Potomac Plaza 801
2475 Virginia Ave NW
Washington DC 20037
1 April 20000

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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Sheila Reid-Cross, Chair
Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th St, NW, 2nd floor
Washington DC 20001

Re: George Washing University
Board of Zoning Adjustment Application No. 16553

Dear Madam Chair and Members of the Board,

I am a resident of Ward 2 and an immediate neighbor of George Washington University. I want you all to know how absolutely DISGUSTED I am that I moved to Washington DC and decided to locate in this neighborhood. It was a big mistake. I wish I had known then what I know now. I would never have bought expensive property here and paid many tens of thousands of dollars to rebuild and modernize my place.

Not only is GWU the most egregious developer I have ever encountered in a residential zoning matter, in addition they think their neighbors are stupid--that all they have to do is swamp them with expensive slick advertising (as has just come into my mailbox from them) and requests to write letters to you. They even included a sample letter that I should write!

In my judgment, GWU is the bully of the neighborhood. I am tired of being bullied by President Tractenberg's stated plans that his legacy should be taking over all of Foggy Bottom. I am tired of being bullied by slick advertisements and hired con men from out of town to pull the wool over neighbor's eyes. GWU would do much better to raise its grade point average, as its ratings are very low in the national educational world. Few if any of its graduates get into the good graduate schools of this country. Its hospital was the only one in Washington not recognized in any way in the UN News & World Report ratings. GWU had better improve its performance and its standing before it proposes to expand even more and completely gobble up Foggy Bottom.

Foggy Bottom is a historic area and many historically significant buildings have already been lost to GWU's bulldozers and backhoes. In return we are surrounded by screaming, half-dressed undergraduates, beer bottles @n our lawns, loud parties, and broken trees and limbs.

Please stop this monster from devouring this once peaceful and formerly beautiful neighborhood. Please rescind the special permits you allowed for them to transform Howard Johnsons and Columbia Plaza!

BZA
Case No. 16553
Exhibit No. 63

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16553
EXHIBIT NO.63

GWU has not showed any interest in or sensitivity to the neighborhood. It has not been a good neighbor. Foggy Bottom has been robbed of its safety, beauty and charm. It is getting to be one big dormitory and our properties will clearly decline in value. Who would want to live here now? Not I!

The neighbors are not accustomed to fighting these kinds of battles. They don't know how to. Please help us!

Yours sincerely,

Christiane L. Joost-Gaugier
PH.D. Architecture History
Certif. Urban Renewal