

**SOCIETY OF
ARCHITECTURAL
HISTORIANS**

23 January 2017

Mr. George R. Blumenthal, Ph.D., Chancellor
University of California Santa Cruz
Chancellor's Office, 1156 High Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95064
chancellor@ucsc.edu

Re: Proposed Renovation of Kresge College

Dear Mr. Blumenthal,

The Society of Architectural Historians (SAH) expresses strong support for the retention and preservation of the Charles Moore-designed Kresge College at the University of California, Santa Cruz (UCSC).

SAH is the principal scholarly organization for architectural historians in North America. It does not regularly become involved in local preservation issues, and speaks only to issues of national and international importance. We evaluate threats to nationally and internationally significant architectural resources thoroughly, and do not take positions on them lightly.

Charles Moore's Kresge College was constructed between 1972 and 1974 on the densely wooded UCSC campus. It is an "L"-shaped campus of two story buildings along a pedestrian street, designed to be a non-institutional residential campus to house 650 students. Moore's vision was a striking departure from traditional campus planning, and remains a significant landmark in the history of campus design. We understand that UCSC faces significant pressure to add student housing to this campus, and acknowledge that budgetary restraints faced during construction forced compromises in the selection of building materials. We are concerned, however, that attempts to address the housing mandate will result in the loss of character-defining features and spaces throughout Kresge College, and that this significant architectural composition may be compromised as a result. We believe that Moore's design for Kresge College is of international significance, and inappropriate alteration would be a tragic loss. We strongly recommend the retention and preservation of Kresge College.

By encouraging the retention and preservation of Charles Moore's Kresge College, the Society of Architectural Historians joins with such supporting organizations as the Charles Moore Foundation, Docomomo US, and many other significant organizations and individuals in encouraging UCSC to develop a plan that embraces Kresge College's past while planning for its future.

The Society of Architectural Historians expresses strong support for the retention and preservation of the Charles Moore - designed Kresge College at the University of California, Santa Cruz.

Sincerely,



Bryan Clark Green, Ph.D., LEED AP BD+C
Chair, Society of Architectural Historians Heritage Conservation Committee

cc: Ms. Janet Napolitano, J.D., President, University of California; Mr. Ben Leeds Carson, Ph.D., Provost, Kresge College; Mr. Felix Ang, Interim Associate Vice Chancellor and Campus Architect; Ms. Pauline Saliga; Ms. Deborah Slaton; Kenneth Breisch, Ph.D.; David Fixler, FAIA; Jeffrey Cody, Ph.D.; Mr. Ken Oshima, Mr. Anthony Cohn, Members, SAH Heritage Conservation Committee