

ANTHONY P. MORRIS

301 Berkeley Street - #6
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USA

Tel: +1-617-528-8470
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Sent by email

July 10, 2015

Katelyn Sullivan
Boston Redevelopment Authority
One City Hall Place - 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201

RE: Opposition to Fisher College IMP

Dear Ms. Sullivan:

As an abutting Back Bay resident and taxpayer, I write to oppose the Fisher College Institutional Master Plan (IMP) in total as a completely incompatible, inappropriate, and possibly unlawful use of the buildings, street, and neighborhood in Back Bay.

Fisher College sits in a historic residential neighborhood for which the current Fisher presence, let alone any expansion of that presence, is already completely improper, degrades the quality of life of neighbors, degrades the surrounding property, adds a dangerous level of traffic to already crowded and heavily used streets, and erodes the City's tax base in an unwise and avoidable way.

At its *current* student and staff population levels, it is well documented that Fisher has been a difficult and unpleasant neighbor on Beacon Street as a consequence of trying to manage activities in a location and with an infrastructure not designed for them (e.g., 'student life' but without any 'green space,' public transport, or local services; institutional food service and housing activities in aged residential buildings designed for substantially lower density 'family' occupation; high volume student and staff access requirements on heavily trafficked city streets with constrained one way patterns and access, etc.).

Fisher has flagrantly violated architectural and other zoning guidelines for the Back Bay (also well-documented). They have been dismissive, misleading, and disingenuous in negotiations with neighbors, declining to come to a negotiated Good Neighbor Agreement and relevant deed restrictions on certain property even when encouraged by the Mayor's Office and numerous local elected representatives.

Projects proposed in the IMP add student and staff density, intensity of use, traffic, potential noise, and unsightliness that are not merely incompatible with the existing area, they actually further aggravate the degraded qualities of the neighborhood and quality of life already imposed by Fisher's current presence in the area.

Also, the proposed use of 10-11 Arlington (Tellus Institute) represents a continuing incompatible use of what could be highly valuable, tax producing residential property.

If Fisher cannot manage its current activities in the area now, how can Beacon Street, Back Street, Public Alley 421, and the adjacent streets absorb the proposed 50% increase in student and staff population without unreasonable and unnecessary reductions in public and personal safety, security, health and cleanliness, and quiet enjoyment for the very high tax-paying residential properties that are adjacent to the Fisher property?

- How will deliveries, trash pickup, ingress/egress, car traffic from the proposed increase in student and staff population not disrupt and further aggravate the existing unpleasant conditions including vehicular and rodent traffic and noise?
- Where will the amenities be that will keep the additional students from 'playing in the streets' any less than the current students play in the streets?
- Where is the outdoor space the existing and expanded student and staff population can freely use?
- How close are the basic amenities including a convenience store, restaurants, dry cleaner, liquor store, etc.?
- What will happen to the property values (and tax base) of the remaining private buildings on the first block of Beacon?
- What owner will be motivated to make substantial improvements or redevelopment of the remaining residential buildings on the first block of Beacon?
- What will happen to the property values (and tax base) of buildings on Alley 421 on the Marlborough Street side?

If Fisher has a mission (other than absorbing cash borrowed by students to pay their high tuition fees and expenses), its wisest choice is to convert its high value real estate in Back Bay to cash (as Emerson did and as Suffolk is doing on Beacon Hill) and to invest that cash in a campus where the students could really benefit from residential life in a location that is compatible with student living. The first block of Beacon Street was never that location and is not now.

The City of Boston derives no meaningful benefits from any expansion at Fisher College despite exposing the City and Fisher's neighbors to an impaired quality of life.

The proposed expansion does not create a significant number of jobs, either temporary or permanent. It does not bring significant numbers of new voters to Boston. It does not lead to significant increases in tax revenue (Fisher pays no material PILOT fees), and, in fact, could reduce actual and potential real estate tax receipts (to wit: no tax receipts for 10-11 Arlington and possibly reduced tax receipts from the private residential property around Fisher that could experience loss of property values arising from any Fisher expansion).

If this IMP meant a lot to Fisher, would you not expect its Chief Executive Thomas McGovern to have appeared at least once, but not never, at the public hearings at which neighbors were present to address the situation?

In sum, the Fisher IMP is hostile and completely out of keeping with the nature of the historic residential district in which Fisher is located. The neighbors have presented principled, data-driven arguments which underlie their opposition to the IMP (100% opposed at all public hearings). The City of Boston derives no material benefits from the specific Fisher plan and faces substantial risks in terms of quality of Boston life as well as potentially compromised tax revenues.

And finally, the CEO of Fisher does not see the IMP as important enough to come to any agreements with neighbors, even with the Mayor's encouragement. Nor does he appear at any of the public hearings to make the Fisher case to the neighbors. Instead, his chosen representative, with no justification, disparages the neighbors with dismissive, patronizing comments and answers to neighbors' questions and ultimately in abject bad faith offers vicious, malicious, racially-charged insults, quoted in the press, when she discovers that her arguments have won no one over.

I thank you in advance for rejecting the Fisher IMP as incompatible, non-conforming, and improper use of the historic Back Bay residential neighborhood.

I further ask that, as a condition of any further consideration by the BRA of any Fisher proposal, you require Fisher to address all of the various negative conditions already existent and well-documented including but not limited to:

- a mutually satisfactory Good Neighbor Agreement
- appropriate and enduring deed restrictions on the so-called investment properties on Beacon Street
- correction of the numerous unapproved architectural changes installed on current Fisher properties

A final request is that you undertake the necessary steps to restore 10/11 Arlington Street to the City real estate tax rolls where it belongs, not in some kind of tax-exempt status for Fisher.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

[Digitally Signed]

Anthony P. Morris

cc: Honorable Martin J. Walsh, Mayor City of Boston mayor@boston.gov
Boston City Hall
One City Hall Place
Boston, MA 02201



Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Letter about Fisher College

1 message

Jacqueline Streeter <jstreeter@fisher.edu>

Sun, Jul 12, 2015 at 7:59 PM

To: "Katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov" <Katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Good Afternoon Katelyn Sullivan,

My name is Jackie Streeter and I attended Fisher College and graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management.

Scott Dulin asked me to email you to tell you about how Fisher College helped me.

It has helped me in many ways! I graduated high school with a 2.3 Gpa. I didn't think of anything but playing sports. I didn't like studying and it showed with my grades. My teachers would tell me to get a B on a test or I'll miss out on a game. I would study all night and get an A. I was really passionate about sports and nothing would stop me.

I applied to 6 schools and got shut down by every single one. I gave up!

On August 2006, my best friend told me about Fisher College and how it was located in Boston. They had a Softball program and they were still accepting students! I was shocked and applied right away!

I got a call the next day seeking for me to come to visit! I asked my dad and they accepted me that day! They rushed everything for me! I felt special and I knew this was the beginning of my adventure to Boston.

That was the first of Fisher College helping me! I attended for 4 years. Played Softball, Basketball, and Soccer! Graduated with a 3.4 GPA and also graduated on time! I was so proud of myself and what I accomplished! I'm also in the Hall of Fame and I'm so blessed!

Fisher College helped me grow as a person! Helped me grow up and mature on my own. Helped me see all religions, cultures, and meeting people from all states!

Fisher College made me open my eyes and see what Boston was all about! I met the best people and I'm still friends with them to this day!!

I graduated and after a year I came back to coach part time for the woman's soccer team and be the Head Softball Coach for 3 years!

That's when I developed as a young woman! Taking care of 10 girls up to 22 (when I recruited and had to rebuild the program), bringing my marketing skills in to recruit girls, learning how to talk to young girls to their parents about Fisher College of how it changed my life and it could change theirs, how to travel, rent a car, different websites, who to talk to! I had to learn that all on my own. Fisher College trusted me at the age of 23 to do all this!

Overall, I can go on and on about how Fisher College has helped me! It developed me as a person and made me the person I am today! I grew up and mature with my grades! I taught 22 girls how to be an amazing Softball player and Soccer player! I love helping out others and teaching the skills I know!

I'm so thankful for my college when they accepted me in 2006! I don't know what my life would be like without Fisher College!

I know I'm not the best writer but I wrote this email to you with my heart! I trust Fisher College and still try to



Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Reject Fisher College IMP

1 message

Charles Perkins <kymchuck@gmail.com>

Sun, Jul 12, 2015 at 7:48 PM

To: Katelyn.Sullivan@boston.gov

Cc: info@nabbonline.com, josh.zakim@boston.gov, jay.livingstone@mahouse.gov

Dear Ms. Sullivan,

I am writing to request that the BRA reject the Fisher College IMP and not submit it to the Zoning Commission. Fisher is asking for exceptions to a long-standing zoning code in an historic, residential neighborhood in which a college is a forbidden use. There is no justification for approving this IMP and many obvious reasons for rejecting it.

The Fisher Back Bay location is different from other Boston Colleges and from other Fisher locations in that it is fully embedded in a residential neighborhood. The severe negative impact on the neighborhood has been well documented by the residents, NABB, and the Task Force in letters, photos, reports, and at 5 review meetings. I need not go into detail. Further, Fisher's inability and unwillingness to manage their college in harmony with the neighborhood has been equally well documented. Their IMP claim that they have "*listened intently to our neighbors and the community*" is simply untrue, as unequivocally illustrated below. I give the following typical example of Fisher's unwillingness to manage its operation in our residential neighborhood:

Despite all of the discussion regarding Fisher's failure to comply with city laws, and all the angry discussion with abutters about Fisher's disregard for neighbors' quality of life, and all the disingenuous Fisher promises to the contrary, on Sunday, 28 June at 8 AM my wife and I were violently awoken by a jackhammer on the wall 24 inches from our heads. I live at 109 Beacon Street and share a wall with the Fisher 111 Beacon building. In complete disregard for city requirements and their neighbor's (i.e. our) home, Fisher contractors were doing heavy construction in 111 Beacon on Sunday morning and without any permit. When I called Fisher Security to complain, I was told they had no control over contractors and would not intervene. My wife and I were forced to dress, and go next door to 111 Beacon and beg the contractor to stop work. This is not a sole occurrence, but rather another of many similar occurrences over the years. My call was taped by Fisher and is on record. A subsequent search of building permits, and in particular for emergency weekend permits, showed that Fisher had neither.

This kind of outrageous, even arrogant behavior by Fisher continues to occur all too frequently despite the outpouring of frustration by its neighbors. The entire Fisher culture shows trifling concern for its neighbors' quality of life, from the board of directors and the President who refuse to even attend meetings, to staff who are unable to implement the Code of Conduct by which Fisher claims to manage student behavior, to maintenance and security workers who are unable to manage day-to-day activities. While Fisher management claims to be addressing its excessive impact on the residential neighborhood, the Fisher organization has not begun to comprehend the scale and complexity of issues, and mitigation efforts by them to date have been ineffectual. Fisher's existing operations have exceeded the limit of what a residential neighborhood can withstand, yet Fisher views their neighbors as nothing more than an obstruction from their very specific goal of a larger Fisher "campus" that dominates the neighborhood.

The photo below from the window of our home further illustrates another regular occurrence. Shown are students acting like typical young students on a sunny day – talking, smoking, being boisterous and totally ignoring the Code of Conduct. The problem is not the students - Fisher College, seeking to grow and maximize profit, is forcing increasing student density onto an impacted, residential neighborhood where students cannot relax and be free to learn. Interestingly, for all the years the Butera School operated at 111 Beacon, we rarely had problems – the problems are with Fisher College.

youths without any growth required in its Back Bay facility. Given the BRA's job is to seek benefit for the city and its people, this should be an imperative.

Summary

The BRA and the residential community need not accept the negative impacts of a nonconforming college use and the intensification of that forbidden use, and must therefore reject the Fisher IMP. Fisher needs to conform its operations in a manner that does not negatively impact the residential neighborhood. Because of Fisher's history, however, it clearly can not be trusted to keep its word. Fisher has grown steadily in the residential neighborhood by skirting zoning laws and city codes, by avoiding neighbors concerns, and ignoring the neighbors' quality of life even while dishonestly claiming to be good neighbors. Fisher's behavior in virtually every interaction with the community during the past few years has hardened community opposition to any expansion of the school in the residential neighborhood. The fact that Fisher has chosen to file an IMP without a Good Neighbor Agreement in place, despite Dr. McGovern's August 13, 2013 letter to the BRA, underscores their arrogance.

Fisher continues to mischaracterize the GNA negotiations to date as something that is progressing smoothly and will conclude successfully as a matter of course. Despite the good work of the Neighborhood Services Group, a Good Neighbor Agreement is far from agreed upon. Before any IMP can move forward, Fisher College must enter into a legally binding Good Neighbor Agreement with abutters and then prove over a two-year period that it can in fact work honestly and cooperatively within the scope of that agreement. In some future IMP submission should require Fisher College to:

1. Develop a plan to provide meaningful, affordable and successful educational opportunity for deserving Boston students.
2. Revise the IMP to include no expansion of building use in the Back Bay, including no institutional use of 10/11 Arlington Street.
3. Develop options for student housing expansion outside of the residential Back Bay.
4. Reduce Fisher's negative existing impact on the neighborhood through good management practices and cooperation with residents via the GNA.
5. Meet and continue to meet all regulatory requirements.
6. Develop plans that increase the benefit for the City of Boston - increase employment of Boston residents and procurement through Boston-based suppliers.

Charles Perkins
109 Beacon Street
Boston

 PastedGraphic-1.pdf
210K





Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Fisher College Institutional Master Plan

1 message

Steven Sayers <stevenmsayers@verizon.net>

Sun, Jul 12, 2015 at 6:56 PM

Reply-To: Steven Sayers <stevenmsayers@verizon.net>

To: "Katelyn.Sullivan@Boston.gov" <Katelyn.Sullivan@boston.gov>

Cc: Josh Zakim <josh.zakim@gmail.com>, "Jay.Livingstone@mahouse.gov"

<Jay.Livingstone@mahouse.gov>, "william.brownsberger@masenate.gov"

<william.brownsberger@masenate.gov>, NABB <info@nabbonline.com>

Katelyn Sullivan, Project Manager
Boston Redevelopment Authority
One City Hall Square
Boston, Massachusetts 02201

Dear Ms. Sullivan:

I am writing in opposition to Fisher College's Institutional Master Plan (IMP) that it submitted to the Boston Redevelopment Authority (BRA) on or about May 13, 2015.

I also have read the response to Fisher's IMP by the Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay (NABB), and I agree with all of NABB's positions. The BRA should reject Fisher's IMP and not even consider any submission by Fisher until it corrects all of its violations of existing codes and regulations. The BRA should also require Fisher, after it corrects its violations, to present a materially revised plan that does not conflict with each one of the Standards for Institutional Master Plan Review Approval and is not contrary to over forty years of successful zoning public policy. Fisher's enrollment, facilities and activities in the Back Bay residential neighborhood already materially exceed the capacity of the community to absorb college and student activity, and Fisher should direct all expansions of its facilities and activities outside the residential district.

Thank you,

Steven M. Sayers
319 Marlborough Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116
stevenmsayers@verizon.net



Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Fisher Institutional Master Plan

1 message

Pam Lassiter <pam@lassiterconsulting.com>

Sun, Jul 12, 2015 at 6:36 PM

To: "Katelyn.Sullivan@boston.gov" <Katelyn.Sullivan@boston.gov>

Cc: "info@nabbonline.com" <info@nabbonline.com>

Katelyn,

Thank you for your work in addressing town-gown development in an urban area...never an easy task.

As a resident of Beacon Street and a former university administrator responsible for community relations, I'd like to clearly object to any expansion of enrollment, activities or facilities in the Back Bay neighborhood. I spent many years of my career responding to neighborhood concerns about students' actions that affected the owners' homes, their peace, and their property values. Fisher would affect all three of these as well.

We meant well when I was representing a university to the community. We wanted to be good neighbors and to support the goals of our neighbors. When we trained incoming students and spoke to students during the day about any transgressions, they wanted to be good citizens, too. Good intentions do not make good neighbors, however. Students are still growing up. They are still testing boundaries. No university can control everything its students do. Growth belongs in a different location.

I would like to clearly express my objection to any further expansion by Fisher in a residential area and my support for NABB's position and the Standards for Institutional Master Plan Review Approval. Please feel free to call with any questions.

Pam (Patricia M.) Lassiter
617.267.2221

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Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Fisher College

1 message

Ellen E. Lyons <elyons@fisher.edu>
To: Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Sun, Jul 12, 2015 at 5:24 PM

Dear Katelyn:

I am writing to express my support for Fisher College's proposed Institutional Master Plan ("IMP"). I have worked at Fisher for approximately 1.5 years, having spent the previous 20 years in private industry.

Fisher's commitment to its students and to the community has exceeded my expectations. I continue to be impressed with the positive outcomes I see every day. Fisher does improve lives.

The IMP projects are in line with current uses of the proposed properties, and necessary to effect the Mayor's on campus housing mandate as well as to alleviate some of the neighborhood concerns regarding use of Beacon Street.

Many years ago, my family worked at the Hampshire House and resided at 21 Beacon Street. I have first hand knowledge of the evolution of Back Bay/Beacon Hill over the past 40 years. I applaud the neighborhood groups on their commitment to improving the neighborhood and remind them that Fisher has been a constant in Back Bay in good times and bad.

One final note: On Memorial Day weekend, I, along with Fisher students, staff and alumni, volunteered at a water stop on Beacon Street (at Hereford) for the Boston Police Run to Remember Half Marathon. At 5:45 a.m., as we were setting up, we were greeted with a hail of broken glass and the sight of 3 young men climbing down a fire escape. I was reminded that Fisher students are not the only students living on Beacon Street. They are, however, consistently the best behaved students on Beacon Street.

I urge the Boston Redevelopment Authority to approve Fisher's IMP.

Sincerely,

Ellen Lyons
Office Manager/Human Resources Manager
Fisher College

Sent from my iPhone



Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

"No" to Fisher College Expansion

1 message

marie small <mariewsmall@yahoo.com>

Sun, Jul 12, 2015 at 4:47 PM

Reply-To: marie small <mariewsmall@yahoo.com>

To: "Katelyn.Sullivan@boston.gov" <Katelyn.Sullivan@boston.gov>

Dear Ms. Sullivan:

I am writing to request that the BRA reject the Fisher College IMP and not submit it to the Zoning Commission. The severe negative impact on the neighborhood has been well-documented by residents, NABB, and the Neighborhood Task Force in letters, photos, reports, and in several public meetings.

1. Fisher has to date failed to correct the negative impact on the neighborhood from traffic, supply unloading, blocking of emergency vehicles, smoking, jaywalking, etc.
2. Fisher has failed to honor the commitments made in its August 13, 2013 letter: (a) a no-expansion commitment in the residential neighborhood; (b) develop student housing outside of the residential Back Bay; and (c) enter into a Good Neighbor Agreement with its neighbors that would be appended to the IMP.
3. Fisher has been dismissive of neighbors complaints and disingenuous in the IMP by claiming the problems are "soon to be or already resolved", while residents continue unanimous opposition.

I strongly urge you to reject the Fisher IMP and defer any further submittal for a period of 2 years during which a Good Neighbor Agreement can be implemented and sufficient time has passed to insure Fisher College conforms to the agreement and establishes trust with neighbors.

Sincerely,

Marie Webster
109 Beacon St



Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Fisher College

1 message

carminecharles <carminecharles@yahoo.com>
To: katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov

Sun, Jul 12, 2015 at 4:11 PM

Katelyn,

I am writing this email to my show my support of Fisher College.

I received my degree from Fisher and it'd help Mr become the person I am today to teach my goals.

I am one of many with similar stories

July 12, 2015
Katelyn Sullivan
Boston Redevelopment Authority
One City Hall Square
9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201

To whom it May Concern,

For the past eight years I have been an associate professor at Fisher College. In this time I have been part of an institution that is deeply committed to its students, providing them with the skills and education necessary for gainful employment and life-long learning.

Students at Fisher College succeed because of the personal attention they receive. At Fisher faculty know students by first name. My typical class size is 15-25 students. Learning in an environment where students cannot hide anonymously in a large lecture hall is a key reason for our success. It's truly gratifying to be part of an institution where faculty, staff, and administration unite around the common mission to "improve lives."

Under Dr. McGovern's leadership, the college has achieved record enrollments. This accomplishment is particularly significant as the coming years will see a population drop in college-bound millennials. The college's Institutional Master Plan (IMP) provides a clear blueprint for how the college may continue to serve students in a particularly competitive environment. Given Fisher's historic footprint in the Back Bay and Dr. McGovern's success with enrollments and new degree programs, I ask that you give your full support to the college's IMP.

Sincerely,

Michael R. Meadows



Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Opposition to Fisher College IMP

1 message

Sonia Kowal <sonia@zevin.com>

Sun, Jul 12, 2015 at 10:34 AM

To: "katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov" <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Cc: "josh.zakim@gmail.com" <josh.zakim@gmail.com>

Dear Katelyn,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Fisher College's IMP. As a long-time homeowner in the Back Bay, I am very concerned about the proposed expansion of the college. The unique character of the Back Bay would be severely tarnished if this ill-thought through expansion goes through. While I am very supportive of increased diversity in the neighborhood, I am not in favor of the increased traffic that the expansion would bring. Besides, Fisher has proved itself to be an arrogant and unhelpful neighbor, taking away from the vitality of the Back Bay rather than contributing to it.

Please stop this.

Regards,

Sonia Kowal

189 Beacon St



Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Fisher College IMP

1 message

James' Gmail <jwildash@gmail.com>

Sun, Jul 12, 2015 at 10:17 AM

To: "katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov" <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>, "josh.zakim@gmail.com" <josh.zakim@gmail.com>

Dear Katelyn,

We are writing to state our strong opposition to the Fisher College IMP. We have attended multiple meetings at Fisher College to educate ourselves as to the benefits of the plan for the street and the neighborhood and have come to the conclusion that there are none.

Fisher has a bad history of neighborhood relations. The college has tried to manage complaints from residents for decades but most are still unaddressed so this will grow to be an even bigger problem if the college grows. The college pays lip service to the historic and residential nature of the neighborhood yet insists on using the term "campus", showing that it does not understand that this area is not suited to this institution.

If Fisher meets its aggressive growth targets, what is to stop it from becoming even more aggressive in the next decade with plans to put even more students in our neighborhood? This is an institution that clearly doesn't realize that enough is enough and that relationships with the neighborhood have deteriorated too far already. By even suggesting such a plan, Fisher has shown that it is completely out of touch with what is acceptable to its neighbors.

We strongly oppose urge you to decline Fisher's IMP in its entirety and do what is best for the neighborhood and for the city.

Sincerely,**James Wildash, on behalf of the Trustees of 189 Beacon Street**



Massachusetts Association Of Crime Analysts

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Lieutenant Glen Mills, C.L.E.A.
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Katelyn Sullivan
Boston Redevelopment Authority
One City Hall Square
9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201

Subject: Support for Fisher College

Dear Ms. Sullivan:

I am writing in support of Fisher College's Institutional Master Plan. The Massachusetts Association of Crime Analysts has partnered with Fisher College on a number of public safety projects in recent years. These projects enhance public safety in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. We particularly enjoyed working with Fisher College students as they excelled as interns for our association as well as in police departments throughout the greater Boston area. Fisher College's Institutional Master Plan as well as its location in the Back Bay are important to the college's growth and to its continued beneficial impact on the City of Boston.

We encourage the Boston Redevelopment Authority to support Fisher College's plans to enhance the competitiveness of its location.

Sincerely,

Lieutenant Glen Mills, C.L.E.A.
Burlington Police Department
President, Massachusetts Association of Crime Analysts



Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

fisher college expansion

1 message

civia rosenberg <civiarosenberg15@gmail.com>
To: katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov

Sat, Jul 11, 2015 at 3:16 PM

Dear Katelyn Sullivan, My husband and I have lived at 1 Marlborough since 1986 and we want the neighborhood to stay calm, quiet and lovely. Emerson College used to be next to us and were good neighbors. At one point they thought of moving to Lawrence but instead moved to the Theatre District. We are opposed to Fisher expanding. We don't need more noise or problems from students in this part of Boston. My husband, Dr. I. Rosenberg is Tufts faculty. He works with students all the time. But this is not a student neighborhood. It is residential and we want to keep it quiet and lovely for the people who live here, pay taxes here. We are in the midst of noise because of Arlington and Beacon streets but we have gotten used to it. But the student situation has to be tightly monitored. Thank you for listening to me. Civia and Irwin Rosenberg, 1 Marlborough St, Apt 5.



Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Fisher College

1 message

Nancy Macchia <nancymacchia@comcast.net>

Sat, Jul 11, 2015 at 1:26 PM

To: "katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov" <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Cc: "josh.zakim@gmail.com" <josh.zakim@gmail.com>

I strongly oppose Fisher College's IMP. It will effect the resident's quality of life in an historic neighborhood. There would be problems with traffic, parking, noise nuisance, health issues (smoking).

Sent from my iPhone

Nancy Macchia

617 247 7323 direct

617 797 7323 mobile



Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Fisher College Proposed Institutional Master Plan

Kressel Shirley <shirleykressel@comcast.net>

Sat, Jul 11, 2015 at 12:09 PM

To: Katelyn.Sullivan@boston.gov

Cc: josh zakim <Josh.Zakim@boston.gov>, "Livingstone, Jay - Rep. (HOU)" <Jay.Livingstone@mahouse.gov>

Ms. Katelyn Sullivan
Boston Redevelopment Authority
City Hall, Boston, MA
via email Katelyn.Sullivan@boston.gov

Re: Fisher College Proposed Institutional Master Plan

Dear Ms. Sullivan:

I am writing to oppose Fisher College's proposed IMP.

I endorse the extensive comment filed by the Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay. As the abutters have amply documented, Fisher College has been acting in bad faith for years, implementing an IMP that does not comply with the city's standards and public policy, and creating public nuisances and safety hazards. The BRA should reject Fisher's proposed IMP and specific projects, which would represent an expansion of forbidden uses and create opportunities for more egregious abuses against the community.

As to Fisher's revenue-producing rental of the institutional facilities to outside entities: to the extent that Fisher uses its facilities for non-institutional uses, it should forfeit some portion of its non-profit tax-exempt status. The homeowners are now carrying Fisher's property tax burden while it profits from the value they create by their careful custodianship of the neighborhood.

Fisher College should locate its desired expansion in areas outside the residential district -- and preferably, to its campuses in other cities.

Fisher College should be required to enter into a Good Neighbor Agreement with abutters -- and the BRA should condition any Fisher approvals on full compliance with such an Agreement.

Shirley Kressel

Shirley Kressel
27 Hereford Street
Boston, MA 02115
617-421-0835 home
617-515-3403 iPhone

348 MARLBOROUGH STREET, #2
BOSTON, MA 02115

July 11, 2015

Ms. Katelyn Sullivan
Project Manager
Boston Redevelopment Authority
One City Hall Square
Boston, MA 02201
Katelyn.Sullivan@boston.gov

Dear Ms. Sullivan:

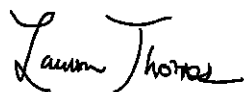
I was present at the meeting between Fisher College and the neighborhood last month. I heard and agreed with the criticisms my neighbors leveled against Fisher — expressed thoughtfully, eloquently, and factually, I felt, in virtually every case. I have studied Fisher's proposals, and witnessed for myself some of the problems the school has caused for residents on the first block of Beacon Street. I'm firmly against the IMP and any expansion.

Having attended that meeting, I am one of those whom Fisher's representatives condemned afterward, in the *Boston Courant*, as "racist" toward students and "terrorizing" toward supporters. I dispute these inaccurate, defamatory labels. It seems that Fisher's team is stooping to insults rather than trying to address neighbors' concerns in a reasonable manner.

I was in the first generation of my blue-collar, Irish-Italian family to go to college, so I feel a kind of "there but for fortune" kinship with Fisher's students rather than superiority. It occurred to me that the students might not be represented in this discussion. I went to the website StudentsReview.com and found 25 comments, mostly from current students and recent alumni, about Fisher. I'm copying them here for inclusion in the official record for the BRA. Their insights are more than relevant; they belong at the center of this discussion. The neighbors continually hear about what Fisher wants to do *for the benefit of its students*. There are plenty of serious issues, described here, that Fisher could and should address to improve their students' experiences without any need for expansion or this master plan.

The student comments overwhelmingly report disappointment, frustration, and anger over the quality of Fisher's academics, facilities, policies, and lack of a true campus. Many are sorry they went there. Collectively, their story should incense anyone who cares about young people and higher education. Please consider their opinions (typos and spelling and grammar mistakes are verbatim) and decide if Fisher merits the accommodation and respect it has been demanding from the neighborhood and the City. I can only conclude that its students deserve far better than what the school is apparently providing.

Respectfully yours,



Lauren Thomas

Source: StudentsReview.com

http://www.studentsreview.com/MA/FC_comments.html?page=3&type=&d_school=Fisher College

1. I am a first year student at Fisher College , I was excited to start my college education at Fisher seeing that this school was located on Beacon street one of the nicest streets that Boston has to offer. Yet, it was THE BIGGEST mistake I have ever made. Fisher College is more of a community college just with a dorm. The quality of work is a joke ! Its like high-school review 101. Students got into this school with a 1.2 G.P.A ! Some students didn't even send their transcript in , grades doesn't even matter. If you are looking to become a successful individual and challenge yourself this is NOT the place to be. If you just want to go to a school and not push yourself or work to the best of you're ability then this is the place for you. Now lets talk about housing , the dorms are HORRIBLE ! The buildings are old and nasty the walls look like they are about to fall on you . The bathrooms are not too nice and for all the money that we pay to come here it is just plain filthy ! You live in the same building as the cafeteria (that's how small the school is)if you do not live too far commuting might be your best option because , living here is not worth it ! The Cafeteria is smaller then my high school ! Food options are VERY limited ! Not many options AT ALL !!! The cafe closes at 7:30 during Mon-Thurs , closes at 6:00 on Fridays and the weekends ! Most people are left starving because, of how early the cafe closes. On the Campus tour they show you the biggest rooms making you think that the dorms are nice . NO THEY AREN'T its all a lie. They will show you the quads and the triples to get you all excited and happy , PSHH PLEASE don't fall for it !The nicest part about the school is BOSTON ITSELF, being in the city enjoying the fun life but, you have to be 21 to do any thing fun around here so if you're not 21 forget about it ! The most you can do if you are under age is go to the movies downtown and go to nice restaurants. The train is always running (students escape route to home on the weekends). Plenty of nice stores around and the people here are great overall very friendly. The reason why people stick it out at Fisher is because , of the city and the people. Their graduation rate is VERY low because, most people transfer after their freshmen year here but , Fisher makes it difficult to even transfer your'e credits. If you want to do a 2 year program here DO NOT DO IT !!! You will end up graduating in 4 they add courses that you have to take in order to get you're degree so you never get it in time. I'm not trying to bash the school i'm just keeping it real. The students here are basically given a second opportunity to improve their grades and once you get you're G.P.A. up you transfer. The tuition is RIDICULOUS 43,000 just for a street ! The campus is legit a street and the whole street isn't even for Fisher that's the worst part. Parties ?? Yeahh right ! The Dominican baseball players casually has parties all the way in Alston. Those parties always get shut down its too hot and cramped and the dancing ability is a joke. All and all if you are looking to complete your college education as a successful one then this is not the place for you. The education is not worth it its poor , there is NEVER anything to do the food is horrible and they only offer the student center as a recreational center which is the same size as my living room and that place closes at 11. MY BIGGEST MISTAKE WAS NOT BELIEVING ALL THE HORRIBLE REVIEWS ABOUT FISHER. I AM TALKING FROM PERSONAL EXPERIENCE !!! YOU WILL HATEEEEE IT HERE ! ONE OF THE WORST COLLEGE'S IN MASS , THIS COLLEGE IS ON THE SAME LEVEL AS MASS BAY COMMUNITY COLLEGE , BUNKER HILL COMMUNITY COLLEGE ETC ! P.S. THE TOUR IS ALL A LIEEEE !

Feb 22 2012

1st Year Female -- Class 2015

Surrounding City: A+, Education Quality: F

2. I am a fashion merchandising major here at Fisher college and I must say, I greatly dislike this school. The housing is horrible. The rooms are small, there is no air conditioning, there is stories of mice in rooms constantly, the bathrooms are gross. Worst of all, they show you the best dorms on the tour and trick you. Also, the work is a complete joke. What I will so though is that the professors are so sweet and helpful. I like all of mine. Also, the dining is just awful. Very very few options. food gets taken away at random times and it closes at 6. There are also very few vegetarian options. As for the social life, there is absolutely nothing to do even though we are in the heart of a big city. There are random dominican parties but trust me you wouldn't want to go. I wish I liked it here but it is just not happening.

Nov 13 2011

1st Year Female -- Class 2015

Surrounding City: A+, Education Quality: F

3. Fisher College was the biggest mistake I ever made. I originally came here for the Fashion program because it was suppose to be one of the best in MA, that was a sad joke. They teachers are inadequate and the program is just pathetic. I switched out of it half way through first semester. Im now a business major and it is the same. The work isn't challenging and it seems as if the students that went here didn't pay one bit of attention in high school because they are clueless to the simplest things. The only positive thing about this school is the location but then again with the location gives you dorms infested with mice. 40,000 a year to live on the richest street in Boston but also to live with mice, not worth it to me. There is never anything to do unless going to Alston every weekend while the Dominican kids throw down a party that eventually gets shut down. Everyone sleeps with everyone and just drink and get high everyday. If you care about your education and want to have somewhat of a decent college experience DO NOT COME HERE!!!!!!

Jun 02 2011

1st Year Female -- Class 2014

Surrounding City: A+, Education Quality: F

4. I came to Fisher as a last resort. As I didn't make it in time for my deadline for my first choice and they literally threw me a large scholarship so I went. Upon getting to Fisher you can hardly find the school as it's just another apartment on Beacon hill. It's small, crapped and basically falling apart. The maintenance does a poor job at doing their job so there is constantly food, trash, or clothes (especially underwear) trailing to the dorms. Some of the professors you can tell hate their job. Probably cause the school is trying to grab whatever group of students they can. You can barely have a social life especially if you're new to the Boston area as they confine everyone on campus. Your only option of meeting new people is sitting in the cafeteria which is just the alumni hall divided by a fake wall or going across the street to a poor excuse for a "student center". Worn out furniture that literally falls apart, small space and clearly a low budget. They lie to student's claiming to have the "Best" fashion major and no one's even heard of them. They lied on their brochure about having an art program and when I show up I'm the first and ONLY one in my major. "Campus" is over run by students who never show up for class and even when they do they don't care and that's not what they were selling when I applied.

Jun 24 2013

Male -- Class 2000

5. Hello I am person that has huge dreams, and aspirations. School has been very challenging for me ever since I was little for that I have dyslexia. I am a white male that went to this school for a year in half. I hated every second of my time spent at the school. I still managed to graduate with an associate's degree. People should use this school like they do community college as a two year school. I maintained a 3.6 average at this school which got me accepted in to some of the top public schools in the USA. I was accepted in to PENN STATE UNIVERSITY, RUTGERS, and NORTH EASTERN. When this happened I cried so hard I thought I was imagining things. I am a very nice and social person, but I did not fit in with the school crowd, because most of the student body is ghetto along with a couple smart students that are very pertinacious. If you want to get your grades up to transfer this is the perfect school for you. Some advice I can give is try to live off campus for a couple of reasons. People at the college are not friendly and the food is very bad. The school may be expensive, but all schools in Boston are costly. You will have nothing to do. It will be hard meeting people around Boston, because most college students hang out with people in the same colleges. It will be easy to meet people if you are a semi attractive girl though. Be careful of becoming depressed at the school and don't be embarrassed of attending either. It's smart to get all of the hard gen ed classes out of the way so it will make the transfer process very smooth. Nobody really cares about gen ed classes any way. Make sure to take only basic classes that will transfer also it's more of a common sense thing. I'm not talking about education content, but saying the teachers at the school are awesome. I loved all of my teachers except one of them. (Caution) makes sure you don't use this school as a 4 year college. You will be fucked if you do. I was originally going to attend Penn State, but my parents told me that could not afford the college so I will be attending the University at Albany in the fall time of 2013. I hope this review was helpful! In a nut shell you should attend this college if you are rich. I should not have attended this college to begin with, but I had to finish.

Jun 01 2013

2nd Year Female -- Class 2013

Faculty Accessibility: A+, Education Quality: F

6. The worst college I've taught at. Professor at Fisher College
Former Faculty in Boston, MA (Fisher College) Reviewed Feb 8, 2013

Pros ? If you are a student who couldn't get into college because you shouldn't have graduated from high school but did then this is the type of college for you.

Cons ? Exploits students, mostly younger, that shouldn't be in college. These students cheat because they got away with it in high school and Fisher College faculty allow it. All they care about is passing the students so they can get money. This a terrible for profit school and the word is out with businesses. Most of the students are there because they want the degree and don't care if they learn anything. So they or their parents are burdened with this cost. I was laughed at by my department head and some other so-called professors there when I tried to explain that my students didn't have the skills to pass my class because they were passed from the other classes without understanding the material. From speaking with other instructors this is true no matter what the subject is. The students are disrespectful by acting ghetto and the faculty exploits them by taking their money and sticking some of them with loans that they won't be able to pay back for a long time, if ever.

Advice to Senior Management ? Stop pushing the instructors to just pass students and worry about education not retention. Getting the money from these students won't last forever once the word is out long enough that this is a terrible college.

7. Course materials were not challenging in any of the courses I took during the 4 years at Fisher College. Eventough I got my degree in Criminal Justice, I did not feel like I was adequately prepared for the real world. Cost for attending does not = education gained at Fisher College. The library is very small with baby chairs. The library room is the size of a one bedroom studio, very limited areas for students to sit and study. The library needs major upgrade, they use baby chairs. Not worth \$40,000 a year.

Feb 21 2013

Male -- Class 2000

8. This school (Fisher College) was a joke, this is a for profit school. The courses are not challenging, more little elementary. If you go to this school you are only setting yourself for failure, when you go into the real world. The takes all students, some of them are not able to read or write. They are setting the kids for failure. You will not be able to find internship due to the school reputation. Fisher college has bad reputation with some business because of past students experience. When I was looking for my internship, some of the employers would come out and say " they know what to expect from Fisher College students, basically nothing". I had to look for internship on my own. Don't go to this school, it is a joke.

Feb 13 2013

Male -- Class 2000

9. A year ago I decided to go back to school after taking many years off. I was very excited to begin my college education as an adult and decided to attend Fisher College. This was a massive mistake. The education is sub-par, half of my instructors first semester didn't speak English, the lack ambition from other students is way beyond the typical 20-something, the classrooms heating/air conditioning are not regulated and to top it all off they have cancelled a class that I need in order to transfer! I would NEVER recommend attending this school because it is a waste of time. I am so disappointed in myself for taking a chance and relying on Fisher College to be an actual place of study. IT IS A JOKE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Jan 24 2013

Male -- Class 2000

10. This is a 'for profit' college. Teachers are afraid to fail students. If a teacher fails too many students he or she won't be back the next semester. The provost is a psycho.

Mar 08 2011

Male -- Class 2000

11. Fisher College is a small school with poor opportunities for classes, the staff isn't helpful. I wouldn't advise student to attend the school.

Surrounding City: A+, Useful Schoolwork: F

May 16 2010

2nd Year Male -- Class 2010

12. Fisher College is unethical cash cow. All I learned from this school is how easily corruption can occur. This institution ruined my education.

Mar 04 2014

Alumnus Male -- Class 2000

13. I had the worst yr of my life at Fisher College. They put you with who ever they want with out considering compatibility. When I was there I felt as though they let anyone into the school. Most students had trouble with basic english and math skills. I felt unsafe most of the time I was there, especially at night when my roommates would sneak stranger into my room for drug deals. This occurred in more than 1 room I lived in and nothing was ever done about it. The meal program is horrible, the food is too expensive for the money allotted and a poor unhealthy selection is provided. My advice is to find a different school to attend.

Aug 30 2013

1st Year Female -- Class 2015

Surrounding City: B+, Education Quality: F

14. This school is beyond expensive, The food is the most disgusting food you could ever fee a human being. A 20z bottle of milk costs \$2.75 you leave campus and down the street you buy a gallon of Milk for \$3.10. The teachers are good, but the school is way over priced, the things they teach have nothing to do with real life. Also whatever your degree is you will never make enough money to pay off the ridiculous student debts you end up with in the end. Your better off not going to college and just getting a job out high school because after debt you are pretty much making the same money.

Aug 01 2013

1st Year Male -- Class 2016

Surrounding City: B+, Education Quality: F

15. The area is great and close by to everything and with it being such a small school you can make alot of great friendships. However I wouldnt suggest it for liberal arts seeing as the tution is about \$35,000. Also I was in the Fashion Design program and I would not recommend it to those who want to be in the business. Although yo are taught basic sewing you are very much on your own later on, relying on the book and then having the professor check it and then make you correct things. After you have graduated you will need to find another school to go to because you will not learn enough in that program, and its very difficult to transfer. I would suggest FIT, FIDM, The art institutes, or The Academy of Art, seeing as they are known in the industry

view full review→

Mar 15 2010

2nd Year Female -- Class 2010

Innovation: A, Campus Aesthetics: C

16. "Excellent online program. School website needs maintenance/updating.

Feb 06 2010

3rd Year Female -- Class 2011

Scholastic Success: A+, Campus Maintenance: B-

17. Fisher College is a great school for students who are just graduating from HS and need a small, close environment in the heart of Boston. There are supportive teachers and faculty. They will go the extra mile for those students who work hard.

Most students are awarded a Trustee Scholarship and they do have Honors Scholarships.

On the other hand, Fisher College is not for transfer, adult, or professional students.

Why? The environment is extremely secondary high school. The classes are easier than expected due to lenient teachers are afraid to fail students.

The classes in programs like fashion merchandising are outdated with professors who have not worked in the industry for many years.

Here are some other points to know: exam schedules come out late (two weeks prior to exam week), teachers who teach "outside the box" usually are not back the semester, and paper work is usually messed up.

Case in point: the registrars office never sent out paid for/requested transcripts to another college and the Fisher Graduate did not get accepted to the other college due to transcripts missing.

Fisher College is a "for profit" college.

Dec 02 2009

2nd Year Male -- Class 2009

Surrounding City: A+, Useful Schoolwork: D

18. "Love being in Boston, love Fisher, love the school spirit and diversity here.

Apr 23 2009

3rd Year Female -- Class 2010

Education Quality: A+, Innovation: B+

19. "It one of the best 2 year colleges in the area. Great location but the building needs some work.

May 30 2008

2nd Year Female -- Class 2010

Education Quality: A+, Campus Aesthetics: B-

20. This is a small school located downtown Boston. Its not a hard school to get in and to be honest I thought that some of the management classes were challenging. The professors are very helpful and knowledgeable and they care about their students. The new president has a vision and he is working hard to make this school a better school. If you are looking for a small friendly environment where you can receive quality education then Fisher is an excellent choice. Some people believe that it's not a respectable school but i recently applied to a very expensive and reputable business school in the area and i was admitted without any problems. I recommend this to anybody; you get quality education that doesn't cost a lot of money.

Thanks

May 29 2008

4th Year Male -- Class 2008

Education Quality: A+, Campus Maintenance: B-

21. "I can't believe this is accredited..i was so happy to transfer out after 1 semester

May 28 2005

Male -- Class 2000

22. "People are friendly.tuition is quite expensive as a 2-year college.

May 03 2004

2nd Year Female -- Class 2004

University Resource Use: A+, Useful Schoolwork: B+

23. When I first looked at Fisher college. I was thouroughly impressed with the college.

They had the best location in town. Though when i went to the summer orientation, i was staying in a room with one window and no AC. It was a hot summer day and it was in the 90's. So the orientation was somewhat okay, but to say the least, it was a poor orientation.

They didn't cater the orientation to the needs of the incomming freshman. They also didn't cater to people who are over 25 crowd and starting college. The basicly cater their work to the more younger crowd.

At the start of fall semester orientation, their were over 380 freshman. Most of these freshman were in the ages of 17 to 21. To say the least being 27 years old in a campus full of people 7 to 10 years younger felt strange and weird. So i managed for a bit. The Doorms are not the greatest because this year, the school nearly had to close the dorms down, because it was in danger of vialating the city fire safety codes because freshman decided to bring AC's, big fridge and way to many tv sets. The dorms are not that great because the school use to be an old mansion. Now for student life here at Fisher college. Most of the people here act like their still back in High school. The have thes so called High school dramas. They tend to act snooty most of the time, but if you find the right group, they can be Friendly. The student here mostly party get drunk and we had one incident here were a student got drunk and got sent to the hospital. The type of people who would want to go to Fisher college, is the one who likes to party, have fun, and hit on girls. Oh for the girls out their. Be for warn, 85% of the guys who come to fisher college come only to hit with the girls here on campus. So girls, I think twice before u decide to come to fisher college. Because if you do, be carful of the guys that hit on you on campus because the majority of the guys that come to fisher college come just to hang out with the girls.

Nov 05 2003

1st Year Male -- Class 2005

Campus Maintenance: B+, Education Quality: F

24. It's the only school in Boston which doesn't allow study abroad. Nor does it have cross registration or a library consortium. The school has the potential to be decent, but they hate change.

Oct 13 2003

1st Year Female -- Class 2004

Collaboration/Competitive: A+, Education Quality: F

25. Fisher lies. Check out the website and catalog. It will tell you there are student clubs and organizations, which I found out at orientation no longer exist. The library is the size of my elementary school library. It's one of the only schools in Boston without cross registration at least one other school, or an involved with any library consortium. The selection of liberal arts classes is sad. My friend has a single room, with no window and no ac is allowed, so it can get up to be 90 degrees in her room, which is extremely dangerous. Most of the students are rich snobish kids from the suburbs looking to get drunk every night.

Jul 06 2003

1st Year Female -- Class 2004

Surrounding City: A+, Campus Maintenance: D



Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Fisher College IMP

1 message

Rick Frisbie <rick@battery.com>

Sat, Jul 11, 2015 at 10:00 AM

To: "Katelyn.Sullivan@boston.gov" <Katelyn.Sullivan@boston.gov>

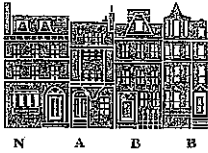
Cc: Rick Frisbie <rick@battery.com>

Hello Katelyn. My name is Rick Frisbie and I live at 128 Beacon which is on the Arlington-Berkeley block of Beacon. I am writing to you today in opposition to the Fisher College Institutional Master Plan. I have attended meetings in the past and have signed a petition as well against the plan but this is the first time I have contacted anyone directly at the BRA with my comments. I have lived at 128 Beacon for over 8 years and love the neighborhood, with one exception, which I think you can guess is Fisher College. I know they are there today, and they were there when I bought my property, and they have a right to be there. However, their use of the property and its impact on the neighborhood is inconsistent with the predominately residential use of the neighborhood. The College puts additional stress on the neighborhood with delivery trucks, trash trucks, students and visitor cars and parking, students and guests loitering in the street, noise and trash. Fisher is now, for I believe at least the second time, but it could be more, trying to push through a plan to substantially increase the size of their residential dorms in our area (about 50%) and along with that the college activity level in that neighborhood. The last IMP they proposed was not accepted and they have now comeback with a similar one in terms of scope, although I believe they have moved some of the uses around a bit.

There was strong opposition from the neighborhood residents previously and there continues to be strong opposition today. I hope that that BRA will listen to the strong message coming from the permanent residents of the area who are almost universally opposed to any Fisher College expansion. Thank you for considering my position. If you would like further input please don't hesitate to get back to me by e-mail or call me at 617-803-0300. Thanks again. Regards, Rick Frisbie

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July 10, 2015



Ms. Katelyn Sullivan
Boston Redevelopment Authority
Boston City Hall, Ninth Floor
One City Hall Place, Boston, MA 02201

Re: Fisher College Institutional Master Plan – Absence of a Good Neighbor Agreement

Dear Ms. Sullivan:

Fisher College is unique among educational institutions filing an IMP in that rather than being located on a self-contained campus or otherwise isolated from the residential communities the college is fully embedded (albeit as a grandfathered forbidden use) in a residential neighborhood. Unfortunately, the college also has a history of apparent skirting of applicable zoning, historic district architecture, licensing and other requirements and as has been conspicuously evident at the many public meetings has developed no support and little trust among abutters and the residents even at its current size and intensity of use.

This situation makes a Good Neighbor Agreement directed at demonstrating the ability and resolve of Fisher College to rectify and mitigate the existing issues of its current operations essential before consideration of any IMP. Indeed, in Dr. McGovern's August 13, 2013 letter to Mr. Peter Meade, then director of the BRA, Fisher College committed *"to work with our neighbors and the IMP Task Force to develop a detailed set of good neighbor principles which can be appended to the IMP as a memorandum of understanding...."*

It is profoundly disappointing that in spite of that assurance and the many continuing complaints of abutters and residents that Fisher College elected to pursue an IMP without a Good Neighbor Agreement being in place addressing existing issues arising from the college's operations in the residential district. It is after all not for the residential community to accept negative impacts of a nonconforming use and certainly not those arising from proposed extension and/or intensification of a forbidden use, but for Fisher College's to conform and adopt its operations so as to preclude negative impacts on the residential neighborhood.

Although some progress has been made on good neighbor issues in discussions between a representative group of abutters and representatives of Fisher College under the initiative and guidance Jerome Smith and the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services at this juncture those efforts still have very much to achieve and there are significant issues outside the scope of those discussions. Thus, more than two years after filing the IMPNF and after numerous public meetings and much written comment from abutters and residents among other issues;

- 1) There has been no tangible effort by Fisher College to correct the number of historic district architectural non-compliance issues.
- 2) There is no Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) agreement with the city of Boston.
- 3) There is no program to effectively address the incredibly dangerous student jaywalking through Beacon Street traffic to proposed facilities on the south side of Beacon Street.
- 4) There is no Student Housing Plan in place which in any way is responsive to the goals expressed in the Mayor's "Housing a Changing City of Boston 2030."

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Office Administrator

Ms. Katelyn Sullivan

Page 2 of 2 – July 10, 2015

- 5) There is no loading zone in place that assures unrestricted emergency vehicle and two-way traffic on Back Street.
- 6) There is only a proposed yet for another six months to be initiated and tested program intended to mitigate student and faculty smoking and related congregating on Beacon Street.
- 7) At this very instant there are well over one-hundred visitors some as young as fifteen occupying the Fisher College tax-exempt dormitories participating in the short-term English language/tour/baseball programs of the for profit business of FLS International in a seeming contrived circumvention of the provisions of Fisher College's dormitory licenses.
- 8) Fisher College continues to occupy and use for college classroom use 111 Beacon without college use zoning in place to the material detriment of the residents of the modest directly abutting eight unit condominium building at 109 Beacon Street.
- 9) There has been no tangible follow up on the commitment made in Fisher College's August 13, 2013 letter to the BRA to develop options for growth outside the residential districts and no effort to direct growth to assessable facilities that can serve an important segment of the community.
- 10) And of course there is no Good Neighbor Agreement that could help mitigate existing negative impacts of the operations of the nonconforming college use in the residential community.

We ask that Fisher College withdraw its IMP and defer any proposed IMP submittal until a Good Neighbor Agreement is in place and sufficient time, at least two years, has then passed to enable the college to implement the provisions of that agreement, demonstrates its ability and resolve to conform its operations and activities to the agreement, and to gain the trust of abutters and the residents. There should be no IMP proposed or approved until and unless that essential requirement has been satisfied.

Sincerely,

The Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay



V. B. Castellani, Chair Zoning Committee

VBC/sb

cc: Honorable Martin J. Walsh, Mayor City of Boston

Mr. Brian Golden, Director Boston Redevelopment Authority

Ms. Lara Merida, Deputy Director for Community Planning, BRA; Lara.Merida@boston.gov

Ms. Katelyn Sullivan, Project Manager, Boston Redevelopment Authority; Katelyn.Sullivan@boston.gov

Mr. Jerome Smith, Chief of Civic Engagement; Jerome.smith@boston.gov

Mr. Jay Livingstone, Massachusetts House of Representative; Jay.Livingstone@mahouse.gov

Mr. Josh Zakim, District 8 City Councilor; josh.zakim@boston.gov

City Councilor at Large Stephen Murphy; Stephen.Murphy@cityofboston.gov

City Councilor at Large Ayanna Pressley; Ayanna.Pressley@cityofboston.gov

City Councilor at Large Michelle Wu; Michelle.Wu@boston.gov

City Councilor at Large Michael Flaherty; Michael.F.Flaherty@boston.gov

Carolina Avellaneda, esq, General Counsel / Vice President of Operations - Fisher College



Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Fisher College's Institutional Master Plan

1 message

James Hollis <jhollis319@gmail.com>

Fri, Jul 10, 2015 at 4:17 PM

To: katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov

Cc: Christina Martin <cmartin02@fisher.edu>, "Adam E. Higgins" <ahiggins@fisher.edu>

Katelyn Sullivan

Boston Redevelopment Authority

One City Hall Square, 9th Floor

Boston, MA 02201

Dear Katelyn Sullivan,

I wanted to take a moment to offer my experience and two cents about Fisher College. I applaud Fisher College for being a City College here in Boston, the heart and soul of any city is reflected by the higher education institutions that it provides. They help to produce well rounded and bright people who are the future of this city and beyond. In working with Fisher College Admissions staff I have been lucky to have a unique insight into how higher education works on a daily basis, their commitment and dedication to their student's shows, and the fact that their admission rates continue to grow at a very steady rate simply speaks to their mission. For a small college they have left me with a huge appreciation that is often lost in far larger Universities and other surrounding colleges here in Boston. Most people are never exposed to the work in the background by the schools staff to make things happen for their students, I want that to continue. The school cuts across a very diverse population to include working people and young students alike. Fisher College should be embraced and not pushed out.

So in closing, it is rather disheartening to hear such remarks as *"Things have shifted from how do we work this out, to how do we stop them. And the next thing is how do we get them out."* Such rhetoric coming from the BRA is quite frankly embarrassing to the city and not representative of all Bostonians!

Sincerely,

James Hollis
29 Clapp St.
Malden, MA 02148

P

Dear Ms. Sullivan,

I am writing on behalf of Fisher College and their plans to expand and continue growing in the Back Bay neighborhood of Boston. I work at Pandora Media and we work very closely with Fisher College on their Radio and Digital Marketing campaigns. I have had the pleasure of working with the team at Fisher College for what is going on 2 years now.

Through my many visits to the Fisher College campus and the many conversations I have had with my contacts there, I know that they exemplify what it is to be a GREAT Educational Institution. Not only are they successful in leading their students down the road to success, but they also give back to their neighbors and the community as a whole.

I do not believe that we should hinder any growth or expansion plans that Fisher College has in mind. What we will be getting from this expansion in the Back Bay neighborhood, is far more positive than anything else. In this very competitive society that we live in, Fisher College wants to help get more students educated, graduated and prepared for what is to come in the field that they choose.

I strongly support Fisher College's expansion. I hope that the BRA can see the positives to come by letting them expand and continue to be one of the reasons that Boston is second to none when it comes to education. Please feel free to contact me for any further questions or reference.

Sincerely,

Robert Arnold

Pandora Media, Inc.

Sharon L. Fross
97 Mount Vernon St., #52
Boston, MA 02108

July 9, 2015

Ms. Katelyn Sullivan, Project Manager
Boston Redevelopment Authority
9th Floor, Boston City Hall
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Ms. Sullivan,

I live in and own my condominium at 97 Mount Vernon Street and I am writing in support of Fisher College's expansion as outlined in its Institutional Master Plan.

Having worked and lived in historic Charleston, South Carolina for 23 years when the College of Charleston grew and expanded, I know personally how planned, controlled college growth can enhance the city surrounding a college. This is true for Boston as well. Since 1903, Fisher has sought to serve and educate underserved populations. Today is no different and the education Fisher College provides is important for the students and families they serve. Student housing is an essential element if students are to have a complete college experience. Fisher College's student housing plan is responsible and thoughtful in providing needed student housing while also being responsible to the neighborhoods they are a part of. Fisher College has made a longstanding commitment to Boston, honors the historic significance and integrity of its neighborhood buildings and its administration is committed to working in partnership as a good neighbor and with the City.

I strongly support Fisher College's plan and I encourage the Boston Redevelopment Authority to support Fisher College in providing education and housing to the students they serve.

Sincerely,



Sharon L. Fross



Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Letter of Support for Fisher College's Institutional Master Plan

1 message

Bob Price <bprice@hot969boston.com>

Fri, Jul 10, 2015 at 11:39 AM

To: "katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov" <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Dear Ms. Sullivan,

This letter is to express support for the Fisher College Institutional Master Plan submitted to the BRA.

I have a long relationship with Fisher College and the student body at the school. Boston has a rich history and strong reputation with Higher Education for drawing students from around the world to our City to learn, grow and prepare for life in the working world. Fisher College and the student body has a history of giving back to the neighborhood and community with volunteer activities including; working to combat homelessness, hunger and poverty. Approval of the IMP will enable Fisher College to further transition to becoming a predominately baccalaureate and graduate degree institution while recognizing the need to continue to offer associate degree and certificate programs and sustain its place in the ever-changing higher education community.

Drawing more students, creating more jobs and furthering Academic growth in our community is a good thing for Boston, for Massachusetts and for Fisher College.

We are in full support of this initiative and encourage the BRA committee to study the detailed Institutional Master Plan presented by Fisher College and to support the growth of Higher Education in Boston.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bob Price

Manager

Greater Media Boston

55 Morrissey Blvd.

Boston, MA 02125

(m) 617-921-8772

www.hot969boston.com

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Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

In Support of Fisher College

1 message

Erin McCloskey <erin@aspirecommunications.org>
To: "katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov" <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Fri, Jul 10, 2015 at 10:51 AM

Dear Ms. Sullivan,

We're reaching out in favor of Fisher College expanding its campus to meet the changing needs of its students. As a national military nonprofit based in Norwell, Cell Phones For Soldiers worked with Fisher College and its students to give back to veterans residing at the The New England Center for Homeless Veterans.

The students, some of which were veterans themselves, organized and conducted cell phone drives across campus to benefit Boston-based homeless veterans all while studying for exams and attending classes. They were responsible for marketing, PR and the logistics of each event. Due to their studious efforts, together, we were able to contribute eight cell phones, with service, to The New England Center for Homeless Veterans. These cell phones will allow the residents to connect with family members and to connect with potential employers.

It was an honor to work with such a patriotic and organized group of students to give back to Boston-based veterans. We hope Fisher and its students can continue to build upon its successful 76-year history in Boston by allowing its campus to grow.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Erin McCloskey

ASPIRE Communications

erin@aspirecommunications.org

Join Cell Phones For Soldiers Today!

www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com

Sign up for the e-newsletter by clicking here.



Ms. Katelyn Sullivan
Boston Redevelopment Authority
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
Boston, MA. 02201

Dear Ms. Sullivan,

Greater Media has partnered with Fisher College for a number of years reaching out to the community and assisting members of our armed forces. Recently Fisher partnered with Greater Media and Cell Phones for Soldiers campaigning phone donations to Cell Phones for Soldiers to provide Phone cards to Soldiers overseas. In conjunction with this campaign we partnered up with the New England Shelter for Homeless Veterans in Boston supplying homeless veterans with phones to help them get back on the right track.

Fisher College is a staple of Beacon Street and a beautiful campus and is on the right path and has great ideas to renovate the neighborhood and increase its dormitories to give more opportunities to its students for housing. I have no doubt Fisher will preserve and upgrade the existing buildings and be a good neighbor to address neighborhood concerns.

I am very happy to support Fisher College and their Institutional Master Plan and with the B.R.A.'s approval wish the college all the best.

Sincerely



Daniel C. Davis Jr.
Greater Media Inc.
55 Morrissey BLVD
Boston, Ma. 02125



Association of Independent
Colleges and Universities
in Massachusetts

11 Beacon Street, Suite 1224 | Boston, Massachusetts 02108-3016
617.742.5147 | Fax 617.742.3089 | www.aicum.org

- Amherst College
- Anna Maria College
- Assumption College
- Babson College
- Bay Path College
- Becker College
- Bentley University
- Berklee College of Music
- Boston Architectural College
- Boston Baptist College
- Boston College
- Boston University
- Brandeis University
- Cambridge College
- Clark University
- College of the Holy Cross
- Curry College
- Dean College
- Eastern Nazarene College
- Elms College
- Emerson College
- Emmanuel College
- Endicott College
- Fisher College
- Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering
- Gordon College
- Hampshire College
- Harvard University
- Hebrew College
- Labouré College
- Lasell College
- Lesley University
- Marian Court College
- Massachusetts College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Merrimack College
- MGH Institute of Health Professions
- Mount Holyoke College
- Mount Ida College
- New England College of Optometry
- New England Conservatory of Music
- Newbury College
- Nichols College
- Northeastern University
- Pine Manor College
- Regis College
- Simmons College
- Smith College
- Springfield College
- Stonehill College
- Suffolk University
- Tufts University
- Wellesley College
- Wentworth Institute of Technology
- Western New England University
- Wheaton College
- Wheelock College
- Williams College
- Worcester Polytechnic Institute

July 10, 2015

Katelyn Sullivan
Boston Redevelopment Authority
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Ms. Sullivan,

In my capacity as President of the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities in Massachusetts (AICUM), I am writing to offer my support for Fisher College’s Institutional Master Plan. Fisher College is a long-time member of AICUM and Tom McGovern, President of Fisher College, currently serves on AICUM’s Board of Directors.

AICUM is comprised of 58 colleges and universities located throughout the Commonwealth – institutions which educate over 280,000 students each year and employ more than 84,000 people. Our member colleges include large nationally renowned research universities, smaller, highly regarded liberal arts colleges, religiously affiliated institutions, and colleges with special missions focused on business or music or allied health services.

Fisher College’s mission of “improving lives by providing students with knowledge and skills necessary for a lifetime of intellectual and professional pursuits” is top-of-mind when providing services to its diverse student body. A key component of Fisher College’s educational mission is derived from its location in the historic Back Bay neighborhood of the City of Boston.

Fisher College has been an important component of Boston’s Back Bay for over 75 years and truly understands the delicate role of being an institutional neighbor. Through its proposed Institutional Master Plan, Fisher College has introduced a vision of how it intends to continue to be a strong leader and a good neighbor to its Back Bay community in the years ahead.

I sincerely hope that the Boston Redevelopment Authority will act favorably on Fisher College’s submitted Institutional Master Plan. In doing so, you will allow Fisher College to continue improving the lives of its students while also have a long-lasting positive impact on the Back Bay neighborhood and the entire City of Boston.

Sincerely yours,

Richard Doherty, President



Katelyn Sullivan
Boston Redevelopment Authority
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201
July 9, 2015

Dear Ms. Sullivan,

As a Boston native, I am very familiar with Fisher College and all that the institution has done for the community. I have had the pleasure of meeting many Fisher graduates who truly cherished their time at Fisher and the education they have received while there. Fisher has changed the lives of many Bostonians, and has given them opportunities that they may never have received had it not been for their experience at the institution.

One of my clients owns an Advertising Agency in Manchester N.H. Her son currently attends Fisher College and stays in one of their dorms. It is invaluable for her to know that her son will get a great education at Fisher College while having the safety and security of staying on campus. If Fisher College didn't have a dorm for her son, he wouldn't be attending college there. Fisher works hard for their students and needs to be able to offer housing for students.

I strongly believe that Fisher College should increase dormitory beds in their existing buildings. Fisher College has been a respectful and considerate neighbor to its community, and I am confident that they will continue to be.

I support Fisher College and their Institutional Master Plan and look forward to continuing to watch Fisher College change lives.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul Meade".

Paul Meade
CBS Boston
617-787-7558

I would like to address this letter to the doubters, the cynics and the protestors. To the population of Boston's heart and history, the residents of Back Bay. I would like to have your attention for a few moments while I explain my point of view on Fisher College and its future, may you allow for one?

Through the years of 2008 and 2012, I spent the most influential time of my life at the Beacon Street campus. Coming straight from a small town in southern Massachusetts I was wide eyed and terrified to start my life in the bustling city. Once at Fisher, I felt at ease amongst the intimate campus life submerged in the most beautiful area of Boston. I attended Fisher College to obtain my Bachelors degree in Business with a concentration in Fashion Merchandising and I accomplished just that. I am now the Operations Manager at the Akris boutique on Newbury Street. I can confidently say I never would have had this opportunity if it weren't for the connections I made through Fisher.

This institution, the faculty and community, is like nothing I have experience before. I was a part of the women's soccer team, honors program and worked in the Admissions office; I could not have been more entangled in Fisher life if I tried. I learned a lot about myself and what the world has to offer; all thanks to the institution you are so determined to tear up from the roots. Beacon Street has been home to Fisher College since 1901, longer than residences of Back Bay can say for themselves. At present time there is an opportunity for expansion, for growth that should be given to them. I understand where your resistance lies, why you are unwelcoming to the idea of a larger Fisher College campus. It is only logical that campus life will always have a chance of demonstrating unwanted behavior. That there are always going to be a few bad apples in the bushel. Do not take away something so valuable to so many, a place so crucial to so many throughout the years. Fisher has aided me in ways I can never express, they've helped me towards a better future and it is only right that I do the same for them.

Take my words into consideration when the time comes, when the day arrives when a decision has to be made. Fisher College has produced many driven and hard working members of society and I am walking proof of that. Allow a future for Fisher, give them a chance to grow and exceed expectation. That is all they ever wanted for their students and this is all I can wish for them.

With all the best intentions,
Katherine Ernest



Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Support for Fisher College

1 message

Kyle Grenier <KGrenier@fisher.edu>

Thu, Jul 9, 2015 at 5:38 PM

To: "katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov" <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Dear Katelyn,

It is with great pride and enthusiasm that I write to you in support of the Fisher College Institutional Master Plan. I have been a friend and supporter of Fisher College since I stumbled upon the institution, quite by accident, on a drizzly day in April 2003. I graduated from Fisher College in May 2007 as the class Valedictorian. I can say I represented the college that day with great pride. In the late summer of 2008 I moved back to Boston from my home state of Vermont and chose to make Fisher College a major step in my career path; deciding to work for the institution I have grown to love.

I have invested much of my personal time into Fisher College throughout the years, and I can say, with certainty, that they make a positive difference in the lives of so many students each and every day. I've seen it! From the traditional students who attend the Beacon Street campus during the day, to the adult learners, juggling life outside the classroom alongside their coursework; the inner city students from Boston who struggle each day to stay on top of the world with little or no family support, to the international students who enrich our lives by introducing us to cultures we might never learn of; the robust alumni community, many of which were female pioneers in business and government, to the youngest students who embrace change and challenge the very word we've been comfortable in, in hopes of positive growth and the achievement of their dreams.

Fisher College has been a steward to the historical Back Bay community for generations. Fisher has made great investments of money and time to ensure the Beacon Street Brownstones are beautiful and will last for generations in the future. Fisher's proposed modest changes over a span of years would fit seamlessly into the Back Bay and would be a continued positive impact on the city of Boston.

It is difficult to sit by watching and listening to Fisher's neighbors create such a racket of occasionally false and narrowly scoped observations. Many of these observations seem petty to me. I live on the same block as many of these abutters; I witness on a daily basis the city unfolding around me. Many people j-walk, double park and cause disruptions. I suppose if I wanted to live in such an uninterrupted, quite environment, I would have chosen to live outside of the city, or at least on a quieter street. I do believe



Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Fisher College Proposed Institutional Master Plan

1 message

jacqueline royce <royce.assoc2@verizon.net>

Thu, Jul 9, 2015 at 3:55 PM

To: Katelyn.Sullivan@boston.gov

Cc: "<info@nabbonline.com>" <info@nabbonline.com>

Dear Ms. Sullivan:

I am writing to you as a Director of the Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay, an active member of NABB's Green Committee, and as a professional with training in urban planning from Cornell University.

As many have pointed out, Fisher College Proposed Institutional Master Plan is contrary to over forty years of successful zoning public policy. Fisher's enrollment, facilities and activities in the Back Bay residential neighborhood already exceed the capacity of the community to absorb college and student activity as demonstrated by testimony of abutters and residents.

It is my strong belief both as a professional planner and resident of the Back Bay that an increase in Fisher College facilities and activities, including classrooms, offices, dormitories and recreational and support facilities as well as an increase in student enrollment or intensity of student activities in the residentially zoned section of the Back Bay Historic District, and any legalization of nonconforming facilities to support such increase is not appropriate.

I agree with others in our community that Fisher should direct all expansions of its facilities and activities outside the residential district.

Thank you for your serious consideration of existing zoning policy and efforts to preserve the special character of the Back Bay for future generations.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Royce, PhD
NABB Board of Directors and
Member, NABB Green Committee
780 Boylston St.
Boston, MA 02199



July 9, 2015

Katelyn Sullivan

katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov

Boston Redevelopment Authority

One City Hall Square, 9th Floor

Boston, MA 02201

Dear Katelyn,

I am writing to you to express my support of the Fisher College Institutional Master Plan that was submitted to you. Rotary International District 7930 has been a partner of Fisher College for several decades. Not only are they a fantastic provider for affordable higher education for thousands of students, they are very philanthropic and a strong supporter of Veterans and their families.

Our main mission of Rotary International District 7930 over the next few years is our Homelessness and Hunger initiative. Fisher College not only allows for us to hold symposiums and community networking in their halls but actively participates in the discussion and actions of changing lives in our communities.

Rotary International District 7930 strongly supports Fisher's plan to improve the infrastructure of the college so that they may continue to attract the students in a very competitive market. To provide excellent education for students so that they can one day follow in the footsteps of Fisher's lead of community service.

Thank you for your consideration.

My best,

David Manzi

District Governor, Rotary International



FISHER COLLEGE

July 9, 2015

Katelyn Sullivan
Boston Redevelopment Authority
One City Hall Square
9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Ms. Sullivan,

In the summer of 1995, after completing all of my course work and exams toward a Ph.D. in English at West Virginia University, I moved to Boston to write my doctoral thesis and, hopefully, land a teaching job at one of the city's numerous academic institutions. My approach was to visit or call each school to inquire about job openings and then follow through with a resume. To my dismay, I was told repeatedly by school after school that either there were no openings for the fall semester or that the person I needed to speak to would not be back until sometime in August. As days turned into weeks, the thought of not having a college/university teaching job come September began to weigh heavily on my mind. I still had a few schools left on my list. One of these was Fisher College. Just as my prospects for employment were diminishing, Fisher's Vice President for Academic Affairs invited me in for an interview. When I left that interview, I did so as an upcoming adjunct instructor of English with a three-course teaching load for the fall 1995 semester. Three years later, I became a full-time employee of Fisher College as the Director of its on-campus tutoring facility. At present, I am a full-time Associate Professor of English working primarily with Fisher's international student population. Fisher College was there for me when it seemed like no other institution was, and to be honest, I do not know career-wise where I would be today without the opportunities that Fisher has given me.

As an employee at Fisher now for 17 years, I am certain that many of our students can make the same claim—that Fisher has been there for them when no other institution was. As a small, urban college, Fisher has for more than 100 years provided outstanding service and a quality education for those individuals who need it most. Fisher is there for the academically prepared, but also—and perhaps more importantly—for the academically challenged. Fisher is there for students in need of small class sizes where the teachers know each student by name. Fisher is there for the traditional day-learner, but also for the non-traditional evening or on-line student—the worker, the parent who is otherwise occupied during the mornings and afternoons. Fisher is there for students from many states within our own borders, but also for those from numerous other countries for whom English is a second (or sometimes even third) language. The student community at Fisher College is diverse, to say the least, but it is united in the sense that Fisher provides for them—just as it has for me—the opportunities and resources necessary for their continued success and growth as individuals and productive members of society.

Lastly, I wish to attest to the fact that, as an urban, Boston-based institution, Fisher College is also there for the Back Bay community in which it resides. Fisher College regularly hosts on-campus lectures, guest speakers, musical performances, and other activities that are often attended by residents of the Back Bay. Our Back Bay neighbors also utilize the Fisher College Library, which is a member of the Metro-Boston Library Network. Tours are often conducted which bring other members of the Boston community and its environs into our architecturally rich and historic facilities and buildings. As Fisher College necessarily, but also judiciously, acquires more space in order to better service its own communities of employees and students, its limited expansion will also further enrich and enculturate the Back Bay community in which it has been a member for 75 years.

Sincerely,

John Martino, Ph.D., Associate Professor of English at Fisher College



Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Fisher College Institutional Master Plan

1 message

Karen Dunton <kdunton@fisher.edu>

Mon, Jul 13, 2015 at 10:23 AM

To: "katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov" <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Cc: Melinda Cook <mcook1@fisher.edu>, Robert Melaragni <rmelaragni@fisher.edu>

Good morning Katelyn,

I am writing you in support of Fisher College's Institutional Master Plan. I have been an employee of the college for the last 13 years and I have witnessed many of students graduate and become young professionals in the city of Boston. These students create a wonderful "vibe" in our small section here in the Back Bay. They are committed to educating themselves and becoming contributing members of our society.

Fisher College is an active member in this community assisting in any way possible to support the residents of the Back Bay.

The proposed Institutional Master Plan will provide Fisher the tools needed to continue to empower the next generation and help our city thrive.

Thank you for your consideration.

Karen Dunton

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Children and Family Research Center
School of Social Work
1010 W. Nevada, Suite 2080
Urbana IL 61801



Katelyn Sullivan
Boston Redevelopment Authority
One City Hall Square
9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Ms. Sullivan,

I am writing to bring to your attention some excellent work that a team from Fisher College is doing to advance knowledge on effective methods in the criminal justice response to sexual assault. I believe that this may have a bearing on your assessment of their Institutional Master Plan.

Since 2012, I have been partnering with Mr. Alex Wagner and his team at Fisher on two federally funded studies examining the role of medical and crime laboratory evidence in sexual assault cases. Mr. Wagner's team has been a subcontractor to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for these two federal grants, funded by the federal National Institute of Justice. This research is examining the frequency and timing of medical and crime laboratory evidence in sexual assault cases and its impact on arrest and prosecution. This research is producing seminal knowledge about how often DNA and other evidence is found, what time spans are involved, and how it affects whether and how suspects are arrested and prosecuted. This research has the potential to increase the effectiveness of use of medical examination and crime laboratory analysis in sexual assault cases. The Fisher College team has played an indispensable role in finding, combining, managing and analyzing team data from multiple sources, including a medical exam database, crime laboratory files, and police and prosecutors. Mr. Wagner and his team have unprecedented knowledge of relevant state databases and great skill in managing and analyzing data. They have also contributed substantially to producing reports, professional presentations and peer-reviewed journal articles. Mr. Wagner was centrally involved in the conception of this project, in writing the grant proposal securing funds, and in day-to-day management of the project, especially liaison with all the organizations providing. This project could not have been done without Mr. Wagner and his team. They have also partnered with me to submit a proposal to the National Institute of Justice this spring. If funded, this project would study the reliability of national arrest data, which will contribute substantially to research on the criminal justice system.

Clearly Fisher College is doing a great deal to advance knowledge and improve our society. This should have substantial weight in any decision-making about their Institutional Master Plan.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide you this information. If I can be of any further assistance, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Theodore Cross". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Theodore P. Cross, Ph.D.
Senior Research Professor

Mary Jane Patrone
100 Beacon Street, Apt 5A
Boston, MA 02116

Ms Katelyn Sullivan
Boston Redevelopment Authority
Boston City Hall, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Ms Sullivan,

As a resident of 100 Beacon Street and a direct abutter to Fisher College, I am writing to urge you to deny Fisher's request to grow their student body by over 40% and to cram 48 more beds into a half block area on the north side of Beacon Street between Arlington and Berkeley Streets as outlined in their recently filed Institutional Master Plan.

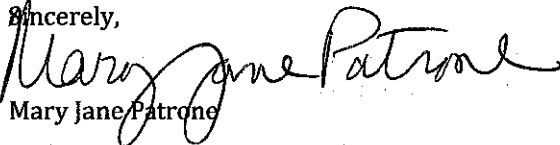
Ours is an historic neighborhood with aging systems and limited space. Fisher already strains the carrying capacity of the city. The north side of Beacon Street and Back Street are negatively impacted by the fact there is no space for current students to park or any loading dock for deliveries to service the existing student body. Adding nearly 400 students and 48 beds will only exacerbate an already untenable situation.

I urge you to visit Back Street any morning at 7 to witness Fisher's trash haulers block traffic the entire length of the street - with no one from Fisher directing traffic - and then imagine what it will be like if that trash increases by more than 40%.

Unfortunately, Fisher has a history of promising things on which they fail to deliver so I am suspect of their ability to execute on the remediation efforts outlined in their current plan.

Until Fisher figures out to handle their current student body while respecting the limitations of doing business in a residential neighborhood, they have no business expanding there.

Sincerely,


Mary Jane Patrone

Cc: The Honorable Martin J. Walsh, Mayor
Councilor Josh Zakim
Councilor Ayanna Pressley
Councilor Michelle Wu
Representative Jay Livingstone
Mr Howard Kassler, NABB

**100 Beacon St.
Boston, Ma., 02116**

July 2, 2015

Katelyn Sullivan
Boston Redevelopment Authority
City Hall
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Ms. Sullivan:

We are writing as abutters and neighbors to Fisher College with respect to their proposed institutional master plan, and requesting that the BRA neither approve the master plan (the "IMP") nor submit it to the Boston Zoning Commission. The reasons for not doing so are numerous and are well articulated in the NABB objections (with which we agree), including but not limited to:

1. **133 Beacon Street.** Without any public notice whatsoever, counsel for Fisher did and end run on the Board of Appeal and secured an administrative extension of a permit for a dormitory at 133 Beacon Street, the use of which was to expire on 30 June, 2015. No notices were given whatsoever to director abutters of this property or neighborhood leaders or others. Our reading of the history of the so-called Permanent Extension Act concludes that the intent of that Act had nothing to do with the continuation of a dormitory as non-conforming use in a residential neighborhood. It was specifically intended by those who proposed it and advocated for it to give some breathing room to those who had secured permits before the Recession but had been unable to secure financing because of the breakdown of the Nation's economic system in 2008. It is possible that a group of neighbors may be seeking relief on the specific issue. At the absolute minimum, it is an act of bad faith, and undisclosed in the IMP.
2. **111 Beacon Street.** Fisher purchased the Butera School of Art and then, notwithstanding representations made to students, faculty and others, proceeded to close it down. Students who had paid tuition and applied for loans were left out in the cold. We believe that a likely interpretation of the zoning code would be that a lapsed for profit institution cannot be replaced with a non-conforming use which is a purportedly non-profit institution without securing relief from Board of Appeal. Fisher continues to operate in 111 Beacon Street as if none of these issues were of any concern to them.
3. **1 Arlington Street.** It's quite obvious that Fisher is unwilling to share its plans for this building which they own and currently operate with the Good Neighbor Committee, The Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay, abutters and neighbors. How can neighbors understand what's going on in the building, if no one shares those plans with them?
4. **10-11 Arlington Street.** Although Fisher is not using the building at this time, they have on a number of occasions suggested their intent is to do so, once the IMP is approved.

Yet, no plans are in place which have been shared with the Good Neighbor Committee, The Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay or the larger community. Our research does not indicate that building permits have been secured to do any work on this property.

5. As noted in previous correspondence Fisher has not remedied its management of the issues resulting from its CURRENT student density on an overloaded block, with respect to loading, trash removal, parking, hours of operation, public gatherings and other complaints you have heard repeatedly at public hearings. Fisher has misrepresented their level of cooperation in the IMP submittal.
6. An IMP approval requires that a plan conform to the general plan of the City and do nothing injurious to the neighborhood or otherwise detrimental to the public welfare (Zoning Code 80 D-4). Fisher is already injurious and deleterious at their current density, on a block where intersections are in failure 2 times a day, and is documented by testimony you have heard repeatedly at public hearings and in objection letters. The IMP proposes 400 additional students, an inconceivable burden.
7. Fisher continues to flaunt licensing Board requirements and sublet their rooms during Holiday periods to foreign students as young as 15 years old.

For all of these reasons it is obvious that Fisher has not acted in good faith, and that the IMP submittal is fatally flawed. The BRA has no choice but to reject the draft IMP and request a moratorium on any further such filings until these numerous issues have been resolved, and a 'good neighbor agreement' is executed.

Sincerely Yours,

 , for 100 Beacon Condominium Trustees

Samuel Plimpton
Mary Jane Patrone
Dr. Denise Faustman
Edward Zuker
Jeff McCarthy

Cc: Hon. Martin J. Walsh, Mayor; Mr. Brian Golden, Director; Councilor Josh Zakim; Councilor Stephen J Murphy; Representative Jay Livingstone; Senator Will Brownsberger; Howard Kassler, NABB;



FISHER COLLEGE

July 9, 2015

Katelyn Sullivan
Boston Redevelopment Authority
One City Hall Square
9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Ms. Sullivan,

In the summer of 1995, after completing all of my course work and exams toward a Ph.D. in English at West Virginia University, I moved to Boston to write my doctoral thesis and, hopefully, land a teaching job at one of the city's numerous academic institutions. My approach was to visit or call each school to inquire about job openings and then follow through with a resume. To my dismay, I was told repeatedly by school after school that either there were no openings for the fall semester or that the person I needed to speak to would not be back until sometime in August. As days turned into weeks, the thought of not having a college/university teaching job come September began to weigh heavily on my mind. I still had a few schools left on my list. One of these was Fisher College. Just as my prospects for employment were diminishing, Fisher's Vice President for Academic Affairs invited me in for an interview. When I left that interview, I did so as an upcoming adjunct instructor of English with a three-course teaching load for the fall 1995 semester. Three years later, I became a full-time employee of Fisher College as the Director of its on-campus tutoring facility. At present, I am a full-time Associate Professor of English working primarily with Fisher's international student population. Fisher College was there for me when it seemed like no other institution was, and to be honest, I do not know career-wise where I would be today without the opportunities that Fisher has given me.

As an employee at Fisher now for 17 years, I am certain that many of our students can make the same claim—that Fisher has been there for them when no other institution was. As a small, urban college, Fisher has for more than 100 years provided outstanding service and a quality education for those individuals who need it most. Fisher is there for the academically prepared, but also—and perhaps more importantly—for the academically challenged. Fisher is there for students in need of small class sizes where the teachers know each student by name. Fisher is there for the traditional day-learner, but also for the non-traditional evening or on-line student—the worker, the parent who is otherwise occupied during the mornings and afternoons. Fisher is there for students from many states within our own borders, but also for those from numerous other countries for whom English is a second (or sometimes even third) language. The student community at Fisher College is diverse, to say the least, but it is united in the sense that Fisher provides for them—just as it has for me—the opportunities and resources necessary for their continued success and growth as individuals and productive members of society.

Lastly, I wish to attest to the fact that, as an urban, Boston-based institution, Fisher College is also there for the Back Bay community in which it resides. Fisher College regularly hosts on-campus lectures, guest speakers, musical performances, and other activities that are often attended by residents of the Back Bay. Our Back Bay neighbors also utilize the Fisher College Library, which is a member of the Metro-Boston Library Network. Tours are often conducted which bring other members of the Boston community and its environs into our architecturally rich and historic facilities and buildings. As Fisher College necessarily, but also judiciously, acquires more space in order to better service its own communities of employees and students, its limited expansion will also further enrich and enculturate the Back Bay community in which it has been a member for 75 years.

Sincerely,

John Martino, Ph.D., Associate Professor of English at Fisher College



Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Comment on the Fisher College IMP

1 message

Susan Morris <susaninboston@icloud.com>

Thu, Jul 9, 2015 at 11:10 AM

To: "Katelyn.Sullivan@boston.gov" <Katelyn.Sullivan@boston.gov>

Cc: Tony Morris <tony@morris-company.com>, Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay <info@nabbonline.com>

Dear Katelyn,

I would like to thank you for your patience during the Fisher College IMP process. It was contentious and time consuming. The input by the overwhelming response against the IMP from the neighborhood and eventually our elected representatives drew an already organized, caring, responsible, and generous neighborhood together. The comments I heard in the meetings were analytical, extensive, and required hours of work from the neighbors.

I learned that the impact of the Fisher IMP going forward was very damaging to our historical residential neighborhood because:

Fisher doesn't pay taxes or participate in the PILOT program. Since the policy of the zoning board in the 1970s is to return the Back Bay to residential zoning, allowing Fisher to buy the Tellus Institute and rezone it for its purposes is not good policy nor a proper use of the IMP process. If Fisher could have established a compelling reason to use the 10-11 Arlington Street through the Zoning Board, it should have done so. But there is no compelling reason to add square footage to Fisher and to burden the tax base in the Back Bay to do so.

Fisher damages the Back Bay by appropriating residential parking places, double parking school buses on busy Beacon Street, blocking the fire lanes on Back Street with delivery trucks, stressing antique water mains and sewer systems with dense, crowded dorms, some without natural light or proper fire exits.

The students, who never came to comment in support of the IMP, are paying a very high tuition, encouraged to commit to student loans putting their low income parents in debt, take 6 years on average to graduate if they do graduate, have one of the highest loan default rates in the state, and are partially housed in substandard buildings electrically. Fisher markets to International students because such students pay full tuition.

International students are more at risk jaywalking on Beacon.

Some of the students are boisterous, damage abutters gardens, vomit in the alleys and on private property, smoke on private steps, do drug deals in front of residents, in other words, act like college students which is not appropriate in the Back Bay. Many of us have children their ages, like the students overall, but tire of having to pass the few who congregate in groups blocking the sidewalks. I personally despair the pot smoking in the Public Garden near the White Memorial. Fisher administrators plan to curb the smoking in 2016 although they said it proved impossible in the past and they haven't tried since 2006.

Fisher says "they are here to stay" and have been in the Back Bay since 1939. They need their Back Bay location to attract International students, they say. But they were in the Back Bay as a small female 2 year college for immigrant children. The problems with the neighbors began when they expanded in 2003 to a 4 year coed college completely too big for the block between Arlington and Berkeley on Beacon Street. Now, they offer night classes and a graduate degree in business. Their footprint has become too dense for a residential neighborhood.

Fisher has failed to reach a Good Neighbor agreement although in the IMP they said they had "solved" the Good Neighbor commitment. By ignoring it? The chair of the Good Neighbor committee said they weren't even close.

I could go on and on with detailed student fail rates, improper mechanicals installed on roofs without architectural review, flaws in the IMP data with different numbers of students reported to different Boston agencies, but I'm sure my neighbors have done that. Since Jay Livingstone and Josh Zakim, who attended every IMP meeting have concluded that the time is not right for Fisher expansion, I ask you to recommend that the Fisher IMP be denied until they have reached a good neighbor agreement and pay commercial tax rates on the Tellus Institute with the goal of finding a residential use for it.

I regret than in frustration at the unanimous opposition, Carolina Avellenada, the Fisher spokeswoman, resorted to calling the neighborhood "rich white people" which is racist. I understand that she had to represent the President of the College, Tom McGovern, who never showed up at the BRA meetings. That he didn't come shows the IMP is not really important to the college, but is a business proposition. I ask that you recommend

7/9/2015

City of Boston Mail - Comment on the Fisher College IMP

against approval of the IMP.

Thank you,
Susan W. Morris
301 Berkeley Street, Apt. 6
Boston, MA 02116

617 236-5160



Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Fisher College's Institutional Master Plan

1 message

Sharan Schwartzberg <sharan.schwartzberg@gmail.com>
To: Katelyn.Sullivan@boston.gov
Cc: info@nabbonline.com

Wed, Jul 8, 2015 at 4:51 PM

Katelyn Sullivan

Project Manager
Boston Redevelopment Authority

Dear Ms. Sullivan,

I live at 136 Beacon Street in the Back Bay. I attended an earlier meeting and the June 22, 2015 community meeting scheduled by the Boston Redevelopment Authority to discuss Fisher College's Institutional Master Plan.

I want to directly state my opposition to Fisher College's IMP. This is after careful consideration of Fisher's College statements of intent, my own experience living near the College, and all the details articulately provided by the NABB leadership and my neighbors. Any plans to expand the College will add to already existing problems with the college's operations and behavior of the student body.

I regret that Fisher has yet to come up with any solid and credible plan to satisfy the concerns of the neighborhood. I hope the College finds a more suitable location to support a legitimate, quality education for its students.

Thank you,

Sharan L. Schwartzberg



Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Re: Fisher College IMP Comment

1 message

avayda@cs.com <avayda@cs.com>

Tue, Jul 7, 2015 at 4:34 PM

To: katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov

Katelyn,

Thank you for the offer for further discussion. Much appreciated. But I really don't have much to add to the point in the email. If there are any questions from anyone, I would be happy to address.

Best wishes for a good summer!

Andrea

—Original Message—

From: Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

To: avayda <avayda@cs.com>

Sent: Tue, Jul 7, 2015 11:32 am

Subject: Re: Fisher College IMP Comment

Hi Andrea-

Thank you for sending in your individual comments on the IMP document and the last public meeting. I will be sure to pass these concerns on to our senior staff here as well as staff at Fisher. I would also like to see if you wanted to touch base via phone to discuss any of your concerns. I am in the office all week and you can reach me at 617-918-4425.

Katelyn

On Thu, Jun 25, 2015 at 9:24 AM, <avayda@cs.com> wrote:

Dear Katelyn,

I am a member of the task force, but I write here as an individual.

The objections of Back Bay residents to the proposed Fisher Plan have been identified in each of the last three meetings to which the community was invited. Fisher College immediate neighbors, other residents of Back Bay, and the Neighborhood Association of Back Bay have been clear about their concerns and objections. There is no need to recap them here. My concern is with how the community concerns are being addressed as part of the IMP Process. So far, the Process has allowed for community input which has been followed by a re-presentation of the Fisher Plan. While there are some adjustments to the plan, there has not been a head-on addressing of the community concerns.

Here are two points on the issue I am raising.

(1) There is a chart in the IMP document Appendix B that lists people who sent letters expressing concern by name. Their concerns, however, are coded and require convoluted referencing to the codes and then to IMP page where the concerns or objections are ostensibly addressed. First, truly, the Issues List at start of Appendix B only has a series of summary phrases of three to four words and does not provide any description or explanation whatsoever of what was communicated in the letters. It seems not acceptable that the community response to the proposed Fisher Plan would be reduced to this short list of cryptic phrases. It

gives the impression of obfuscation.

I think Fisher College would come across much better if the top 5 or 10 or 15 objections were identified and described and then responded to. This is what I expected. It would seem against the purpose of asking for community input if nowhere in the IMP are the community issues actually discussed.

(2) During the most recent meeting (June 22) presenters repeatedly referred to the numerous meetings with the Good Neighbors Group. It was also made clear that despite numerous meetings there has not been any resolution of any of the issues. My point here is that at no time in the meeting was there an identification of the specific points of contention. In my opinion specificity should be required here. What exactly are the points of contention?

In all, I think it would be helpful and appropriate for the community issues to be made explicit and documented in narrative form so they could be generally understood. I would expect such a relatively detailed narrative of community input to be part of the IMP.

Sincerely,

Andrea Vayda
186 Beacon Street



Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

In Support of Fisher College Expansion

1 message

Lindsay Hoey <lindsaykhoey@gmail.com>

Mon, Jul 6, 2015 at 7:05 PM

To: katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov

Dear Katelyn,

As a resident in the city of Boston, I am writing to express my support of the proposed Fisher College expansion.

Fisher College and other Colleges and Universities in Boston, are such a large part of what makes this such a great city to live and work. An expansion like this will give new opportunities to future students and will allow Fisher to attract new students, while facilitating students with the updated environment they need!

I strongly support Fisher College's plan to improve its campus, and welcome the students that will continue to make this such a great community!

Sincerely,

Lindsay Hoey

145 Pinckney St.

Boston, MA 02114



**BOXWOOD
W I N E R Y**

July 1, 2015

Ms. Katelyn Sullivan
Boston Redevelopment Authority
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201

Subject: Support for Fisher College

Dear Ms. Sullivan:

As an alumna of Fisher, I am writing in support of Fisher College's Institutional Master Plan (IMP), a necessary part of the school's continuing progress over 76 years in Boston.

I graduated from Fisher in 1954 when it was Fisher Junior College. At that time the school prepared women for careers as secretaries (now referred to as administrative assistants) in business, medical, legal and educational fields. The level of education and dedication by the principals and teachers I received during my two years at Fisher prepared me for the many different roads I have travelled in my long life. My husband and I have hosted many Fisher students at our winery over the years and are impressed with their demeanor and level of interest.

I am impressed with the progress of the institution, under the stewardship of Dr. McGovern, as it continues to provide so many opportunities for students from so many diversified backgrounds and countries to study and prepare for jobs/careers in their fields of interest in a safe learning environment.

The unique location of Fisher in the stately surroundings of the Back Bay neighborhood and the beauty of the Charles River and Public Gardens is an inspiration for the students and faculty, as well as all who visit the school. I visit the school with my family whenever I am in Boston and am proud to call Fisher my Alma Mater.

I sincerely hope the Boston Redevelopment Authority will report favorably on Fisher College's IMP to upgrade and improve its facilities and benefit the local community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rita Donoghue Cooke".

Rita Donoghue Cooke
Vice President
Boxwood Winery, LLC



Ms. Katelyn Sullivan
Boston Redevelopment Authority
One City Hall Square, 9th floor
Boston MA, 02201

July 6, 2015

Dear Ms. Sullivan,

I am writing on behalf of Fisher College and their plans to expand and continue growing in the Back Bay neighborhood. I work at Titan and we develop and manage the MBTA's marketing assets. We work with local companies, hospitals, colleges and universities to help them build brand recognition and reach consumers in Boston. Our local partners are especially important to us because as Boston as a community continues to grow we want our local partners to grow and prosper as well.

In my 2 ½ years at Titan I have worked very closely with our Fisher College contacts and developed a strong and lasting relationship. I have visited the campus and continue to work with them to grow their presence around Boston and surrounding areas. Fisher is an asset to our city and as an institution they exemplify great education with a strong student body and hard-working administration. They continue to do positive things for not only their students and neighbors in the area but also the community as a whole.

I personally believe we need to allow them to continue building and growing even if that includes adding more beds to existing buildings, we shouldn't hinder their growth or expansion plans. More students enrolled in local institutions means more graduates, more jobs and more potential prosperity for the city. What Fisher is trying to do will have very low negative impact on its Back Bay neighborhood but continue to allow them to grow and carry out their values and missions. These changes will greatly impact the college which will in turn be positive for the neighborhood and the city. Since its inception Fisher has improved and given back to its city and should be allowed to continue to do so.

This being said, I strongly support Fisher College's expansion and their Institutional Master Plan and with the BRA's approval look forward to their continued progress and success. Please feel free to contact me for any further questions or reference.

My best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lauren Guidi".

781-817-8984

Lauren E. Guidi

Titan Outdoor

Petition to the Boston Redevelopment Authority

We are signing this Petition in response to the IMP filed by Fisher College. We are their neighbors - we live on the same block of Beacon Street between Arlington and Berkeley as do their students. Although some of us may send individual letters in opposition to Fisher's request to be granted, an institutional master plan, we are all asking that the BRA not issue an adequacy determination for their proposed institutional master plan, which is insufficient and unrealistic. Fisher fails to understand the negative impact they have on this increasingly residential/owner occupied community. They have not been responsive to the requests of the BRA. There is no reason to believe that they will do otherwise in the future.

Fisher should abide by the regulations of the Back Bay Architectural Commission. They must conform with the city's request with respect to a payment in lieu of taxes. They should legalize the forbidden uses in their existing buildings, and they should offer alternatives for housing other than in the Back Bay, especially given the questionable status of 133 Beacon Street as a dormitory.

David Lane
Name

125 BEACON ST - UNIT #13
Address

Mathias Fay
Name

125 Beacon St - Unit #1
Address

Randy Sping
Name

125 Beacon St. Unit #13
Address

Maria Maelen
Name

125 Beacon St Unit 6
Address

Name

Address

cc: City Councillor Zakim
City Councillor Murphy
City Councillor Wu
City Councillor Flaherty
City Councillor Pressley
Rep. Livingstone





Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Letter of support for FisherCollege's Institutional Master Plan

Taylor, Patti O <patti.taylor@cbsradio.com>

Tue, Jun 30, 2015 at 5:09 PM

To: "katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov" <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Boston Redevelopment Authority Campaign,

As a business partner with Fisher College, I want to support the institutional Master Plan that Fisher College has submitted to the BRA. Fisher College has been a partner with us for many years and what strikes me the most is their commitment to their students and their commitment to the community in which they reside. They are always thinking of ways to improve the quality of the student experience, while being mindful of the residential neighbor's needs. They have always expressed how the two go hand in hand. They have a very enviable address in the historic Back Bay and students come from many different states and countries to experience the college life in Boston. They are continually improving on the exterior of the buildings, the outside grounds and the interior of each of these historical buildings. They take pride in their institution – which they should – as it is a world class institution. They encourage their students to give back to the community and never take the access they have to the Boston Common, and the DCR Hatch Shell for granted. We have worked with Fisher in aligning with community events for many years. They have told us time and time again how important it is for them to give back to Boston by aligning with some of the great events we have in the city. It certainly speaks volumes to their commitment to the community and more specifically their neighborhood. It's all about giving back and leading by example with their involvement.

I encourage you to review the Institutional Master Plan that Fisher College has submitted very carefully. It will enhance the lives of students while at the same time, preserve the integrity of the neighborhood. It's an opportunity for the future growth of our community.

I appreciate the opportunity to express my support for Fisher College.

Sincerely,

Patti Taylor

Patti Taylor

Local Sales Manager

WBMX/Mix 104.1

CBS Boston

83 Leo Birmingham Parkway

Boston, MA 02135



June 26th, 2015

**Boston Redevelopment Authority
One City Hall Square
9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201**

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to you to express our support for the Fisher College Institutional Master Plan that is currently under consideration. Santander Bank has a strong relationship with Fisher College and has been partnering with them for several years. My branch is located near the College at 67 Beacon Street and has had great experiences with Fisher students. Santander Bank this year also participated in Fisher College Career Fair where we found many suitable prospective candidates.

We will continue to be a strong advocate of Fisher College within the community and we strongly support their plans to improve their infrastructure to help better serve student needs.

Sincerely,

Endri Alanaj

Branch Manager

67 Beacon Street

Boston MA 02108

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Endri Alanaj", written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and includes a large loop at the bottom.



June 22, 2015

Katelyn Sullivan
Boston Redevelopment Authority
One City Hall Square
9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201
(by email)

Dear Ms. Sullivan,

I am writing in support of Fisher College's Institutional Master Plan now under review by your office. Having worked with Fisher for several years, my partners and I believe this academic institution contributes immeasurably to the economic, social and cultural vibrancy of the city. We believe that Fisher's IMP is a reasonable plan, worthy of support.

Fisher is hardly a newcomer to the Back Bay. For nearly 80 years, Fisher has been a good neighbor and provided stability during times of socioeconomic transition. Most importantly for our future, Fisher College provides important and accessible educational opportunities that help people achieve their goals in life.

Forcing this venerable institution to consider moving out of the city would be a major mistake. We offer our support for the Fisher IMP and encourage the Boston Redevelopment Authority to look favorably upon it.

Sincerely,

Robert Cohen
Founding Partner
Cohen Partners
781-290-7331

Note: Cohen Partners is moving in July to 15 Court Square, Suite 1030, Boston Mass.



Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Reject Fisher College Proposed IMP

1 message

Robbins Bob <bob.robbins@catchpointpartners.com>

Mon, Jun 29, 2015 at 12:40 PM

To: Katelyn.Sullivan.bra@cityofboston.gov, Katelyn.Sullivan@boston.gov
Cc: info@nabbonline.com, Josh.Zakim@boston.gov, Ayanna.Pressley@boston.gov, Jay.Livingstone@mahouse.gov

Dear Katelyn,

Twenty years ago, my wife and I decided to move from NYC to Boston. We wanted to relocate to a city that was a bit more manageable, a city that was both youthful and vibrant. The fact that Boston had an international diverse student population contributed to shaping the kind of community we wished to be part of. We settled on the Back Bay on Beacon Street believing it afforded us an opportunity to part of this wonderful and historic neighborhood.

Sadly, while we still enjoy life here in Boston, our neighbors directly across the street from us, Fisher College, have been anything but "neighborly". We at one point had another "neighbor", Emerson College, who abided by the principles of what it means to be a good neighbor. Kindliness, restfulness and helpfulness are two of these principles that come to mind. We had absolutely no issues whatsoever with Emerson College and their students, who were always trusting and respectful. These are not, however, words that we would use to describe Fisher College and its student base.

Quite frankly, Fisher College not only needs to be discouraged from its expansion on Beacon Street and in the Back Bay, they need to be encouraged to leave. The leadership has proven time and again, to be unable to resolve the numerous complaints that have been conveyed to them over the years. We are tired of expressing how inappropriate and dangerous it is for the students to be using Beacon Street as their campus, wandering or jaywalking across this heavily trafficked street, expecting oncoming traffic to stop for them. We are tired of the shouting, the partying, the traffic congestion, the illegally parked and double-parked delivery trucks, and on top of this, the very significant "tax-exemptions" the school enjoys.

I have attended most of the BRA/Fisher College meetings and found it incredulous that the school's top administrator, Mr. McGovern, never showed for any of these sessions. It shows a callousness and a lack of respect that is anything but "neighborly". Instead, Mr. McGovern and the Fisher College leadership thought to use slick PR professionals and their PowerPoint presentations to assuage the concerned residents. How preposterous. I also resent what was cited recently, the idea that those opposed to this expansion plan, are from "a common denominator of rich white people" according to Fisher's Carolina Avellaneda. As mentioned, we moved here twenty years ago because we wished to be in a youthful and diverse community. This insulting comment is indicative of the callousness and utter disregard Fisher has for the residents.

Now, with conditions that are totally unacceptable and unresolved, Fisher is preposing in its new Institutional Master Plan, a further expansion of the school. This will only aggravate the current conditions, making the situation that much more difficult.

I hope this aggressive expansion plan is opposed, and should Fisher decide to remain here in the Back Bay, that they re-direct their focus on resolving the many issues currently facing the residents.

Best,

Bob + Ellen Robbins



Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Fisher College Proposed IMP

Marty Walz <martywalz@yahoo.com>

Mon, Jul 6, 2015 at 10:07 AM

Reply-To: Marty Walz <martywalz@yahoo.com>

To: "katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov" <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Cc: "Michael.F.Flaherty@boston.gov" <Michael.F.Flaherty@boston.gov>, "Stephen.Murphy@boston.gov" <Stephen.Murphy@boston.gov>, "Michelle.Wu@boston.gov" <Michelle.Wu@boston.gov>, "Ayanna.Pressley@boston.gov" <Ayanna.Pressley@boston.gov>, Josh Zakim <josh.zakim@boston.gov>, "Livingstone Jay - Rep. (HOU)" <jay.livingstone@mahouse.gov>, Will Brownsberger <william.brownsberger@masenate.gov>, "jerome.smith@boston.gov" <jerome.smith@boston.gov>

Dear Katelyn:

I am writing to provide my comments on Fisher College's proposed Institutional Master Plan. As a resident of the Back Bay for nearly 28 years and as the community's former state Representative, I am knowledgeable of Fisher College's overall negative impact on the residential section of the Back Bay and urge the Boston Redevelopment Authority to deny approval of the proposed IMP.

Rather than repeat here what the Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay included in its May 19, 2015 letter, I will note my agreement with NABB's points.

My conclusion is a simple one: Fisher College should not be permitted to expand its operations in the residential section of the Back Bay. If Fisher College needs additional space to accommodate its current students, it should seek that space in a more appropriate location.

Moreover, I am concerned that Fisher College, which can't meet its needs with its current space, wishes to expand its student body by a substantial amount. That is a wholly inappropriate action. The last thing Fisher College should do is increase its impact on the residential section of the Back Bay.

I am stunned by Fisher College's ongoing disrespectful relationship with its neighbors. I was in office when Fisher started meeting with community members as part of this planning process and attended meetings of the Fisher College Institutional Master Plan Task Force. From those earliest days, Fisher's employees have time and again demonstrated their arrogance and hostility toward Back Bay residents. Most recently, Fisher College's General Counsel and Vice President of Operations, Carolina Avellaneda, asserted that the legitimate concerns of the school's neighbors are based on race and economic class. Putting aside her lack of knowledge of the economic circumstances of those who have expressed concerns about Fisher College and her assumptions about the racial and ethnic makeup of those who live in the Back Bay, her dismissal of the neighbors' concerns illustrates starkly the failure of the school's leadership to recognize the valid issues being raised about the school's expansion plans and the behavior of its students.

A comparison with the planning process undertaken in connection with the Berklee College of Music Institutional Master Plan is instructive. When Back Bay and Fenway neighbors raised questions about Berklee's expansion plans and the behavior of its students, Berklee's leadership

worked collaboratively with the school's neighbors to address those concerns. There was no hostility or name calling or suggestions of bias. Instead, there was conversation and a genuine desire to create an ongoing, positive relationship -- just as good neighbors should do.

I live on Commonwealth Avenue a few doors away from a large Berklee dormitory. On the rare occasions when I have contacted Berklee with complaints about its students' behavior, Berklee's staff treated me with respect and took immediate steps to address the situation.

The contrast between Berklee College and Fisher College couldn't be clearer. The problem isn't Back Bay's residents who are accustomed to (and often enjoy) living cheek by jowl with college students. It is, rather, how Fisher College is choosing to interact with its neighbors. That choice has consequences, one of which should be a denial of its proposed master plan.

Sincerely,

Marty Walz
250 Commonwealth Avenue
Boston, MA 02116

July 1, 2015

Ms. Katelyn Sullivan
Boston Redevelopment Authority
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201

Subject: Support for Fisher College

Dear Ms. Sullivan:

As an alumna of Fisher, I am writing in support of Fisher College's Institutional Master Plan (IMP), a necessary part of the school's continuing progress over 76 years in Boston.

I graduated from Fisher in 1954 when it was Fisher Junior College. At that time the school prepared women for careers as secretaries (now referred to as administrative assistants) in business, medical, legal and educational fields. The level of education and dedication by the principals and teachers I received during my two years at Fisher prepared me for the many different roads I have travelled in my long life. My husband and I have hosted many Fisher students at our winery over the years and are impressed with their demeanor and level of interest.

I am impressed with the progress of the institution, under the stewardship of Dr. McGovern, as it continues to provide so many opportunities for students from so many diversified backgrounds and countries to study and prepare for jobs/careers in their fields of interest in a safe learning environment.

The unique location of Fisher in the stately surroundings of the Back Bay neighborhood and the beauty of the Charles River and Public Gardens is an inspiration for the students and faculty, as well as all who visit the school. I visit the school with my family whenever I am in Boston and am proud to call Fisher my Alma Mater.

I sincerely hope the Boston Redevelopment Authority will report favorably on Fisher College's IMP to upgrade and improve its facilities and benefit the local community.

Sincerely,

Rita Donoghue Cooke
Vice President
Boxwood Winery, LLC



Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Fisher College Institutional Master Plan

Marquardt, Jessicalee J <Jessicalee.J.Marquardt@ehi.com>

Thu, Jul 2, 2015 at 9:36 AM

To: "katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov" <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Dear Katelyn,

As an active recruiter of Fisher College students, I am writing this letter to express my support for the Fisher College Institutional Master Plan that is under consideration. I was extremely impressed by the University my very first step in the main building.

Moving to Massachusetts from Arizona, I am always stunned by how beautiful the architecture is in New England. When I first walked into Fisher College a thought that came to mind was, "I can't believe that this is a College people can actually attend." I immediately wished that I could have gone to Fisher myself. Fisher College has done an amazing job at maintaining these historic buildings and keeping them looking pristine. I'm sure that this is a major factor that allows Fisher College to attract college students from all over.

Throughout the years, I have gotten the opportunity to deliver classroom presentations, speak on panels and sponsor special career days to prepare students for the real world after school. I am constantly impressed by the caliber of students at the college and I'm happy to say we currently have four Fisher College alumni working for us.

With the improved infrastructures, Fisher College will be able to attract even more students that can have the opportunity to be educated not only in the classrooms of Fisher College but also in the historic Boston community.

Sincerely,

Jessi Marquardt

Talent Acquisition

Enterprise Holdings



Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Fisher College Institutional Master Plan

Taormina, TJ <TJ@1033ampradio.com>
To: "katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov" <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Wed, Jul 1, 2015 at 2:05 PM

7/1/15

Ms. Katelyn Sullivan
Boston Redevelopment Authority
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Ms. Sullivan,

I've had a relationship with Fisher College for over a year. Not only are they great partners, but I've seen that they have a deep love for our community. They respect the surrounding neighborhood and their location in the city is very close to their hearts. People treasure what's close to their hearts and Fisher College certainly treats it with the upmost respect.

I had the pleasure of taking a class at Fisher College earlier this year and it's a great training ground for students. The location of the college is particularly beneficial to students because it gives them a chance to be in the city before, in between, and after classes. Having access to the city and having the opportunity to stay in town in extra dormitories can only help build brighter futures for these students.

I support Fisher College and their Institutional Master Plan. I hope this finds you well and thank you for your time.

Dear Katelyn Sullivan,

I am writing this letter to express my support of Fisher College's IMP. The idea to improve and expand our campus will bring many benefits for the College and the community.

A little about myself my name is Amanda Runko I am a recent graduate with a BA in Psychology. I am currently working for Fisher College for the summer. After spending four years, and two summers in Boston coming from New York I have grown to love this city and the campus life living in a prime location in the city has given me, and many other students great opportunities, and a great place to call my new home. With a great support system by the faculty, staff, and friendly students, our college's small size gives students and the crucial skills they need in order to succeed in their respective careers.

It is very important for a schools campus to have enough space for students to have a place to go in between classes, before and after, as a place to study, chat with friends also enough office space for our hardworking faculty, and staff to have a larger, more comfortable working environment. By obtaining more buildings and space for the campus, this will create more indoor and outdoor space for students to go and keep noise levels, and crowded side walks down throughout the day and to create better office space.

In order for Fisher College to increase more opportunities for current and new students, the IMP project would be a great way to do this.

Thank you for your time

Sincerely,
Amanda Runko

Adam Thorley

7/1/15

Dear Katelyn Sullivan,

I am writing this letter in support of Fisher's IMP. My name is Adam Thorley and I'm currently a sophomore here at Fisher College, I'm currently pursuing my BA in Criminal Justice with a minor in Psychology. Here at Fisher I've learned a copious amount; not only educational but social and personal. I've always been an outgoing and jovial young man, and here at Fisher I'm able to express myself with my peers and staff. Currently I am a Student Ambassador in the admissions office and to be honest I can't think of a job I've enjoyed more than this one. All of the staff is more than willing to help; they've taught me how to do everything here since I've never had an office job before. I personally think that Fisher expanding could only improve our community and not be pernicious in any way possible. Fisher College's main goal is to educate and mold these young woman and young men into responsible, hard working adults with a degree in their field of choice. Fisher has the opportunity to make a difference in our community and this is it, I back Fisher with anything that we decide to do because I know in the long run, it's the right decision. This IMP is our chance to make such a change in the great city of Boston, and hopefully other cities in the future. I am in full support of Fisher College.

Sincerely,

Adam Thorley



May 24, 2015

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Janet Younker

Emily Bradford Gallup
Office Administrator

Ms. Katelyn Sullivan

Boston Redevelopment Authority

Boston City Hall, Ninth Floor

One City Hall Place, Boston, MA 02201

Re: Fisher College Institutional Master Plan – Adequacy Student Housing

Dear Ms. Sullivan:

There are numerous deficiencies in the Fisher College Institutional Master Plan (IMP) including the material safety hazards of unrelenting student jaywalking inherent in any extension to the south side of Beacon Street and the absence of the previously committed Good Neighbor Agreement being in place. Still, perhaps the most glaring **adequacy deficiency** is the complete absence of a Student Housing Plan that supports the proposed forty-four percent (44%) student body increase contained in the IMP and which in any way is responsive to the goal expressed in the Mayor's "*Housing a Changing City of Boston 2030*" of facilitating increases in the City's housing stock by materially reducing the number of undergraduates living off campus.

The IMP simply "blows off" the Mayor's student housing goals. Like other voluntary programs such as the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) program the disregard of the City Housing Plan will only discourage other institutions from making a full commitment to the plan. It is a disappointing reflection of Fisher College's continuing focus on its own narrow interests at the expense of the City, the community and its neighbors.

Given the speculative and otherwise inadequate dormitory housing provided in the IMP intended to support the student body growth plan no rational business, and certainly no public planning agency, could rely upon that plan in making a ten year commitment for material growth of the student body. There should be no IMP approval which; 1) does not provide for a definitive increase in the proportion of students being housed in college sponsored dormitories and 2) which does not limit any student body increases in a defined proportion to the additional college sponsored dormitory units actually provided.

Mr. Michael Weingarten in the sections of his recent comprehensive memo entitled "*Fisher Student Housing Plan*" and "*Fisher and the Mayor's Housing Plan*" makes carefully considered and well supported analysis of the material deficiencies in the Fisher College Student Housing Plan but in fact understates the deficiency. Mr. Weingarten's analyses do not recognize that the Mayor's housing plan seeks not a status quo but an increase in the proportion of students housed in college sponsored dormitories and further the Weingarten analysis does not recognize that the dormitory use of 133 Beacon Street with its 35 beds will expire by June 30, 2019. The original June 30 2015 dormitory use expiration was only extended to 2019 by the Permit Extension Act created by Section 173 of Chapter 240 of the Acts of 2010 to support recovery of the economy following the 2008 recession.

Further, as note in Mr. Weingarten's analysis the Fisher College IMP relies upon the continued availability of the 55 dormitory units at 19 Stuart Street leased from Hostelling International which is by no means is a certainty. What is described on page 6-3 of the IMP as a willingness "*Hostelling International has expressed a willingness to renew the College's lease, as evidenced in a letter of intent.*" is a mischaracterization. In its letter attached to the IMP as Attachment D the Regional Director of Hostelling International only states that it might extend the lease.

"we will evaluate the availability of our beds for their continuing use for Fisher dormitory beds and, if it is determined that renewing the lease for some number of beds into the future is appropriate and in Hostel's interest, we will negotiate a new lease with Fisher at that time."

Further, given the level of abutters' complaints including the summer subleasing of 133 Beacon Street to non-Fisher College matriculating students and the seasonal use of that tax exempt property by the for profit business of FLS International there is no certainty that Fisher College will be able to obtain an extension of the dormitory use of that property after 2019. Certainly, if it is the intent of Fisher College to rely upon the dormitory use of 133 Beacon Street to support its ten year plan reflected in the IMP the long-term dormitory use of 133 Beacon Street need to have been included as a Proposed Institutional Project in its IMP. Having failed that basic requirement those units cannot now be relied upon to support Fisher College's IMP.

Even without those material uncertainties the Fisher College's IMP is materially deficient with respect to student housing and is more in the character of a "promotion piece" rather than a "plan." Assuming a very modest increase in the proportion of student beds from the recent forty-five percent (45%) level to a fifty percent (50%) Fisher College's proposed forty-four percent (44%) student body growth encompassed in the IMP would project the material dormitory housing deficiencies in the order of EXHIBIT 1 below:

EXHIBIT 1: DORMITORY BEDS VRS TOTAL STUDENT

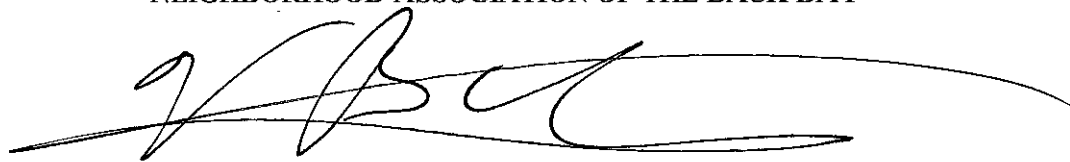
Term	Total	Beds	Plus:	Plus:	Less:	Net Beds	Beds as %	Required	Shortages
Fall	Students	Excluding	Stuart St	Proposed	Expiration of	Available	of Students	Beds @ 50%	Vrs
		Stuart Street	Lease	per IMP	133 Beacon			Dorm Beds	50% Target
		Lease	Lease	48 Beds	Street			Target	Target
2014	763	289	55	0	0	344	45.1%	382	-38
2015	791	289	55	0	0	344	43.5%	396	-52
2016	821	289	55	0	0	344	41.9%	411	-67
2017	852	289	0	25	0	314	36.9%	426	-112
2018	883	289	0	25	0	314	35.6%	442	-128
2019	916	289	0	48	-35	302	33.0%	458	-156
2020	950	289	0	48	-35	302	31.8%	475	-173
2021	986	289	0	48	-35	302	30.6%	493	-191
2022	1022	289	0	48	-35	302	29.5%	511	-209
2023	1060	289	0	48	-35	302	28.5%	530	-228
2024	1100	289	0	48	-35	302	27.5%	550	-248

At this juncture the IMP as presented can rely upon being able to provide dormitory housing for only 27.5 % of the proposed student body vrs the recent 45% and a modest objective of 50%. Making matters even worst the current plan is dependent Fisher College being able to add sixteen (16) dormitory beds in 116 Beacon Street as a consequence of moving senior staff to 10/11 Arlington Street precluding that property from rejoining the City's tax base and housing stock. By any measure that would be a very poor trade-off for the City and the residents of Boston. Further, the plan to increase dormitory housing by twenty-five (25) units by subdividing what are already recognized by the student community as sub-par dormitory units will do little to encourage future students to elect dormitory housing.

Fisher College, if it is to continue to seek a plan encompassing more than 150,000 sq. ft. and thereby a IMP, should be required to provide a revised IMP that; 1) provides for measurably increasing the proportion of the student body living in college sponsored dormitories, and 2) definitively limits any proposed increase in student body in some material proportion to increases in college sponsored dormitories housing actually provided without otherwise negatively impacting the City's housing stock all consistent with the goals expressed in the Mayor's "*Housing a Changing City of Boston 2030*."

Sincerely,

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION OF THE BACK BAY



V. B. Castellani, Zoning Chair

VBC/sb

cc: Honorable Martin J. Walsh, Mayor City of Boston
Mr. Brian Golden, Director Boston Redevelopment Authority
Ms. Lara Merida, Deputy Director for Community Planning, BRA; Lara.Merida@boston.gov
Ms. Katelyn Sullivan, Project Manager, Boston Redevelopment Authority; Katelyn.Sullivan@boston.gov
Mr. Jerome Smith, Chief of Civic Engagement; Jerome.smith@boston.gov
Mr. Jay Livingstone, Massachusetts House of Representative; Jay.Livingstone@mahouse.gov
Mr. Josh Zakim, District 8 City Councilor; josh.zakim@boston.gov
City Councilor at Large Stephen Murphy; Stephen.Murphy@cityofboston.gov
City Councilor at Large Ayanna Pressley; Ayanna.Pressley@cityofboston.gov
City Councilor at Large Michelle Wu; Michelle.Wu@boston.gov
City Councilor at Large Michael Flaherty; Michael.F.Flaherty@boston.gov
Carolina Avellaneda, esq, General Counsel / Vice President of Operations - Fisher College

V. B. Castellani

Katelyn Sullivan
Boston Redevelopment Authority
One City Hall Square, 9th floor
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Ms. Sullivan,

I am writing to support the Fisher College proposed expansion to their existing space and convert their Arlington street building into an institutional property. They will be making improvements to their library, academic space, student housing and social areas which I believe are imperative spaces for prospective college students. I also believe that expanding the student housing will bring more diversity and economic growth to our neighborhood, while giving more students an opportunity to experience the Boston life. I have been working with Fisher college for over a year supplying them their office supplies and have had nothing but great experiences with them. Their staff is well-educated and the students seem to be thoroughly enjoying their time in one of the best neighborhoods in New England. Fisher has stated that they will continue to work together with the Good Neighbor Agreement group to address neighborhood concerns, and I believe they will uphold that agreement. I truly hope the Boston Redevelopment Authority allows Fisher College this expansion to help enrich the community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott O'Donnell", written over a long horizontal line.

Scott O'Donnell
Account Executive
WB Mason Company

Christian C. Fisher

96 Wilson Road • Concord, MA 01742 • vm: (978) 394-3474 • email: chrisfisher@me.com

June 24, 2015

Ms. Katelyn Sullivan
Boston Redevelopment Authority
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Ms Sullivan,

I am writing to express strong support of the Fisher College Masterplan for the following reasons:

First, the college has worked hard and diligently internally, as well as with neighbors, to project a future plan that will meet both the interests of the students and the neighbors within the community.

Second, (although perhaps first) the students we educate represent a cross section of the future of this city, state and country. They will be the citizens, leaders and contributors of tomorrow. That some suggest the students may in some way be unworthy of being educated in this neighborhood is an idea I find revolting and myopic. Our students at Fisher College gain inspiration and ideas from living within the Back Bay community which becomes part of their lifelong aspirations. Whether they are from Boston, parts of New England or international, I do believe that students fundamentally have a right to both live and be educated in this area.

Third, the college has been at this location since 1939. While I realize zoning has changed and some other colleges have moved out, I'm sure at this point the college predates all others in the Back Bay neighborhood. It has been a long standing contributor to the community and the city. It deserves to have a reasonable opportunity to continue its mission and adjust its facilities as necessary to educate the modern student. Although the zoning has changed, the college should not be frozen and prevented from making necessary adjustments.

Fourth, what the college is planning in its Institutional Master Plan is modest when compared with other institutions in the area such as Suffolk, Boston University etc. It should have a minimal impact on the community around us. Some neighbors have seemed to make it their mission to stop any change, any growth whatsoever. Such blind rejection of the plan are close minded and unreasonable. There has been a net decline in college students in the Back Bay for various reasons over the last few decades. There is no threat to neighbors that the college population will return even to what it was only a few years ago when Emerson College was in the neighborhood. It is unreasonable on the part of some to view any change or any growth of Fisher College as detrimental to the community.

There are other issues and reasons to support Fisher College but I would like to confine my comments to these and support the very reasonable and considerate Institutional Master Plan of Fisher College.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Christian C. Fisher".

Christian C. Fisher
Trustee/Past President

Katelyn Sullivan, Project Manager
Boston Redevelopment Authority
One City Hall Square
Boston, MA 02201

July 1, 2015

Re: FISHER COLLEGE INSTITUTIONAL MASTER PLAN

Dear Ms. Sullivan:

I am writing as a condominium owner in 9 Arlington Street, the building adjoining 10-11 Arlington Street. I and my wife are strong opponents of the planned expansion and requested rezoning by Fisher College. The expansion plan of Fisher College involves more student housing along Beacon Street, together with moving all the administrative staff from there to 10-11 Arlington St.

We agree with the residents of Beacon Street that the current student housing of Fisher College on Beacon Street is already disruptive of the neighborhood. That student housing already causes excessive traffic, large congregations of students in public areas as well as considerable noise and smoking. The proposed expansion to house 300 plus more students will only intensify these problems and should not be permitted.

In particular, I object to the proposal to turn 10-11 Arlington St into a major administrative center for Fisher College. At the hearing held on June 24 at Fisher College, its representative asserted that the current tenant of 10-11 Arlington St, the Tellus Institute, houses roughly 85 administrative staff, so that level of occupancy should be permissible for Fisher College.

However, I personally checked and found that Tellus Institute has a total of only 25 employees and associates. Many of these associates live and work in other cities or other parts of Boston. Thus, at most 15 people from the Tellus Institute actually use 10-11 Arlington Street on a regular basis for their office space.

If Fisher College is allowed to put more than 15 administrative staff in 10-11 Arlington Street, that would dramatically undermine the character of the block. Such expansion would add traffic, noise and dirt to what is now a quiet and clean block. Except for Tellus, the block contains residential condominiums that are maintained at a high level.

Therefore, I hope that the BRA will reject the expansion plans of Fisher College as well as its request for the rezoning of 10-11 Arlington Street. The highest and best use of that building would be quality residential housing, which would fit in well with the block and the Back Bay neighborhood.

Please feel free to contact me at bobpozen@mit.edu. Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely, Robert Pozen



Peter C. Everett
P.O. Box 226
Sherborn, MA 01770
Cell Phone: 617-921-1896
e-mail: Peter.Everett@BMC.org

June 22, 2015

Ms. Katelyn Sullivan
Boston Redevelopment Authority
OneCity Hall Square, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201
katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov

Dear Ms. Sullivan:

I am writing to the Boston Redevelopment Authority in support of Fisher College and its current Institutional Master Plan, for the purpose of advancing our mission, to *“improve lives by providing students with the knowledge and skills necessary for a lifetime of intellectual and professional pursuits.”* I have served as a Trustee of Fisher College since 2009.

Graduates of Fisher College are a key part of our city’s life and vibrancy. In my capacity as a physician practicing internal medicine and hematology-oncology in Boston. I have worked with Fisher College graduates in the care of patients, including two of the RNs in a primary care clinic on Commonwealth Avenue. I have seen them advocate for, and deliver, the best available health care to residents of the Back Bay, and they were always a pleasure to work with.

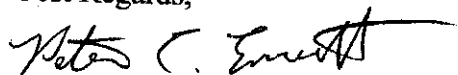
In the wake of the Boston Marathon bombing, a Fisher graduate became a symbol of Boston’s resilience and energy upon reopening his Forum restaurant, which was located where much of the horror of that day unfolded on Boylston Street. Euz Azevedo’s leadership as a Boston entrepreneur, only 15 years after immigrating from Brazil, is also a symbol of how the city benefits when we are open to expanding the opportunities and skills from a diverse range of students. Fisher College students frequently come from circumstances where opportunities are scarce. These are the young people who most need what Fisher College offers.

I am confident that most of the residents of the Back Bay value what the College represents for both the local community and the city as a whole. Sadly, I have become all too aware of a vocal minority who believe the Back Bay should be less welcoming to the diverse young people who choose to start a lifetime of achievement at Fisher. This is the same Fisher College whose graduates take care of them when they are sick, create businesses that feed, clothe, and entertain them, and who help pick up the city when it is down, such as recently when Fisher College opened its doors and cafeteria to the firefighters battling a recent deadly blaze on Beacon Street.

The irony of this is not lost on me. I hope it is not lost on you, too. I ask that you enthusiastically support Fisher College’s Institutional Master Plan to upgrade and

improve its facilities, to better serve our mission on behalf of our students, and through them, the health of the Back Bay, Boston, and the world.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter C. Everett". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Peter C. Everett, M.D.
Fisher College Trustee

Peter S. Lynch
One Commonwealth Avenue
Boston, MA 02116

June 30, 2015

Ms. Katelyn Sullivan, Project Manager
Boston Redevelopment Authority
One City Hall Square
Boston, MA 02201

RE: FISHER COLLEGE INSTITUTIONAL MASTER PLAN;
10-11 ARLINGTON STREET, BOSTON

Dear Ms. Sullivan,

I am writing in opposition to the planned expansion and re-zoning of 10-11 Arlington Street for Fisher College in the Back Bay neighborhood. I believe that re-zoning to allow up to 85 occupants of the 10-11 Arlington Street building will dramatically undermine the peaceful quality and current nature of this block.

Most importantly, it should be noted that the former occupants, Tellus Institute, had only twenty-five employees and associates in this building. Of those twenty-five Tellus employees, no more than fifteen held regular offices in 10-11 Arlington Street. Clearly, allowing over three times the amount of occupants to this building will be hugely disruptive to the residents of the neighborhood. Therefore, the BRA should deny the request of Fisher College to have 10-11 Arlington Street re zoned for institutional administration.

Fisher College has already outgrown the existing space they occupy and should relocate to an area that would better serve the needs of their students and staff. Further expanding into a residential neighborhood is not a solution that bodes well for neighborhood, nor for the College. There is currently excessive traffic and many parking issues caused by student and faculty vehicles. Adding more volume to this situation will only increase the frustration of residents as well as the College's employees.

In addition, home owners have been forced for years to deal with several other problems that go unaddressed by the College: large congregations of students in the City common areas, smoking in City public areas by students, marijuana use by students in City public areas, noise pollution – particularly in early morning hours – as students return to their residences, and vendors (who serve the school's offices) failure to obey the city's parking rules. These issues continue to contribute to the negative impact the presence of Fisher College already has on the neighborhood's residents.

Homeowners are tax-paying citizens who, additionally, spend a great deal of money in the on-going preservation, restoration and maintenance of their homes. Altering the zoning requirements of the street would lead to the eventual exodus of the families in the Back Bay. Studies have shown there is an overall negative affect to cities when residents move away -- as local businesses suffer, losing the income generated from those residents. Reducing or removing residential elements from Back Bay would negatively impact the City as those homes create the quintessential

charm visitors seek when traversing Boston streets, particularly in areas of historic significance -- such as Back Bay. In addition, it should be noted that Fisher College also has either failed or refuses to participate in a Payment in Lieu of Taxes program, yet students and faculty of the College have complete access to all of the services and amenities afforded residents of the City of Boston.

Arlington Street is a historically significant area and neighborhood of Boston, and one in which its homeowners take a great deal of pride in keeping beautiful. It would be unfair to allow one occupant -- Fisher College -- to further encroach into this historic residential neighborhood, and negatively affect the nature of this street. Traffic on this street is already at an extremely high level and with more people pulling out cars to go in and out of 10-11 Arlington, the situation will deteriorate even further.

I strongly object to the plan proposed by Fisher College and I urge the Boston Redevelopment Authority to deny Fisher College all aspects of their filed Institutional Master Plan, including: (i) the rezoning of 10-11 Arlington Street and 111 Beacon Street, (ii) the addition of scores of new beds to the existing dorms; and (iii) the construction of a roof terrace behind 104-114 Beacon Street. I believe it would also be beneficial to forestall any additional efforts for further expansion by Fisher College.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. Lynch", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Peter S. Lynch
One Commonwealth Avenue
Boston, MA

Cc: Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay
160 Commonwealth Avenue, L8
Boston, MA 02116-2749

Law Offices of Joseph R. Jenkins

116 Flanders Road, Suite 1100, Westborough, MA 01581 ♦ Telephone (508) 366-1002 ♦ Facsimile (508) 898-9777

Joseph R. Jenkins
jjenkins@jrjlawoffice.com

Maura Ford Maloney
mford@jrjlawoffice.com



June 24, 2015

Katelyn Sullivan, Project Manager
Boston Redevelopment Authority
One City Hall Square
Boston, MA 02201

RE: FISHER COLLEGE INSTITUTIONAL MASTER PLAN; 10-11 ARLINGTON STREET, BOSTON

Dear Ms. Sullivan,

I am writing as an owner of real estate located at 5 Commonwealth Avenue in Boston and as an opponent of the planned expansion and re-zoning by Fisher College in the Back Bay neighborhood.

It is clear that Fisher College has already outgrown the existing space they occupy yet they have made no effort to relocate to an area that would better serve the needs of their students and staff. Instead they appear to be focusing on further expanding into a residential neighborhood that has previously expressed that it has no desire to continue to deal with the ongoing issues related to the current occupancy by Fisher College. The excessive traffic and parking issues caused by student and faculty vehicles, the large congregations of students in the City common areas, the smoking in City public areas by students, the use of marijuana by students in City public areas, the noise of groups of students returning to their residences in the early morning hours and the failure of many vendors serving the current school offices to obey parking requirements all contribute to the negative impact the presence of Fisher College already has on the neighborhood. That residents are now being called upon to submit to further expansion of the school, with the obvious correlating increases in vehicle and pedestrian traffic, when no efforts have been made by Fisher College to fully address concerns already voiced by local residents is a flagrant and insulting initiative by Fisher College.

To allow Fisher College to further encroach into the residential aspects of one of the most historically significant areas of Boston, and one in which home owners take a great deal of pride

Page two of two
June 24, 2015
Re: Fisher College
Institutional Master Plan

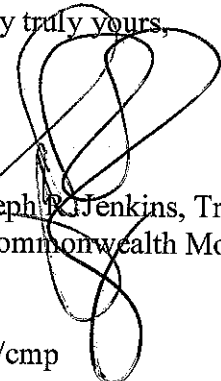
in contributing to the on-going preservation, restoration and maintenance of their homes, can only lead to an exodus of the families that currently call the Back Bay home. Removing the residential elements from the Back Bay would certainly negatively impact the City as a whole as those families would also be taking with them the charm many visitors find when traversing Boston streets, particularly in those areas that are historically significant such as many of those as are found in the Back Bay.

It is also my understanding that Fisher College also has either failed or refuses to participate in a Payment in Lieu of Taxes program. However, the students and faculty have complete access to all of the services and amenities afforded residents of the City of Boston.

I strongly urge the Boston Redevelopment Authority to deny Fisher College all aspects of their filed Institutional Master Plan, including: (i) the rezoning of 10-11 Arlington Street and 111 Beacon Street, (ii) the addition of scores of new beds to the existing dorms; and (iii) the construction of a roof terrace behind 104-114 Beacon Street. I believe it would also be beneficial to forestall any additional efforts for further expansion by Fisher College.

In conclusion, I as a property owner and taxpayer, am incensed that Fisher College uses the residential areas of the Back Bay as their expanded campus and the strain that such use currently causes on the existing neighborhood resources. I strongly voice my objection to their plan, to not only continue such actions, but to increase the impact on the Back Bay should their Institutional Master Plan be approved.

Very truly yours,



Joseph R. Jenkins, Trustee
5 Commonwealth Mortgage Trust

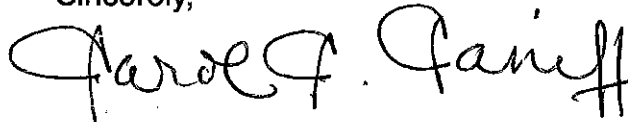
JRJ/cmp

Cc: Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay
160 Commonwealth Avenue, L8
Boston, MA 02116-2749

Gentlemen:

I oppose the Institutional Master Plan that Fisher College has filed with the Boston Redevelopment Authority. We have finally eliminated the rooming houses that were on Beacon Street and do not wish to have such a great influx of young rude students taking over our neighborhood. Beacon Street has become a lovely residential neighborhood and we would like it to remain that way.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carol C. Caniff". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'C' and a distinct 'f' at the end.

Carol C. Caniff

1 July 2015
180 Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02116

James Madison Bayles

29 Butterfield Road
Newtown, CT 06470

Ms. Katelyn Sullivan
Boston Redevelopment Authority
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201

June 24, 2015

Dear Ms. Sullivan:

This letter is written in support of the Institutional Master Plan (IMP) submitted by Fisher College to the Boston Redevelopment Authority (BRA). Its approval will serve the College in meeting the needs of its students in the coming decade.

I am writing this as a member of Fisher College's Board of Trustees in support a college that serves the vital interests of so many of our students who are the first ones to go to a college, one of the gateways to the middle class, through a quality, post high school education.

My family has a long history of being college-educated. My fraternal grandparents both graduated from college in the early 1900s. My paternal great grandfather was one of the first graduates of Cornell University. My maternal grandmother first put my mother through college during the great depression, and then completed her last two years of college at night while teaching in a one-room school house. While I live in Connecticut, I have roots in Boston. My wife's father, the late Judge Walter R. Mansfield, grew up in Boston and was a graduate of Roxbury Latin School. He went to Harvard and Harvard Law. His father, Fredrick W. Mansfield, was a graduate of Boston Law School. In a political career that spanned several decades, he succeeded James Michael Curley in 1934 as mayor of Boston.

To me, growing up in a family such as mine, it was not only expected but a fact of life that I too would go to college. This background is dissimilar from many of our students.

Fisher College, over 110 years old, has a long history in the Back Bay. Starting as a school to provide an opportunity to advance beyond unskilled labor jobs, the school continued to reinvent itself first as a two-year college and then a degree-granting college. In 1970, Fisher gained accreditation from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. It now has more "four-year" students than "two-year" students.

Fisher provides an excellent education at affordable tuition costs for many Boston and Metro-area students who otherwise might not benefit from any educational opportunities. In addition, the College offers substantial opportunities to those with military service, Boston fire and police departments, and others committed to public service careers. This diversity greatly enriches the urban and cultural diversity of Boston and her Back Bay neighborhood.

For these reasons I respectfully urge approval of the IMP as submitted.



Arthur C. Hodges
180 Beacon Street #15G
Boston, MA 02116

Tuesday, June 23, 2015

Katelyn Sullivan

Boston Redevelopment Authority

One City Hall Square

Boston, MA 02201

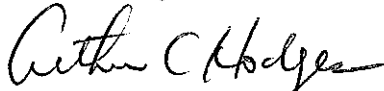
Dear Ms. Sullivan:

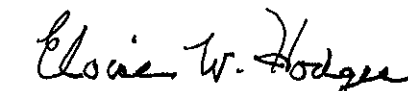
This will serve to express our strong disapproval of the Institutional Master Plan (IMP) proposed by Fisher College along Beacon Street and the surrounding Back Bay neighborhood. Our apartment building is one block away from the expanded footprint of Fisher. We have recently purchased our unit with the intention of living permanently in the Back Bay. It is a residential area consisting of private homes and apartments owned by citizens who are entitled to peace and quiet in return for paying substantial real estate taxes to the City of Boston. (We understand that Fisher does not make payments in lieu of taxes.)

The proposed expansion of Fisher will further encroach on our residential neighborhood and materially affect the quality of life in our district of the Back Bay. We strongly urge that you disapprove of the Fisher IMP.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely


Arthur C. Hodges


Eloise W. Hodges



FISHER COLLEGE

June 15, 2015

Katelyn Sullivan
Boston Redevelopment
One City Hall Square
9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Ms. Sullivan,

As an 18 year resident of Boston's Back Bay, an Assistant Professor at Fisher College and Program Director of the Fashion Merchandising program, I am writing to you to convey the importance of the proposed valuable pathways of Fisher College's Institutional Master Plan to both students and college community. Personally, I feel so fortunate to be teaching and sharing my true passion for the fashion industry with Fisher College students that I felt compelled to address my voice in regards to the Institutional Master Plan Implementation. Similarly, by living and working in the Back Bay, it is clear that the college is committed to both the community and students through their management decisions and future goals for the college.

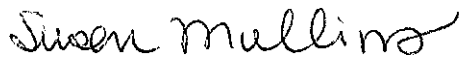
For many years, fashion merchandising faculty members have worked with local Back Bay merchants and businesses to provide continual educational and employment opportunities for our fashion students. Central to the study of apparel, textiles and fashion products is the visual component. Fashion is visual, therefore it is essential for students to learn visually through field trips around the Back Bay including; window display analysis, retail merchandising strategies and trend scouting on Newbury Street. In addition to the significance of our location to Boston's premier shopping district, the institutional plan will provide further educational engagement tools, such as an additional library resources and a mock retail laboratory, so that students can continue to research and link aesthetic, social, economic and cultural elements in the field.

With industry experience and completing my graduate degree later in life, I am grateful to be working in my dream job, with an educational philosophy to continually nurture and inspire students' interest in the

fashion industry. College graduates are crucial to the Massachusetts financial system, with our diverse student population and my personalized devotion to both students and fashion industry, I know that minor modifications within the college will encourage and embrace student's critical and creative thinking skills. Furthermore, small changes within the campus will facilitate my goals of connecting local fashion industry professionals and businesses to create future on campus events to promote student "hands-on learning" and career advancement, which is paramount to the local economy. Creative environments fuel and inspire visionary instincts within college and community atmospheres.

Reflecting on my exploratory and innovative learning practices, I want to convey my true devotion in teaching for Fisher College and illustrate how delighted I am to be a full time faculty member. With this intention, I have complete confidence in President Thomas McGovern's leadership direction during the smooth implementation of Fisher College's Institutional Master Plan to work with my friends and neighbors to keep my educational vision alive and the Back Bay community proud of Fisher College.

Sincerely,



Susan Mullins

Back Bay Resident, Assistant Professor and Program Director of Fashion Merchandising at Fisher College

274 Clarendon Street Unit 7

Boston, Massachusetts 02116

smullins@fisher.edu

June 28, 2015

Ms. Katelyn Sullivan, Project Manager
Boston Redevelopment Authority
One City Hall Square
Boston, MA 02201

RE: FISHER COLLEGE INSTITUTIONAL MASTER PLAN; 10-11 ARLINGTON
STREET, BOSTON

Dear Ms. Sullivan,

I am writing as the owner and resident of 8 Marlborough Street in the Back Bay neighborhood. My family is strongly opposed to the planned expansion and re-zoning by Fisher College in the Back Bay neighborhood.

Fisher College has been a terrible neighbor and the prospect of additional Fisher students and staff in the Back Bay is inconsistent with the residential nature of this area.

1. Their staff, students and third party contractors regularly violate traffic laws, including jaywalking, stopping their cars in travel lanes for personal reasons and blocking alleys and fire lanes.
2. Recently, my wife had to go inside 10-11 Arlington Street to find the operator of a work vehicle that was literally parked in Public Alley 422. When she found the operator and asked him to move the vehicle, she was verbally assaulted, called disgusting names and told "we need to park somewhere!" My wife telephoned the director of facilities at Fisher College to complain about this incident, but he never called her back.
3. Fisher students are a serious detractor to life in the Back Bay. They smoke cigarettes and marijuana outside their buildings and in the Public Garden while wearing Fisher College clothing, i.e. there is no doubt that these are Fisher students. They are breaking the law and exposing my family, which includes three children age 10 and under, to health risks and moral irresponsibility.


Fisher College has outgrown their facilities and it is time for the school to create a new facilities plan that does not include the Back Bay. They have valuable real estate and have the means to relocate to a more appropriate location, similar to what Emerson and other schools have done in the past. I wish I could be supportive of their plans, but they have proven repeatedly that they are not a courteous, conscientious or responsible neighbor. Allowing them to grow their presence in light of their historical behavior is appalling and intolerable.

I strongly urge the Boston Redevelopment Authority to deny Fisher College all aspects of their filed Institutional Master Plan, including: (1) the rezoning of 10-11 Arlington Street and 111

Beacon Street, (2) the addition of scores of new beds to the existing dorms; and (3) the construction of a roof terrace behind 104-114 Beacon Street.

Fisher College is a strain on the Back Bay and their attitude towards the neighborhood is pathetic. As a resident and taxpayer, I vehemently object to their presence and any plans to expand.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J R Baker", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jesse R. Baker

Cc: Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay
160 Commonwealth Avenue, L8
Boston, MA 02116-2749

Neighborhood
Association of the
Back Bay



Officers:

Howard Kassler
Chairman
Vicki C. Smith
Vice Chairman
William K. Wallace
President
Deirdre Rosenberg
Vice President
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Warren Johnson
Sonia Kowal
Shirley Kressel
Rosanne Kumins
Elliott Laffer
Jo-Ann Leinwand
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Barry Solar
Anne Swanson
Jack Wallace
Michael Weingarten
Steve Wintermeier
Marvin Wool
Sheri Olans Wright
Jacquelin Yessian
Janet Younker

Emily Bradford Gallup
Office Administrator

Jerome Smith
Chief of Civic Engagement and Director of Neighborhood Services
City of Boston
One City Hall Square
Boston, Ma 02201

June 27, 2015

Dear Jerome,

I am outraged and deeply offended that Fisher College has chosen to demean our negotiations by claiming racial and class discrimination by NABB and the neighbors.

This despicable tactic of twisting words to mischaracterize an entire Community is an unconscionable attempt to divert the discussion from the cold hard fact that Fisher College is simply a bad neighbor who has failed to demonstrate any willingness or ability to protect the quality of life in this dense and historic residential neighborhood. Fisher now wants to increase the intensity of its activities in the very area that it has already so negatively impacted.

NABB never has nor do we now oppose Fisher College's right to remain in the Back Bay. We only oppose their expansion anywhere in the Back Bay residential neighborhood. There are other non-residential Back Bay areas that are more suitable for their growth if they so desire.

Irresponsible finger pointing and name calling will not obscure reality. Fisher College remains a bad neighbor and should not be allowed to continue its illegal and disrespectful behavior, let alone expand its presence in the Historic Residential District of the Back Bay.

Howard Kassler, Chairman
Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay

Cc: Katelyn Sullivan, Project Manager, Boston Redevelopment Authority
Carolina Avellaneda, Esq. Fisher College
Josh Zakim, Boston City Councilor
Michael Flaherty, Boston City Councilor
Stephen J. Murphy, Boston City Councilor
Ayanna Pressley, Boston City Councilor
Michelle Wu, Boston City Councilor
Jay Livingstone, State Representative
Lara Mérida, Deputy Director for Community Planning, BRA
Jabob Wessel, Neighborhood Coordinator

Barbara and Ingo Vogelsang
303 Berkeley Street, #9
Boston, MA 02116

June 28, 2015

Ms. Katelyn Sullivan
Boston Redevelopment Authority (BRA)
Boston City Hall, Ninth Floor
One City Hall Place
Boston, MA 02201

Re: Fisher College Proposed Institutional Master Plan

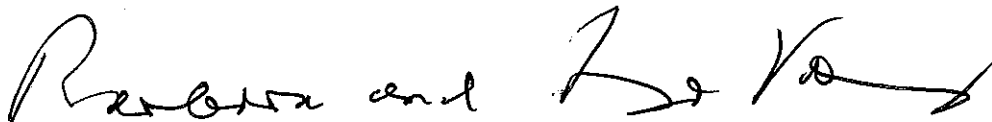
Dear Ms. Sullivan:

As long-time residents of the Back Bay, we must voice our strong disagreement with the plans put forward by Fisher College's Proposed Institutional Plan (IMP). The idea of adding 50% to the student population of this limited and restricted area shows a lack of strategic thinking on the part of the college, a lack of consideration of the neighbors in this community and of the well-being of their own students. Fisher has been lax on safety in the past. With the planned expansion how will they guarantee the safety of their students and of all who live or pass through this area? Fisher has stated that they will not increase their footprint on Beacon Street, while expanding the student population by one half. This is not a credible commitment given the lack of containment that Fisher has shown over the last few years and given how cramped the space is already today. Fisher is also unwilling to commit not to convert their three rental properties on Beacon Street into dormitories after the proposed IMP expires. In the June 22 meeting the Fisher representatives made it clear that they would want to keep that option. It is therefore obvious that Fisher wants to be able to keep expanding further at its current location, thus threatening the surrounding residential area. It is clear to any objective observer that there is overwhelming support in the community to defeat this proposal, based on sound facts and simply following the established rules.

We are tax paying residents of Boston's Back Bay and find it quite disturbing and frustrating to observe the deliberations of a plan that clearly does not adhere to the area zoning restrictions nor take into consideration the best interests and safety of the affected residents. Why should Fisher College be allowed to side step these restrictions when building or adding on to their properties while all other tax paying residents must comply with these same rules? This disappointment and frustration is only exacerbated when observing Fisher College's blatant disregard for the impacted community.

We certainly hope that common sense, fairness and adherence to the zoning rules will prevail in this matter. The Fisher College IMP as it is currently written should be rejected.

Sincerely

Handwritten signature of Barbara and Ingo Vogelsang in black ink.

Jun2 14, 2015

Ms. Katelyn Sullivan
Boston Redevelopment Authority
One City Hall Square, 9th floor
Boston, MA 02201

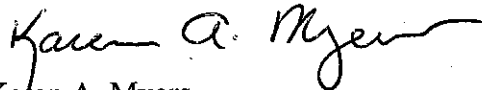
Dear Ms. Sullivan:

The BRA's stated mission is to "plan Boston's future while respecting its past . . . through new opportunities to guide physical, social and economic change in Boston's neighborhoods expressed through dedication, respect, diversity, integrity, professionalism, and education." Though the wording may differ, Fisher College has embodied these same characteristics for over 100 years (74 years as a good Back Bay neighbor and steward of these properties). Accordingly, as an alumna of Fisher College (Class of 1968) and member of the Fisher faculty for 29 years, I write in strong support for Fisher's proposed development plans [IMP currently under the BRA's consideration.].

From an educational point of view, Fisher's location enriches the student experience in myriad ways and offers a unique perspective that sets Fisher apart from its peer institutions. Living on Beacon Street, all of our students are immersed together in the education and culture of Boston so that we, as faculty, can take an integrative approach to classroom and real-world learning. The proposed improvements to the dormitories on Beacon Street and in College-owned properties will enhance the already vibrant camaraderie and academic life of Fisher students for years to come.

Though a whiteboard and coat of paint may have changed the use of these historic mansions, I am consistently impressed with the continued respect and loving care that our students and employees have shown over these decades to the College's beautiful properties. I feel confident that the Fisher Community is committed to act with that same responsibility and stewardship as we renovate and grow to meet the needs of the next generation of Fisher students.

Respectfully submitted,



Karen A. Myers
20 Thurlow Avenue
Revere, MA 02151

Thomas H. Lauer
9 Arlington St., Unit TH
Boston, MA 02116
(617) 429-3970
lauer49@comcast.net

June 26, 2015

Katelyn Sullivan, Project Manager
Boston Redevelopment Authority
One City Hall Square
Boston, MA 02201

RE: FISHER COLLEGE INSTITUTIONAL MASTER PLAN; 10-11 ARLINGTON ST, BOSTON

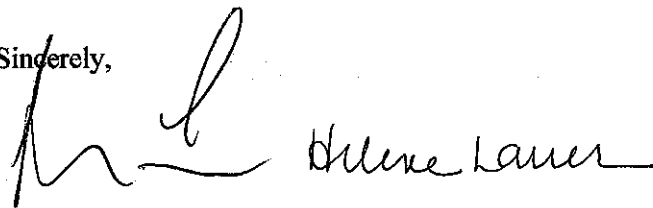
Dear Ms. Sullivan,

My wife & I are owners and residents at 9 Arlington St. in the Back Bay and are strongly opposed to the planned expansion and re-zoning by Fisher College in our neighborhood.

We agree with the many points made by others regarding the negative impact of Fisher's expansion on our neighborhood. In addition, we respectfully ask the BRA to consider that the Back Bay has been undergoing a renaissance of sorts, and that the Fisher expansion is likely to significantly affect the trajectory of this renaissance. Most of the neighborhood still needs renovation and repair if we hope to preserve its character for future generations of Bostonians. This is simply not going to happen if prospective homeowners are expected to live among expanded college dormitories and overcrowded administration buildings.

We understand that Fisher intends to crowd up to 85 employees into 10-11 Arlington St. This is plainly out of character with a 19th century brownstone originally designed to be a family residence. Furthermore, the IMP indicates that Fisher does not even intend to renovate the building for this purpose. We've come a long way from the deplorable conditions of 20 years ago, but this kind of building proposal is a big step backward. We strongly urge that the BRA not permit the required rezoning.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas & Helene Lauer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Thomas & Helene Lauer

cc: Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay
160 Commonwealth Avenue, L8
Boston, MA 02116-2749

Samuel Plimpton
100 Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02116

June 29, 2015

Carolina Avellaneda, Esq.
Fisher College
118 Beacon St
Boston Ma. 02116

Dear Ms. Avellaneda,

The Courant accurately reflected the complete lack of support the Fisher College IMP received from Back Bay residents at the BRA hearing last week. It also accurately reported the profoundly dishonest and ugly attempts at smear and innuendo by Fisher spokespeople with respect to the neighborhood's 'issues' with Fisher. The current student density as managed by the Fisher Administration is a noisy, dangerous, frustrating, and deleterious influence. Fisher's suggestion of a subtext of racial bias (as the reason for opposition to an expansion of the current student density) ignores well-reasoned and clearly documented arguments from a broad community in the neighborhood, defames the neighborhood, and is personally offensive (to me) as someone who has spent decades publicly supporting education, civil liberties, community institutions, and individual freedoms. Insulting well-meaning citizens with base innuendo is not going to advance Fisher's attempt to compromise the Back Bay's residential zoning.

Fisher has failed to reach an accord with neighbors for years. The neighborhood has no confidence or belief in Fisher's administration after years of fruitless negotiations, misrepresentations by Fisher of its plans, and bungled efforts to manage their own student body and buildings. False promises are not enough, Fisher must sign binding "Good Neighbor" agreements before any consideration of an IMP.

What Fisher intentionally failed to acknowledge with respect to the cited letter from the non-profit and private Boston Police Foundation which was written in support of a proposed expansion (overwhelmingly opposed by citizen residents), is that the Foundation received free offices and free meeting space from Fisher, that Fisher's President sat on the Foundation Board, and that the Co-Chairman of the paid consultant for Fisher's IMP sat on The Foundation Board while that company represented Fisher on its expansion efforts. The Foundation is a good non-profit and private organization serving an essential support function, its leadership and board are trying to help the Community, and there is no reason for it to knowingly be in conflict with the entire Back Bay neighborhood. A careful reader of Fisher's other support letters will find employees, agents, and students, not City of Boston real estate taxpayers or residents.

Please desist from further unseemly attacks, and withdraw the IMP application as a sign of good faith.

Samuel Plimpton
100 Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02116

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SP', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Samuel Plimpton

CC: Ms. Katelyn Sullivan, Councilor Josh Zakim, Mr. Howard Kassler, Mr. Jay Livingstone,
Mr. Jerome Smith



Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Reject Fisher College Proposed IMP

1 message

Robbins Bob <bob.robbins@catchpointpartners.com>Mon, Jun 29, 2015 at 12:40
PM

To: Katelyn.Sullivan.bra@cityofboston.gov, Katelyn.Sullivan@boston.gov
Cc: info@nabbonline.com, Josh.Zakim@boston.gov, Ayanna.Pressley@boston.gov,
Jay.Livingstone@mahouse.gov

Dear Katelyn,

Twenty years ago, my wife and I decided to move from NYC to Boston. We wanted to relocate to a city that was a bit more manageable, a city that was both youthful and vibrant. The fact that Boston had an international diverse student population contributed to shaping the kind of community we wished to be part of. We settled on the Back Bay on Beacon Street believing it afforded us an opportunity to part of this wonderful and historic neighborhood.

Sadly, while we still enjoy life here in Boston, our neighbors directly across the street from us, Fisher College, have been anything but "neighborly". We at one point had another "neighbor", Emerson College, who abided by the principles of what it means to be a good neighbor. Kindliness, restfulness and helpfulness are two of these principles that come to mind. We had absolutely no issues whatsoever with Emerson College and their students, who were always trusting and respectful. These are not, however, words that we would use to describe Fisher College and its student base.

Quite frankly, Fisher College not only needs to be discouraged from its expansion on Beacon Street and in the Back Bay, they need to be encouraged to leave. The leadership has proven time and again, to be unable to resolve the numerous complaints that have been conveyed to them over the years. We are tired of expressing how inappropriate and dangerous it is for the students to be using Beacon Street as their campus, wandering or jaywalking across this heavily trafficked street, expecting oncoming traffic to stop for them. We are tired of the shouting, the partying, the traffic congestion, the illegally parked and double-parked delivery trucks, and on top of this, the very significant "tax-exemptions" the school enjoys.

I have attended most of the BRA/Fisher College meetings and found it incredulous that the school's top administrator, Mr. McGovern, never showed for any of these sessions. It shows a callousness and a lack of respect that is anything but "neighborly". Instead, Mr. McGovern and the Fisher College leadership thought to use slick PR professionals and their PowerPoint presentations to assuage the concerned residents. How preposterous. I also resent what was cited recently, the idea that those opposed to this expansion plan, are from "a common denominator of rich white people" according to Fisher's Carolina Avellaneda. As mentioned, we moved here twenty years ago because we wished to be in a youthful and diverse community. This insulting comment is indicative of the callousness and utter disregard Fisher has for the residents.

Now, with conditions that are totally unacceptable and unresolved, Fisher is preposing in its new Institutional Master Plan, a further expansion of the school. This will only aggravate the current conditions, making the situation that much more difficult.

I hope this aggressive expansion plan is opposed, and should Fisher decide to remain here in the Back Bay, that they re-direct their focus on resolving the many issues currently facing the residents.

Best,

Bob + Ellen Robbins



Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

In support of Fisher College's plan

1 message

Jeffrey Cook <mrjeffcook@gmail.com>

Mon, Jun 29, 2015 at 12:04 PM

To: katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov

Dear Ms. Sullivan,

As a Back Bay homeowner since 1998, I am in full support of Fisher College's Institutional Master Plan. This fine institution of higher education adds to the diversity and vibrancy of the city, as it has since being at its Beacon Street location since the 1930s. One of the joys of living in Boston is to live among individuals from all walks of life, who truly give the city its unique energy as they bring with them their varying cultures and experiences. Fisher's mission is to provide so many young people with opportunities they wouldn't have otherwise had, and to foster career preparedness. This is aligned with what we should all want as a Boston community. The plan's modest growth will improve the neighborhood without intruding upon it, similar to Berklee's expansion.

Jeff Cook

362 Commonwealth Avenue
Boston, MA 02116

June 22, 2015

Boston Redevelopment Authority
Boston City Hall
1 City Hall Square #9
Boston, MA 02201

Ref: Fisher College Institutional Master Plan

Sir / Madam,

It is with a good deal of concern that I write to express my displeasure with Fisher College's most recent Institutional Master Plan and the hope that the BRA not approve it. I am in agreement with the position taken by the Neighborhood Association of Back Bay in objecting to the plan which I feel will have a major detrimental impact on this residential, historical district and the quality of life in the neighborhood. Fisher's actions over the past few years has already strained the neighborhood. Students are insensitive to the neighbors, smoking in public, blocking the sidewalk, partying until late hours, double parking, and jaywalking. An increase in the number of students would exacerbate the situation.

Other schools located in this neighborhood when faced with expansion plans wisely and successfully moved to another part of the city. Once again it should be stated that Back Bay should not be transformed into a college campus. As it is, Fisher's lack of a PILOT program already strains Boston's tight budget for it assumes city services without reasonable compensation. Expansion would contribute to that imbalance.

Please register my deep concerns with the IMP and do what can be done to see that it not be approved. I deeply appreciate your help on this issue and offer whatever I can to be of assistance.

My best,



Mimi LaCamera
214 Beacon St.
Boston, MA 02116
617.529.5351

cc: Neighborhood Association of Back Bay



Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Fisher College - Institutional Master Plan (IMP)

1 message

Linda Jaeger <linda.jaeger@usi.biz>

Fri, Jun 26, 2015 at 10:24 AM

To: "katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov" <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Dear Katelyn:

I am writing in support of Fisher College's Educational Expansion. I work for USI Insurance Services, LLC, the largest insurance broker in Massachusetts and we manage Fisher's insurance program. They have been a long term partner of ours for 15+ years. We are very proud of the good work they do and the quality education they provide.

Boston is a great city offering diversity and opportunity for college students. Please support the proposed Fisher College Expansion.

Thank you!

Lin

Linda Jaeger, CIC

Account Executive

USI Insurance Services LLC**3 Executive Park Drive, Suite 300****Bedford, NH 03110**

Phone: 603-665-6120

Toll Free: 855-874-0123 Ext. 16120

Cell: 603-566-7074

Fax: 610-537-4719

Email: Linda.Jaeger@usi.biz

90 Commonwealth Ave

Boston, MA 02116

June 26, 2015

Katelyn Sullivan, Project Manager

Boston Redevelopment Authority

One City Hall Square

Boston, MA 02201

Subject: Fisher College Institutional Master Plan

Dear Ms. Sullivan:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Fisher College's Institutional Master Plan. I believe that the IMP as submitted by Fisher does not meet the criteria for such plans, is likely to cause negative impacts on a neighborhood in which institutions of higher learning are a forbidden use, and should not be approved.

Fisher has noted in its presentations that there is significantly less of a college presence in the Back Bay than was true in earlier decades. This is not an accident, but is the result of a planning process undertaken by the Authority that led to the designation of such uses as forbidden in the residential zone in 1978. While Fisher is entitled to remain in their grandfathered facilities, they have no right to expand and such right must not be awarded under an IMP. If an IMP is required, it can simply ratify what they now have a legal right to use under the zoning code.

Interestingly, Fisher has stated in public meetings that they are required to file an IMP because of the addition of 10-11 Arlington Street to their institutional use. Yet, in the absence of the plan or a variance, they have no right to use that building for institutional purposes, nor do they have the right to use the former Butera School of Art on Beacon Street. Since not including those properties may reduce the institutional use below the mandatory threshold, perhaps it is most appropriate to consider those desired uses through the normal Board of Appeals process and only consider an IMP if those uses are approved.

Unfortunately, Fisher has built up a credibility problem in the neighborhood. Whether in first proposing to convert their investment properties on Beacon Street to dormitories after earlier promising not to do so, or in putting conditions on a map of a no expansion zone after stating it was unconditional (both later withdrawn after protests), or a history of not observing Back Bay Architectural Commission regulations and other rules that apply to all of us who have chosen to be a part of this neighborhood, Fisher has made it difficult to trust their statements.

Perhaps most offensive of all has been Fisher's attempt, as quoted in today's Boston Courant, to inject issues of class and race into the dispute with its entire surrounding community. No institution that would attempt to sow such absolutely unwarranted division into a discussion in a desperate attempt to change the direction and divert it from their historic actions and current desires deserves any approval. If the question was close before, and I do not believe that it was, it is not close now. Fisher's IMP as proposed must not be approved.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elliott Laffer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Elliott" being more prominent than the last name "Laffer".

Elliott Laffer

elaffer@aol.com



Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Fisher college

1 message

Peter Gee <pgee548554@aol.com>

Sun, Jun 28, 2015 at 8:49 PM

To: "katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov" <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

I have attended each of the meetings regarding Fisher College's expansion plans. I was surprised to hear that there are people who support expansion of Fisher College but they were afraid to attend the meeting. These mystery people may support expansion but are obviously not from the neighborhood and are not and will not be affected by the problems that Fisher College causes now and the worsened problems that expansion would cause by placing a strain on the problems of litter, congested parking, and water and sewerage systems that were not built for such dense housing. How can a city planning department which call itself a redevelopment authority think that an expansion could be an improvement when it will only lead to deterioration and degradation of the neighborhood. The comment that the neighbors are just a bunch of rich white people is insulting since most of the people I know are simply working people who have the same concerns as everyone else and work to pay expenses, pay taxes and just want a safe place to live and raise their family. I enjoy Back Bay but do not enjoy booming music coming through the wall next door and loud talking on the street at midnight and condoms in the alley.

Peter Gee
129 Beacon St.
Sent from my iPhone



Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

RE: Fisher IMP

1 message

Larry Blankstein <blala02@yahoo.com>

Sun, Jun 28, 2015 at 8:36 PM

To: Carole Holladay <chollada@mit.edu>

Cc: Peter Gee <pgee548554@aol.com>, Jean Gee <botoxgee53@gmail.com>, Theodore Tsai <theodore.tsai@novartis.com>, Sherry Tsai <Sherry.Tsai@childrens.harvard.edu>, ellen robbins <robbins.eh@gmail.com>, Jennifer Kreytak <Jennifer.Kreytak@fmr.com>, Miriam Blankstein <mirblank@yahoo.com>, Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Dear Carole:

Very well stated. I as an owner at 127 Beacon have attended a number of these meetings in every case the residents are 100% opposed to **ANY** Fisher expansion in our neighborhood for the reasons you have outlined below. It makes no sense. I hope the right decision is made to reject this request.

Thank you,

Larry Blankstein

Phone: 617-590-1225

From: Carole Holladay [mailto:chollada@mit.edu]**Sent:** Sunday, June 28, 2015 6:57 PM**To:** Katelyn Sullivan**Cc:** Peter Gee; Jean Gee; Theodore (theodore.tsai@novartis.com) Tsai; Sherry Tsai; ellen robbins; Jennifer Kreytak; Larry Blankstein; Miriam Blankstein**Subject:** Re: Fisher IMP

Dear Katelyn,

As you are aware, there was another crowded meeting at Fisher College on June 22, 2015.

EVERYONE in the room (with the exception of Fisher personnel of course), was opposed to ANY kind of expansion or growth of Fisher College in the Back Bay.

In fact, we all just want Fisher to make the smart decision for both their student population and the Back Bay neighborhood. Simply leave!



Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Re: Fisher IMP

1 message

Carole Holladay <chollada@mit.edu>

Sun, Jun 28, 2015 at 6:56 PM

To: Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Cc: Peter Gee <pgee548554@aol.com>, Jean Gee <botoxgee53@gmail.com>, "Theodore (theodore.tsai@novartis.com) Tsai" <theodore.tsai@novartis.com>, Sherry Tsai <Sherry.Tsai@childrens.harvard.edu>, ellen robbins <robbins.eh@gmail.com>, Jennifer Kreytak <Jennifer.Kreytak@fmr.com>, Larry Blankstein <blala02@yahoo.com>, Miriam Blankstein <mirblank@yahoo.com>

Dear Katelyn,

As you are aware, there was another crowded meeting at Fisher College on June 22, 2015.

EVERYONE in the room (with the exception of Fisher personnel of course), was opposed to ANY kind of expansion or growth of Fisher College in the Back Bay.

In fact, we all just want Fisher to make the smart decision for both their student population and the Back Bay neighborhood. Simply leave!

The residents are tired of the school, tired of the students, tired of expressing how inappropriate and dangerous it is for the kids to be using the first block of Beacon Street as a college quadrangle. I could go on and on about all the things we object to from "tax-exemptions" to traffic congestion, to pot smoking in the back alleys, but you have heard them all before.

At the recent meeting Carolina Avellaneda reiterated several times that Fisher has been in the Back Bay since the 1930's, as if that were a reason to not only stay, but to expand. It is now 2015. Times change. Traffic has changed. Educational institutions have changed. The whole student experience and ways to learn have changed. Give the kids accommodations they deserve, better learning facilities, safer places to "hang out" and socialize. A good school will survive a move to another location. Look at the example of Emerson. If one of the biggest reasons kids come to Fisher is because of it's Back Bay location, then maybe it is time to look at the curriculum?

Boston Tech once had a school of engineering at 96 Beacon Street. plus several other buildings in the Back Bay. In 1916, after operating as a school for more than 50 years, Boston Tech took a risk. Realizing with great foresight it was becoming too big for the neighborhood, Boston Tech packed up and went across the river to Cambridge where the land was cheaper, there was space to build and they could accept a greater number of applicants with ease. Sounds to me like the situation Fisher is facing.

By the way, Boston Tech is of course now MIT.

I don't know how more clearly we, the residents, can state our case or how better we can demonstrate our opposition.

Carole Holladay
127 Beacon St. #1
Boston, MA 02116

Barbara and Ingo Vogelsang
303 Berkeley Street, #9
Boston, MA 02116

June 28, 2015

Ms. Katelyn Sullivan
Boston Redevelopment Authority (BRA)
Boston City Hall, Ninth Floor
One City Hall Place
Boston, MA 02201

Re: Fisher College Proposed Institutional Master Plan

Dear Ms. Sullivan:

As long-time residents of the Back Bay, we must voice our strong disagreement with the plans put forward by Fisher College's Proposed Institutional Plan (IMP). The idea of adding 50% to the student population of this limited and restricted area shows a lack of strategic thinking on the part of the college, a lack of consideration of the neighbors in this community and of the well-being of their own students. Fisher has been lax on safety in the past. With the planned expansion how will they guarantee the safety of their students and of all who live or pass through this area? Fisher has stated that they will not increase their footprint on Beacon Street, while expanding the student population by one half. This is not a credible commitment given the lack of containment that Fisher has shown over the last few years and given how cramped the space is already today. Fisher is also unwilling to commit not to convert their three rental properties on Beacon Street into dormitories after the proposed IMP expires. In the June 22 meeting the Fisher representatives made it clear that they would want to keep that option. It is therefore obvious that Fisher wants to be able to keep expanding further at its current location, thus threatening the surrounding residential area. It is clear to any objective observer that there is overwhelming support in the community to defeat this proposal, based on sound facts and simply following the established rules.

We are tax paying residents of Boston's Back Bay and find it quite disturbing and frustrating to observe the deliberations of a plan that clearly does not adhere to the area zoning restrictions nor take into consideration the best interests and safety of the affected residents. Why should Fisher College be allowed to side step these restrictions when building or adding on to their properties while all other tax paying residents must comply with these same rules? This disappointment and frustration is only exacerbated when observing Fisher College's blatant disregard for the impacted community.

We certainly hope that common sense, fairness and adherence to the zoning rules will prevail in this matter. The Fisher College IMP as it is currently written should be rejected.

Sincerely,

Barbara and Ingo Vogelsang



Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Fisher College application - IMP support letter

1 message

Jonathan Hass <jonathan@unitedplanet.org>

Sun, Jun 28, 2015 at 12:57 PM

To: katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov

Ms. Sullivan:

United Planet has been a tenant at 11 Arlington Street for several years, including the last few years with Fisher College as landlord. The surrounding Fisher students have been so quiet, respectful and unobtrusive, that I welcome a greater presence of Fisher in the area. I support their plan. Thank you.

Jonathan Hass

Director of Human Resources

United Planet

11 Arlington Street, Boston, MA 02116

p: (617) 267-7763

unitedplanet.org

Ms. Katelyn Sullivan, Project Manager
Boston Redevelopment Authority
Boston City Hall
One City Hall Place, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201

June 28th. 2015

Re: Fisher College Proposed Institutional Master Plan – *Follow Up to the Public Meeting on June 22nd*

Dear Ms. Sullivan.

I am writing to comment on and express my dismay about the attitudes of Fisher College that became sadly apparent at the public meeting on its IMP hosted by the BRA on June 22nd. at the college. These attitudes confirm the worst fears of the neighborhood about the harmful impact of the IMP if implemented. They have become even more evident in the remarks by Fisher College staff reported in the Boston Courant of June 26-July 9, 2015 (Vol. XX, No.37).

I would like to give Fisher the benefit of the doubt that these remarks were not reported accurately, or were taken out of a context that would convey a very different sense of what the College thinks about its neighbors than their reading in isolation would indicate. At the very least the neighborhood deserves an explanation from the College and a public apology and expression of regret for these remarks whether they were fully accurately reported or not. This apology should be forthcoming from the President of the College who, as was noted during the public meeting, has been conspicuous by his absence from personal participation and visibility in the IMP process, although we are told the IMP is at the core of the strategy, plans and future of the institution he leads.

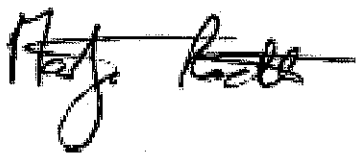
The remarks quoted by Fisher's general counsel and vice president of operations were that opposition to the IMP was coming from a "common denominator" of "rich white people" as opposed to the College's "diverse and younger population", insinuating that we are a group of selfish, nimby-ish individuals who have no concern for others who are less fortunate than ourselves. Yet we have gone to considerable lengths to explain why the outcome of the IMP will be bad for this "diverse and younger" population, and to urge the College to seek alternative locales for its expansion as other academic institutions have done. We have also produced evidence showing that the benefits Fisher claims to deliver to its students already fall substantially short of their stated intent even without the expansion envisaged in the IMP that will inevitably exacerbate existing problems in a crowded, often traffic-intense, "uncampus" neighborhood.

Even more shamefully the College's public relations representative has alleged that Back Bay residents "terrorize" College supporters and use "... coded speech for the underlying issue of racism," implying that this sentiment is one of the motivations behind our opposition to the IMP. This assertion is odious and unjustified. Moreover, it is laughable to maintain that supporters of the College such as David Mugar, Anthony Amore, Robert Long and Dave Wedge, all of whom are mentioned in the Courant article, are "terrorized" by comments from opponents of the IMP to the point that they are unwilling to speak up publicly even if they have genuine reasons for supporting the College's expansion plans.

It is obvious that Fisher College realizes that it has lost the argument about the adverse impact of its IMP upon the very people it claims to represent - its current and future students - as well as on neighborhood residents. Representatives and other residents of the neighborhood have presented voluminous evidence and offered creative suggestions for ameliorating existing problems (let alone new and more serious ones inherent in the IMP) based on analyses of the College's claims and record and experiences in dealing with the College over many years. For solid reasons the neighborhood is therefore implacably opposed to the College's proposed expansion. We have demonstrated beyond question that this expansion would be bad for Fisher's future students as well as for Back Bay residents.

I hope that the BRA will move as swiftly and decisively as it can to put an end to the long running and time and energy consuming nonsense that is Fisher's IMP so that the College will at last start investigating and formulating growth plans that are in its own interest. In so doing the BRA will be doing a service both to Fisher College and to the Back Bay neighborhood. Fisher College or its leaders appear to be tone deaf to facts and to the legitimate interests of others. It is proceeding along a path that will lead to no satisfactory outcome for its own stated purpose. Now, instead of behaving and acting in a credible and responsible manner as befits a "good neighbor", the College is resorting to making public, unfounded and scurrilous allegations about the character and motivations of the residents of Back Bay to discredit evidence-based opposition to its IMP. The longer the College persists or is allowed to continue along this path the harder it will become for us to achieve necessary improvements in the College's existing operations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Martyn Roetter". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line striking through the middle of the name.

Martyn Roetter D.Phil Physics (Oxon)

Sarah McSweeney, Psy.D.
5 Raymond Street
Lexington, MA 02421

Ms. Katelyn Sullivan
Boston Redevelopment Authority
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201

06/18/15

Dear Ms. Sullivan,

I am writing to you today in strong support of the Institutional Master Plan (IMP) that has been submitted by Fisher College to the Boston Redevelopment Authority (BRA). Its approval is vital to assisting the college to best meet the needs of their students in the years to come.

As a Clinical Psychologist who specializes in working with young adults and as a Member of Fisher College's Board of Trustees I have time and again been impressed with the student body at Fisher College. These students are respectful, enthusiastic about their college education and hopeful about the futures they are being helped to shape while attending Fisher College. The students are a wonderfully diverse group, reflective of both our Boston community, and the rich heritage of Fisher College in the Back Bay.

Fisher College was founded in 1903 and since then has become a College of Distinction dedicated to providing affordable, real-world education that prepares its students to achieve their career goals and compete in today's challenging economy. Fisher College has also shown itself to be a leader in the community, opening its doors to help during the marathon bombing in 2013 and with the Beacon Street fire last year. Fisher is a college that our city should be proud to support.

I strongly urge the Boston Redevelopment Authority to approve the IMP as submitted.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sarah McSweeney, PsyD (electronic signature)

Sarah McSweeney, PsyD
5 Raymond St.
Lexington, MA 02421

Ms. Katelyn Sullivan
Boston Redevelopment Authority
One City Hall Square
Boston, Ma. 02201

Dear Katelyn:

My wife and I live at 134 Beacon Street, up the street from Fisher College. We believe they are a disruptive force in our neighborhood, and should not be allowed to expand their operation. Their students regularly block the sidewalk, jaywalk across Beacon Street, block the right hand lane of Beacon Street during pickups and drop offs, and litter the sidewalk with cigarette butts.

Fisher College is not a good neighbor, as it has done little to address these issues, in spite of numerous complaints. Having gone to multiple meetings on the proposed expansion, they come across as arrogant and uncaring, and seemingly only interested in building a more profitable operation.

In my opinion, they have the right to remain where they are, but not the right to expand. To expand, they should be required to relocate elsewhere, as Emerson College has recently done. I expect their plans will have a negative impact on property values in the neighborhood if they are approved.

Sincerely yours

Beth and Michael Stonebraker



Katelyn Sullivan <katelyn.sullivan@boston.gov>

Fisher College IMP

1 message

Naomi Gordon <naomi@stratford.com>

Fri, Jun 26, 2015 at 12:16 PM

To: "Katelyn.Sullivan@boston.gov" <Katelyn.Sullivan@boston.gov>

Dear Ms. Sullivan,

I have been a resident of the Back Bay since 1998 and moved into 180 Beacon St when we bought our condominium in 2001. I am writing to you at the suggestion of our Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay. I want to take this opportunity to tell you how much I oppose the expansion of Fisher College according to its current plan filed with your office. Living in the Back Bay of Boston I have enjoyed interactions with young students from many of our area colleges such as Emmanuel and Simmons, Emerson, and Suffolk. But never have I had more negative interactions than with the students of Fisher College. They are rude, their language is crude and passing them on the sidewalk a really unpleasant affair. They smoke pot and cigarettes, play loud music, scream and run around, double park their cars, use the sidewalk as a staging area for their property everywhere from the corner of Berkeley to the corner of Arlington Street. I dread having to pass through this "gauntlet" of "bad acting" students each time I make my way up the street to Charles St. Most of them lack even the simplest of social courtesies and all of them view the sidewalk and street area in the block as if it were their private campus.

I do not deny the school their wish to expand their student population. I do however wish to deny them the right to expand more into this precious and fragile neighborhood. There are many other areas of the city that would be far more appropriate for expansion than this little neighborhood. This is one of the most beautiful areas of our historic city. Homeowners here show immense pride tending beautiful gardens and well cared for buildings. Please do not allow this school to do what no other city school has done when faced with expansion. Other schools have sought more appropriate neighborhoods who welcome the chance to see new growth enhance their city blocks. **Please say NO to their plan.** Please insist they pay their *Payment in lieu of taxes.*

Thank you

Naomi Gordon