence halls.

Among other changes this fall, students in the residence halls will enjoy a smoke-free atmosphere. Smoking now will be banned in all residence halls, including student rooms, says Paul Evans, director of University Housing.

Smoking previously was prohibited in public areas of university housing, such as dens, lounges and corridors. More than half of campus residence halls had been smoke-free in the past.

The university has enforced a smoke-free policy for other campus buildings since 1991 as a way to promote campus health. The original policy applied to most UW-Madison buildings, including individual offices.

And as usual, some students will be placed in temporary housing, but they will live as well as students with permanent room assignments, housing officials say.

About 200 students have been assigned to short-course residence halls and residence hall dens because of this fall's larger-than-expected group of incoming first-

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year students, says Alice Gustafson, assistant director of University Housing.

The university each year typically accepts more students than it can house because a percentage of students cancel housing at the last minute or leave the university during the first weeks of classes.

"We try to maximize the number of students who will have an opportunity to live in our residence halls, and that sometimes requires us to place students in temporary housing," Evans says. "This process helps minimize overall vacancy rates and keeps student housing rates as low as possible."

This year's group is larger than the usual 90 or so students who are initially assigned to temporary quarters. But all contracts with student residents will be honored and all students in temporary housing eventually will receive room assignments, many of them in the residence halls they initially requested in their applications.

Students in short-course residence halls, the Humphrey and Jorns halls near the Lake Mendota shore, will occupy quarters that are essentially the same as residence hall rooms.

And students placed in residence hall dens, large areas that are normally open to all residents on a floor, will be provided with furnishings including beds and desks, telephones, refrigerators, data ports for their computers, cable TV and wardrobe space, among other things.

Each temporary resident will be assigned to a housefellow who can help the student get oriented to campus, the residents in temporary housing have the same access to food service, academic resources and cultural facilities, Gustafson says.

Even so, these residents will get a 20 percent discount on fall semester housing fees for the period they remain in temporary housing, Gustafson says.

The temporary assignments come as no surprise to arriving students. Housing officials notified the students last spring that they did not have a permanent room assignment, explaining the situation and how it will be resolved.

Gustafson says she's impressed by the group's willingness to roll with the changes. "Our students have been patient and respectful, and their parents have been incredibly gracious," Gustafson says.

From the University of Wisconsin-Madison / News Service, Bascom Hall, 500 Lincoln Drive, Madison 53706 / Telephone: 608/262-3571

Release: **Immediately**

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2/12/81 ns
W.I. Hall

UW-MADISON NEWS BRIEFS

CONTACT: Steve Saffian (608) 263-1711

COMMITTEE TO REVIEW WISCONSIN HALL CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT

The Statutory Advisory Housing Committee Friday (Feb. 13) will begin reviewing the conditional use permit for Wisconsin Hall, 126 Langdon St., as requested by the Madison Plan Commission.

The informational session is scheduled to include presentations by representatives of student tenants, who have alleged non-compliance with terms of the hall's year-old permit, Wisconsin Hall management, and the city Zoning Administrator's Office.

The committee, composed of city and university representatives, is expected to formulate a recommendation for the Plan Commission at a later meeting.

Friday's session will begin at 1:30 p.m. at Memorial Union (the room will be posted).

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CONTACT: Professor Marjorie Kreilick (608) 262-1660

ART EXHIBIT, LECTURES TO HIGHLIGHT USE OF COLOR

The work of 60 art department students will be displayed to the public during "Color '81" opening Monday (Feb. 16) and continuing until Feb. 27 in the 7th floor gallery at the UW-Madison Humanities Building.

Two visiting lecturers will discuss use of color. Art Professor William Libby of Carnegie-Mellon University at Pittsburgh will speak at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 20 at the Elvehjem Museum of Art. Libby is author of "Color and the Structural Sense.

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The second lecturer will be Herb Aach of Queens College, New York City, editor and translator of "Goethe's Color Theory." Date of his appearance will be announced later by the art department (262-1660).

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CONTACT: Professor William Nienhauser Jr. (608) 262-0689

CHINESE SCHOLARS TO DISCUSS TAIWAN LITERATURE

A panel of Chinese professors on a month-long tour of the United States will discuss "Current Trends in the Study of Classical East Asian Literature in Taiwan" Tuesday (Feb. 17) at 10 a.m. at 1418 Van Hise Hall, 1220 Linden Drive.

The panel, presented by the UW-Madison department of East Asian languages and literature and the Council on Chinese Studies, will feature Professors Hou Chien, dean of arts and sciences at Taiwan National University; Lin Wen-Yueh, specialist on classical Chinese and Japanese literature at TNU; and Yao I-Wei, dramatist at the University of Chinese Culture.

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CONTACT: African Studies Department (608) 262-2380

AFRICAN PROGRAM OFFERS NOON HOUR SEMINARS

Two noon "sandwich seminars" are being offered during February by the UW-Madison African studies program.

The public is invited to the 12 p.m. brown-bag talks at 1418 Van Hise Hall, 1220 Linden Drive. Coffee will be available.

The seminar leaders include:

Feb. 18 -- Tom Shick, Afro-American studies, "Liberia After the Coup: Behold the New Promised Land"; and

Feb. 25 -- Ahmad Al-Haggagi, African languages and literature, "Oral Traditions in Egypt."

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Housing FILE

LANGDON ASSOCIATES

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CONSTRUCTION BEGINS AT SITE OF WISCONSIN HALL

MADISON, WIS....State, city and University of Wisconsin officials took part this morning in the official ground-breaking ceremony for the first privately owned and operated residence hall for University of Wisconsin men.

Wisconsin Hall, 126 Langdon Street, Madison, will be an eight-story, air-conditioned building overlooking Lake Mendota. The project, first of its kind in the nation, will ultimately accomodate 516 men. It also is the first construction project to begin during the administration of University president Fred H. Harrington. Harrington was named to head the University of Wisconsin early this month following the death of Dr. Conrad A. Elvehjem.

Langdon Associates, a group of Madison business and professional men, are the sponsors of the Wisconsin Hall project. J. H. Findorff & Son, Inc. is the general contractor.

A spokesman for Langdon Associates said the design of the building is based on a survey of undergraduate men and talks with university housing officials. The residence hall will provide "a maximum of facilities at a cost well within the budget of the average student", he said. It will include a special health club, recreation room, special

(more)

study rooms, access to Lake Mendota, sun deck, spacious first floor parlors, a large cafeteria dining room, and a snack bar which will be open in the evenings.

The rooms will be furnished with lounge chairs, private telephones and individual room temperature controls and will be treated acoustically to provide a quiet, home-like atmosphere.

A Findorff official said the building will be ready for occupancy in September, 1963.

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U. W. NEWS

FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN NEWS SERVICE, MADISON 6, WISCONSIN

4/16/59 vh

RELEASE:

Immediately

[Housing]

MADISON, Wis.--For the first time in its history, the University of Wisconsin will open a special residence hall for graduate women next fall, the University announced today.

Barnard Hall, a large stone dormitory in the heart of the Madison campus which thus far has housed only undergraduates, will be converted to a dormitory especially for graduate women and "offer the special quiet and scholarly environment that advanced studies demand," the announcement from University Residence Halls indicated.

The Barnard program is expected to follow somewhat the pattern set by the Knapp Graduate Center for Men on the Wisconsin campus, a successful program which brings together graduate students from varied fields, and includes informal house seminars and other programs of special interest to advanced students.

Room and board rates at Barnard will range from \$800 for single rooms to \$730 for triple suites, and graduate women may take the option of having noon meals elsewhere at a \$100 reduction of the room and board rate. Graduate women will not be subject to undergraduate dormitory hours, the University pointed out, and applications may be submitted now to the Residence Halls assignment office, Slichter Hall, Madison.

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FEATURE STORY

Knapp House

FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN NEWS SERVICE, MADISON 6, WISCONSIN

12/5/57 cg

RELEASE: Immediately

By Carl Galow

MADISON, Wis.-~~Knapp Memorial Graduate Center~~, the University of Wisconsin's unique program in graduate student living, has come of age.

Successful beyond expectations in its six years of existence, the Center has moved through the educational experiment stage and is now an accepted and vital segment of the UW graduate program.

Biggest immediate problem, according to associate graduate dean J. Homer Herriott, is procuring added graduate student housing for expansion similar to the Knapp program.

Graduate authorities have drafted tentative future plans when facilities and funds become available. These plans call for extension of the program in three groups--women in their final year of doctoral study, first-year male graduate students, and married graduate students, in that order.

Negotiations are underway with University housing administrators to have a section of the Chadbourne women's residence, now under construction, set aside for graduate women, to operate on a basis much like Knapp Center.

The Center was started in 1951 as a memorial to the late Kemper K. Knapp, Wisconsin alumnus who left an endowment of more than \$2,000,000 to the University to aid the teaching of ideals of citizenship.

Actual idea for the Center came from the late Prof. William Kiekhofer of the economics department, the campus "Mr. Chips" of his day. He recognized the need for intellectually broadening experiences in the different academic disciplines in the face of growing trends of specialization in education.

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Add one--Knapp feature

Present use as the Knapp Graduate Center continues the rich tradition established when the building served as the Wisconsin governor's residence for many decades.

Praised for its "personality and distinction," the structure was built in 1854 by Julius T. White, Madison businessman who was later a general in the Union army. At one time it was the American home of the famous Norwegian violinist, Ole Bull, and became the governor's residence in 1882 when Gov. Jeremiah Rusk bought the home. The building was purchased from Gov. Rusk by the state in 1885 and served as the official residence until 1949, when new executive quarters were purchased in Maple Bluff.

The two-story massive brick structure with foot-thick walls is located at 130 E. Gilman St. It is located on a sloping site of 52,000 square feet which has 165-foot frontage on Gilman Street and 195 feet on Lake Mendota.

Outstanding graduate students who have completed course work and are at the doctoral dissertation stage of studies normally comprise the roster of those residing in the center.

Immeasurable benefits from the interchange of ideas and problems among the house habitants have been achieved in the tight-knit communal living.

Graduate School Dean Conrad A. Elvehjem, in an original statement of purpose for the Knapp Center in 1951, said, "Although there is a demand for higher specialization in education, most of life's activities have become so intimately interwoven that leaders of the future must not only excel in their own field of specialization, but they must appreciate fully the mutual problems facing all professions and all walks of life.

"We need an opportunity for outstanding students from the various fields to meet together often so that they can become acquainted with the goals, problems, ideas, and philosophy of students in other specialties. They will become thus acquainted by living together and prepare themselves for leadership in the future."

Add two--Knapp feature

Probably the best testimony for success of the program comes from Knapp Center Fellows themselves. Geographical composition of this year's group shows four from foreign lands (Greece, India, Canada, and Libya) and eight from the United States.

Subject areas represented actually run from A to Z, agronomy to zoology. Diversification is evident in the remaining areas including bacteriology, history, agricultural economics, English and mathematics.

One present foreign resident calls the center "a unique opportunity for furthering mutual (international) understanding and gaining a clear appreciation of other disciplines through contact with talented workers in different fields. This has been an unforgettable climax to my scholastic career and to the final year of my stay in this country."

Another foreign scholar said the program is an opportunity to discover that, "in spite of intense specialization, human knowledge forms a whole." A third commented in similar vein of "the discovery that despite the artificial but necessary division of study, there is a common core for all pursuits of knowledge."

American scholars at the house are equally enthusiastic.

Said an economics major, "Barriers between the fields of learning come down at Knapp Center. Seminars and informal discussions bring us into a common search for knowledge."

And an English major said, "Sympathetic, yet critical explanation and questioning of the specialized fields, goals, and methods of the various Fellows involved forced me to define more accurately than I otherwise would have, and at the same time provided me with original and additional points of view which increased my skills."

Friendships formed at Knapp Center have continued after graduation. One former foreign Knapp Fellow, now 4,000 miles and some two years removed from the program, wrote that he was corresponding regularly with four of his former Center-mates and had contrived to meet with three in far corners of the world.

Add three--Knapp feature

The only requirement connected with residence is that each student make a formal presentation during the year, explaining the general basis of his doctoral investigation or some specific related phase.

The weekly presentation is alternated with the student's major professor who generalizes the following week on the student's presentation.

Each fellow living at Knapp Center grows intellectually as the different doctoral theses of his fellow residents develop. All profit mutually from the exacting individual efforts.

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ad one—Dorm project

5/11/57 News Service Release.

In other actions affecting University buildings and grounds, the regents:

1. Offered the Knapp Graduate Center, the former governor's residence at 130 East Gilman St., for sale;
2. Approved preliminary plans and specifications for the second addition to Service Memorial Institute, which houses the Medical School, and authorized preparation of final plans and specifications;
3. Reaffirmed their decision not to move the football stadium to an out-of-town site and authorized engineering studies to determine methods and costs of increasing the seating capacity of Camp Randall Stadium;
4. Awarded a \$32,400 contract for a book conveyor for the Memorial Library to Lamson Co., Syracuse, New York;
5. Allotted \$3,000 to the Department of Buildings and Grounds for miscellaneous remodelling;
6. Authorized their executive committee to renew the lease for rental of the WHA transmitter site;
7. Authorized an agreement with the Wisconsin Conservation Commission to designate the University Arboretum as a game refuge;
8. Authorized an agreement with Northwestern University for use of its survey camp Taylor Lake near Cable, Wis., by the UW College of Engineering next summer.

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Knapp Fund

U. W. NEWS

FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN NEWS SERVICE, MADISON 6, WISCONSIN

11/10/56

RELEASE:

Immediately

MADISON, Wis.—A report on a notable educational experiment—the Knapp Memorial Graduate Center at the University of Wisconsin—was presented to the UW regents Saturday.

The report was prepared by the 14 Knapp fellows who lived and studied at the Center during the past academic year. It takes the form of a newsletter summarizing the Knapp Center program during the past five years, quoting from past and present scholars regarding their experiences while taking part in the unique educational experiment.

The Knapp Center was the idea of the late Prof. William Kiekhofer of the UW economics department, who foresaw that, as education became more and more specialized, methods to provide intellectually broadening experiences for specialists needed to be developed.

Kiekhofer realized that a chance to begin an experimental educational program had arisen when the old Governor's Mansion not far from the University campus was placed on the real estate market in 1950.

Support of the University committee administering the Kemper K. Knapp fund—an endowment of two million dollars given Wisconsin by the late Kemper K. Knapp, Wisconsin alumnus and Chicago attorney—was obtained and the site purchased. The new graduate center was named in honor of Knapp, and in 1951 the first 12 exceptional students moved in—to live and work together for a year.

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ad one--Knapp center

Knapp Center students take the traditional courses and conduct research projects, similar in every way to those pursued by all students whose goal is the doctor of philosophy degree. But at the Knapp Center, botanists and chemists live next to scholars of Spanish literature, political science, and many other fields. Each gives informal talks, leads seminars, and takes part in the inevitable bull sessions; each gains an understanding of other fields--and of those who have specialized in them--that could be gained in no other way.

At the time it was established, Conrad A. Elvehjem, dean of the UW Graduate School, pointed out the purposes of the Knapp Center:

"Although there is a demand for higher specialization in education, most of life's activities have become so intimately interwoven that leaders of the future must not only excel in their own field of specialization, but they must appreciate fully the mutual problems facing all professions and all walks of life."

In 1954, the Kohler Foundation established 12 scholarships to continue the program at the Knapp Center, and named them in honor of Marie Christine Kohler, in addition to providing other funds so that the center could continue.

"The experimental program at the Knapp Center completed its fifth year of vigorous intellectual activity during the past semester," the Knapp fellows' report says, "with seminar-type lectures and discussions, conducted by resident fellows and their invited faculty guests."

Among the topics of these lectures were "The Nature and Scope of International Law," "The Coming Age of Nuclear Power," "Historical Scholarship and the New Criticism," "The Genetic Effects of Atomic Radiation."

But perhaps more revealing were some of the comments of many individuals who have taken part in the Knapp program. From the Knapp fellows' report, it seems apparent that recognition of personal growth struck most of the students--past and present--in their reflections of experiences at the Center:

ad two--Knapp center

"It helped solve the problem of the scientist explaining to the non-scientist, a problem that never ceases to recur..." wrote a scientist.

"A zest for research, bred of meeting other people more keen on it than myself--I rate this most important of all," said another.

A humanistic scholar was "stimulated to begin a rather large project on the philosophy of knowledge."

"I find that I am reading and thinking much more about philosophy, aesthetics, epistemology, scientific methods, and theology, and less about education, although I continue to see the relationships between these other disciplines and the field of education," wrote another humanist scholar of his experience at the Center.

"...very material assistance in clarifying my own thinking concerning the project for my dissertation," said a student of one of the sciences.

One foreign student at the Knapp Center wrote as follows:

"I received a much more intimate appreciation of American culture than would have been otherwise possible."

And another:

"This intimate acquaintance with about 18 of the very best type of young Americans was an experience which left me an unshakable Americanophile. It says a lot for friendships formed there that, two years later and 4,000 miles away, I correspond with four of them and have contrived to meet three in odd corners of the world."

Perhaps one young Knapp Center scholar voiced the experience of all when he said he "realized the enormity of the field of knowledge for the first time."

In summary, the Knapp fellows' report said: "Former fellows gave overwhelming evidence, unconsciously it seemed, that the program was primarily a stimulus to their own intellectual growth, while, at the same time, its activities prepared them to take places in the orbits of other universities and communities."

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U. W. NEWS

FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN NEWS SERVICE, MADISON 6, WISCONSIN

12/31/49

RELEASE: Immediately

New folder?

Madison, Wis.--The dreams of a University of Wisconsin alumnus who left his fortune to cultivate in the Wisconsin student body "ideals of honesty, sincerity, earnestness, tolerance, and social and political obligations," are a step closer to reality today.

University regents have approved long-range plans for a graduate student center to be located on the property of the old governor's mansion on Lake Mendota in Madison.

Frank J. Sensenbrenner, Neenah, president of the University Board of Regents, announced today that the regents have indicated informal approval of the pending purchase of the property with "not to exceed \$60,000" from accumulated earnings in the income account of the Knapp fund.

Kemper K. Knapp was the Wisconsin alumnus and prominent Chicago attorney who left an endowment of more than \$2,000,000 to the University to aid the teaching of ideals of citizenship to University students.

Prof. William H. Kiekhofer, University economist and "Mr. Chips" of the Madison campus, first interested members of the Graduate school's executive committee, the Knapp committee, and Gov. Oscar Rennebohm in University acquisition of the property. He pointed out the "unlimited possibilities for the future" which the property holds as a center of advanced study and as a state historic shrine.

add one - Graduate Center

This disposition of the executive mansion was informally approved by Governor Rennebohm, and he authorized State Engineer Charles Halbert to complete the transaction. Mr. Halbert said he will approve the sale of the property to the University of Wisconsin for a sum of \$60,000.

The historic site at 130 East Gilman St. had been for sale since the legislature purchased a new governor's residence in Maple Bluff last spring. Official regent action on its purchase by the University is expected at the next regents' meeting January 14.

Purchase of the 95-year-old house and 52,000 square-foot lot for use as a University graduate student center was recommended to the regents by the faculty Knapp committee and by the executive committee of the University Graduate school.

Regent Sensenbrenner, adding his endorsement, called the plan "another opportunity for making Kemper Knapp's dream of a better University come true."

Pres. E. B. Fred foresees "great possibilities" in the center for developing future leaders in many fields.

"Because of the crowded conditions since the war, not enough attention has been given our graduate students," he said today. "The center plan will give us a chance to broaden our program of advanced training and at the same time preserve a fitting memorial."

President Fred said, "I am confident that the retention of the governor's house and lot in state hands will greatly enrich the effectiveness of the University and the life of the entire state in the years to come."

He listed these tentative plans for the property:

1. The entire area will be developed as a graduate center.

The Wisconsin Graduate school does not now have a "home." Yet with nearly 3,000 students, it is one of the leading centers in the world for the training of young men and women for advanced research and teaching. In 1947-48 only Harvard university exceeded Wisconsin in the number of Ph.D. degrees granted.

add two - Graduate Center

2. The executive mansion will become a residence hall and seminar center for a selected group of graduate students:

Quarters for a number of students can be arranged. They will work together and exchange ideas and problems.

3. The center will be a memorial to the late Kemper K. Knapp.

The Knapp committee has recommended that the center be named in Knapp's honor. A suitable plaque will probably be installed.

4. Quarters may be provided for a Knapp Visiting Professor.

A portion of the Knapp fund income is used to bring to the campus outstanding scholars and leading public figures. The governor's mansion may be used to house these visitors during their stay on the campus.

5. Dormitories may be built on the property.

The estate has a frontage of 165 feet on E. Gilman, a Lake Mendota frontage of 190 feet, and an average depth of 300 feet--allowing room for new buildings for single and married graduate students.

6. The historic mansion will be preserved for the citizens of Wisconsin.

Praised by architects for its "personality and distinction," the mansion was built in 1854. At one time it was the American home of the famous Norwegian violinist, Ole Bull. Since 1882 it has been the residence of Wisconsin's governors. It is planned that additional gifts and grants will be solicited to purchase period furniture.

"Purchase of the former executive mansion allows an initial attack on one of the important and difficult problems facing the Graduate school," Dean C. A. Elvehjem said.

"We need an opportunity for outstanding students from the various fields to meet together often so that they can become acquainted with the goals, problems, ideas, and philosophy of students in other specialties. They will become acquainted with the attitudes of others in a friendly manner and thus prepare themselves for leadership in the future," Dr. Elvehjem declared.

add three - Graduate Center

Prof. Marvin A. Schaars, chairman of the Knapp committee, made this statement:

"The Knapp committee, in recommending to the regents the purchase of the governor's mansion, felt that the acquisition of this property could constitute the nucleus of a graduate student housing center so essential in the expanding program of our Graduate school.

"A graduate student center within easy walking distance of the campus is urgently needed. While the committee is primarily interested in seeing a dormitory for graduate students erected on the lakeshore end of the property, and is hopeful that other property may be acquired for a similar purpose, it is also interested in preserving for the citizens of the state the historic mansion which has served as the home for governors of our state for the past 67 years."

George I. Haight, Wisconsin alumnus, Chicago attorney, and former colleague of Knapp, advised the committee that in his opinion use of Knapp fund income for development of a graduate center is in keeping with the Knapp will.

Other Knapp fund income is currently being used for loans, scholarships, lectureships, and special projects.

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