

May 23, 2011

Anthony Hood, Chairman
DC Zoning Commission
441 - 4th Street, NW
2nd Floor
Washington, DC 20001

Re: Support for Georgetown University's Campus Plan

Dear Chairman and Members of the Zoning Commission:

I am a 2010 graduate of Georgetown University and a resident of Washington, DC, and I wish to express my full support of Georgetown's 2010-2020 campus plan. Georgetown University is a globally recognized institution that makes significant contributions to the surrounding neighborhoods and to Washington, DC. I respectfully urge the Zoning Commission to support the university's campus plan as proposed and to reject the Office of Planning's recommendations as overreaching and unnecessary. The proposed changes as set forth in the campus plan will enhance the student experience and improve campus, which will ensure that Georgetown maintains its position as a highly regarded research university that attracts the brightest students from around the world.

I am incredibly proud of my Georgetown education and consider my four years at the university to be the most formative years of my life. During my time at Georgetown, I was constantly amazed by the passion, intelligence, and diverse accomplishments and interests of my peers and my professors. I was given so many wonderful opportunities to learn and grow, from taking Women in Politics with Donna Brazile to dancing in the South Asian Society dance festival. As an alumna, I would hate to see Georgetown's ability to provide unique and educational opportunities to students limited by imposed changes to the campus plan. The Office of Planning's recommendations, if adopted, would severely limit Georgetown's ability to grow academically and financially, which would jeopardize both the university's ability to serve its students and its reputation as an outstanding educational institution.

Most Georgetown students are eager to be good neighbors and contribute to the community, and students living off campus bring vibrancy and diversity to the surrounding neighborhoods. I knew many students at Georgetown who worked as babysitters for area families and developed close bonds with these families. I lived in Burleith the summer after my sophomore year and had a very pleasant experience. My block had both student and non-student residents, and I never had a negative interaction with my neighbors. My housemates and I were very conscious of how our living habits would affect others, and we worked hard to be good neighbors. In the vast majority of cases, students have a more positive impact than negative on the neighborhoods surrounding campus, but Georgetown does have effective programs in place to address issues that may arise with students living off campus. Furthermore, Georgetown is the largest private employer in the city, adding to the university's positive contributions to the community and the city.

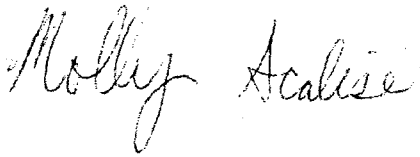
ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia

CASE NO. 10-32
EXHIBIT NO. 159

The Office of Planning's recommendations, if adopted, would severely cripple Georgetown's ability to provide the outstanding education and experiences that attract thousands of students every year. Reducing enrollment and requiring all students to live on campus by 2016 would be financially detrimental to Georgetown, especially considering that Georgetown has a much smaller endowment than its peer universities. This reduction in funding would force Georgetown to eliminate hundreds of jobs and give up projects that would strengthen academic programs, which would hurt the university's ability to fulfill its reputation as a prestigious, globally recognized institution.

The contributions Georgetown University makes to the surrounding community and to Washington, DC far exceed the occasional negative consequences of students living off campus. The vibrancy of the Georgetown neighborhood depends on the fact that the university has a diverse and flourishing community that makes contributions to the neighborhood. Georgetown students and alumni highly value their Georgetown education, and I sincerely hope that the university is able to continue to grow and share the Georgetown experience with future generations of students. Please support Georgetown University's campus plan as proposed and allow this unique institution to continue to touch the lives of students.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Molly Scalise". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the "Best regards," text.

Molly Scalise
Georgetown University, Class of 2010