



moveMountains

The Campaign for The University of Vermont

February 10, 2016

Kathleen Ryan
274 Maple Street
Burlington, VT 05401

Dear Kathleen,

Thank you for your January 22nd letter regarding landscaping for the Alumni House project. I understand that as a design professional you bring insight and expertise to your personal assessment of our plan, and I appreciate your feedback. However, this project has already been through multiple levels of internal UVM and neighborhood review processes, as well as all of the necessary design review and permitting requirements of the City of Burlington. As we are now well into construction on the house, at this point in the process we are unable to grant your request to start anew with the landscape design.

I understand from your letter and your comments at the Ward 6 Neighborhood Planning Assembly meetings that one of your main concerns is around the amount of student input into the design process. As an educational institution, the University of Vermont believes deeply that this type of experiential learning is invaluable to our students and provides them with experiences that will help guide them in their careers. Consider the mission of the University of Vermont:

To create, evaluate, share, and apply knowledge and to prepare students to be accountable leaders who will bring to their work dedication to the global community, a grasp of complexity, effective problem-solving and communication skills, and an enduring commitment to learning and ethical conduct.

We believe the involvement of students in the design process for the Alumni House is entirely consistent with our educational mission and we are pleased with the outcome of the project.

Additionally, the curriculum-based landscape design was vetted by UVM staff and our professional contractors, approved by the City through all of the normal permitting processes, and endorsed by the UVM Foundation and UVM Alumni Association Boards of Directors. As with any project of this scope, while there may be minor changes to the proposed planting schedule due to maintenance, climate, hardiness, growth rate and placement, sustainability, and local sourcing of high-quality nursery stock, the general design will remain intact and will be implemented this summer.

The University of Vermont Foundation

411 Main Street, Burlington, VT 05401 802-656-2010 foundation@uvm.edu

Overall, UVM, the UVM Alumni Association, and the UVM Foundation are pleased with the landscape design, and we are very proud that this project has afforded our students with such a robust experiential learning opportunity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard Bundy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "R".

Richard Bundy
President & Chief Executive Officer
UVM Foundation