**Tri-Cooperative Housing Application**

**Name: Everlyne Ogugu Date:12th September 2017**

**Your gender pronouns: She/Her**

**(she/her, they/them, etc.)**

**Phone number(s): 612-309-4803**

**Email address:egogugu@ucdavis.edu**

The Tri-Cooperatives (or Tri-Coops) are an on-campus student housing association providing affordable, cooperative housing to low-income students as well as students seeking housing that fosters educational and personal growth as instrumental components of safe and comfortable living. The community is comprised of three houses: Davis Student Co-op (DSC), Pierce, and Agrarian Effort (Ag), which regularly house 12-14 students during the ‘academic year’. The houses operate by consensus and collective action as independent entities as well as a community. Together, we stand by 4 **community agreements**:

1. At the Tricoops we are actively working to create a space where we feel physically and emotionally comfortable, respected and safe from oppressive forces.

2. This is a learning space: we are working together to unlearn oppressive behaviors, we embrace some level of discomfort in this process but are creating a space for everyone to take initiative to learn.

3. We strive to improve our community and uphold the community agreements in the form of conversations, workshops or community projects.

4. These community agreements are yours; re-agree upon them at the first Tri-coop meeting of the year. Change and modify them as needed via the consensus process.

All this being said, the experience of living at the Tri-Cooperatives changes with each generation, it shifts with each new quarter. Our community agreements are subject to change, but the basis of our community relies on acceptance rather than tolerance, as well as continuous communication and interest in living *cooperatively*. The expectations of communication and acceptance are meant to help us in unlearning our oppressive behaviors and community-building. While reading this application try to envision your role in a cooperative community. Think about what you look forward to sharing rather than what you think the community is looking for specifically.

**Tri-Cooperative Housing Application**

**Earliest move-in date/how flexible is this date?**

**\_\_\_Fall 2017 – 15th September.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**If applicable, how soon do you need a response from us?**

**\_\_\_The earliest possible even if possible, today\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Approximate timeframe for which you need housing:  \_\_\_September 2017\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_August 2018\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**What is your area of study? Class standing (i.e. freshman, sophomore, junior, senior, super senior, graduate student)**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Nursing, Graduate student \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**The tri-cooperatives were founded to provide affordable housing for students. Do you consider yourself low-income? If you feel comfortable, use this space to describe your current financial situation.**

**\_\_\_\_\_Yes, I am a low-income student since am not currently employed and I will rely on savings from my previous job to pay for my upkeep and part of the fees \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Can you come over for an interview/dinner? When? Yes, I can avail myself on Wednesday any time from 3.00pm or Thursday any time. Friday onwards can be arranged because graduate orientation begins then.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Accessibility needs:\_\_\_None\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**1.) What communities do you view yourself being a part of? (i.e. different racial, ethnic, and gender identities, sexualities, faiths, accessibility needs, ages, socioeconomic backgrounds, and political alignments) What is your experience with diverse groups of people? AND how do you see yourself contributing to a diverse community? I am an African, specifically from Kenya. Am Christian, heterosexual, and liberal in terms of political alignment. Most of my life I have interacted with different people of different political affiliations, faiths, races and sexual orientations and I have learnt to celebrate, rather than tolerate, our diversity. I hope to share the Kenyan African perspective in the community - I did love to teach our national language i.e. Kiswahili and teach on how to prepare our common food (ugali, greens e.t.c.). I can also share information about some of our culture. There is so much to share, and am sure I will learn a lot too.**

**2.) We try our best to make our homes a safe place for the people in this community. What does a comfortable space mean for you personally? OR what is your ideal living situation? My ideal living situation is where people are courteous, friendly and helpful**

**3.) Can you think of a time when something happened that you felt was wrong and you wanted to change it?  What did you do or wanted to do to change it? OR What sort of injustices do you feel most strongly against in the world? In my community, there are some people who feel that it is fine for a husband to beat a wife and they also believe that women have lesser say on major family decisions. I saw that happening in my immediate and extended family and this affected me emotionally because I felt that the women involved seemed so helpless. Now I take every opportunity to condemn domestic violence in the strongest of terms and I have always focused on being as independent as possible so I never have to be in a situation I feel so helpless to an extent of enduring humiliation for lack of a place to go.**

**4.) By nature of living in a coop you are actively involved in resistance in many different areas (i.e. capitalism, patriarchy, racism, racist food systems, heteronormativity, sexism, transphobia, colonialism, fatphobia, negative body-image, gender stereotypes, etc.). In what aspects of your life do you find yourself actively resisting unjust forces?** In my life at different times I have been involved in resisting sexism, patriarchy, gender stereotypes and racism

**5.) There are weekly/monthly/quarterly commitments residents have to the house and community. Some of these commitments are chores, meetings, work parties (once a quarter deep cleaning of the house). Do you think that you could balance these in your schedule? Yes, I will find enough time to participate in the cooperative activities**

**6.) Tell us about someone who is a positive/inspirational presence in your life or talk about one of your heroes: One of my heroes is the late Wangari Maathai, the founder of the Green Belt Movement and the 2004 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate. She was born in 1940 in Nyeri, Kenya. She was a renown environmentalist who strongly advocated against getting rid of forests for human settlements. Because of her efforts, we still have Uhuru Park in the middle of Nairobi city as opposed to skyscrapers on that spot. She also paved way for many women to actively participate in activism especially in the area of resisting corruption and political injustice. Her courage, honestly and zeal are virtues that I greatly admire and strive to cultivate in my own life.**

**7.) We live in a community based off consensus, which requires compromise: tell us about a time you have had to compromise. OR Tell us about a conflict you experienced that felt unresolved. In our nursing school, where I used to teach, we had a disagreement on allocation of specific teaching units to specific lecturers. I felt that as we matched the units to the lecturers we should focus on the specific qualifications and clinical experience of the lecturer while a colleague of mine felt that all nursing lecturers should be in a position to teach any unit so long as it is a nursing unit. In the end we agreed that we should match the units to the lecturers’ specialties but general units be taught by any lecturer.**

**Disclaimer: For the following question, if you lack experience or knowledge in any of these fields, this will not be held against you in this application. People enter this space with varying levels of experience and knowledge, and every person is given an opportunity to learn, change, and alter their perspective, and to contribute to this community in whatever way they can. This question is an opportunity to discuss your interests/experiences and how they fit into this community.**

**8.) Do you have any previous knowledge pertaining to financially, mechanically, or socially maintaining a household? What aspects of our community are you interested in being involved with or learning about? Circle your interests and if you feel comfortable, explain below.**

**Excel Spreadsheets Balance Budgets Food Shopping**

**Sound Systems                    Carpentry                                Plumbing**

**Gardening Skills or Knowledge          Cleaning                 Bee Keeping**

**Leadership Skills                        Committee/Meeting Skills      Emotional Support**

**Pet Care Other!**

Those highlighted in green indicate the activities I have experience. I am ready to learn the rest of the activities.