TESTIMONY OF BONNIE HARDY **BZA HEARING ON APPLICATION NO. 16565**

May 16, 2000

Rec'd. MAY 16 2000

Madame Chair,

My name is Bonnie Hardy, past president of the Burleith Citizens Association and currently a member of the Board of Directors.

Thank you for letting me speak today in protest to the Georgetown University application to allow St.Mary's Hall to become an administrative use building.

By now you certainly know the history of St. Mary's. When the University announced in Aug. of 1996 the closing of St, Mary's, creating the loss of 217 on campus beds, the community was feeling very angry. Remember, as you can see by the figures released by the University in the spring of 1996, the immediate neighborhoods in the 20007 zip code were dealing with 1220 undergraduates, and in Burlieth alone were 536. Here came another 217 after the closing of St. Mary's.

In the Spring of 1997, feeling angry and frustrated, we reactivated the zoning overlay process trying to minimize the student impact in our neighborhoods by limiting group houses to 3. After much publicity this process went down in defeat in November of 1997 - at this point town/gown relations were at an all time low.

At the April 1998 BZA Quarterly Meeting the U. announced the financing of the SW Quad project including a new dorm housing 780 students to be built by 2002. We had heard about this project as early as 1996 but now it looked like it would be a reality. Burleith, as you can see by the attached resolution, was very pleased. We gave the project our hearty endorsement as long as it would not lead to an enrollment increase.

And that Madame Chair is where we are now. I for one am quiet confused as to why you are hearing St. Mary's now when in a month's time you will be considering Georgetown University new campus plan in which housing, enrollment, and the presence of MEDSTAR are dominant issues. It seems to me that St.Mary's should be apart of that over all picture for the future of this campus. And please keep in mind that the University's request for a 500 enrollment increase in the life of this new plan, almost cancels out the new housing in the Southwest Quad project.

In ending, I can promise you that Georgetown undergraduates have had a negative impact on Burleith and that we need every possible bed on campus. The Burleith Citizens Association has always worked very hard with the police, DPW and with DCRA in trying to make our neighborhood a healthy, pleasant community to live in. To give you some statistics:

In a six weekend period the fall of 1998, 14 $300 citations were issued by the police for noise violations due to large parties and rowdiness on the streets.

BZA
Case No. 16565
Exhibit No. 59

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16565
EXHIBIT NO.59

Ms. Teresa Lewis, Staff Director of the DCRA, is writing a report on 22 Burleith properties of which we suspect both zoning and housing laws have been broken..

I have given you photos taken in June of 1998 to give you an idea of the amount of trash and garbage that piles up before DPW can get to it inviting health hazards and rats to our neighborhood. Although the University is good at clearing bulk items, they cannot handle this kind of trash which puts a terrible strain on both the neighborhood and DPW.

I am giving you a 1998-1999 journal kept by Ms. Diane Deland of 3729 R about 3731 31 R St.which was occupied by Georgetown students. This journal will give you a picture of what daily life can be like living next to a group house. By the end of the year Ms. Deland got the attention of the police who issued 3, $300 citations, the last one given on the eve of their graduation.

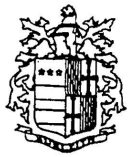
Also, you will see a letter written by Ms. Charlotte Kroll telling of middle of the night destruction by University students to trees on the campus of the Washington International School. This new campus of the Washington International School has only been in our neighborhood for three years.

These are highlights I have given you. Of course, many students who live in our neighborhood and are good citizens but unfortunately, the bad deeds out weigh the good. At some point the University has to live up to their commitment made to us and to you in 1990 for 100% housing on campus and I might add their commitment to their own students to provide a residential campus where education is a 24 hour process.

Thank you for your attention -

Bonnie Hardy

Burleith CITIZENS ASSOCIATION



The Burleith Citizens Association resolves that the projected Southwest Quadrangle to be built on the Georgetown campus and to include an 800 bed residence hall is a significant step toward alleviating impact on our nieghborhood by off-campus students. We commend the university's Board of Directors and Father O'Donovan for having made the commitment. According to Georgetown, this project, barring financial setbacks, is to be completed by the year 2002.

The University states in its April 1998 Factsheet on the new Southwest Quadrangle that, " The purpose of this project is to move 800 undergraduate students currently residing in the 20007 zip code area into on-campus housing, thus leaving only 400 undergraduate students in zip code 20007. This residence hall is not being built in order to increase enrollment." The Burleith Citizens Association is taking the university for its word and we want to make it absolutely clear that we support <u>no</u> enrollment increases at any time. According to University figures the undergraduate enrollment for 1997-1998 is 5,424. This figure should remain the same until all 1200 undergraduates have on-campus housing made available to them. The new residence hall will accommodate 800 with 400 left in the community. There should be <u>no</u> enrollment increase until the last 400 undergraduate students are offered housing.

Again, the Burleith Citizens Association approves the announcement of the projected Southwest Quadrangle and we look forward to its completion. *APRIL 22, 1998*

Noise complaints published in the Burleith Newsletter, 1998-99

September, 1998 (Oct Newsletter)

For the month of September the following houses in Burleith have been issued citations by the Metropolitan Police Department for loud parties and disturbances of the peace.

September 5:	1600 37th Street
	1803 37th Street
	3704 R Street
	3604 T Street
September 11	3715 Reservior Rd
	3717 Reservior Rd
	1706 37th Street
September 12	3713 Reservior Rd.
September 25	3705 S Street

October, 1998 (Nov Newsletter)

For the month of October the following houses in Burleith have been issued citations by the MPD for loud parties and disturbances of the peace. Most of these citations carry a $300 fine. The owners of the cited houses receive letters from the BCA. Of the nine houses that received citations in September, letters were sent, one was returned and three replies were received.

October 17:	3800 T Street
	3721 S Street
October 24	3625 S Street
October 31	1917 37th Street
	3622 T Street

April, 1999 Newsletter

(by Guy Gwynne) After an ongoing history of noise and rowdy partying at 3731 R Street in Burleith, the condign boom was lowered by police on Saturday, April 3. The careless-landlord owned rental house is occupied by some six Georgetown male students. As with so many student parties in Burleith, by 11 p.m. there was loud yelling, screaming and rock music blaring from the jollification within.

According to police, officers arrived at the offending locale at 11:15 p.m., quieted down the disturbance and left, wit-h the normal warning to the hosts. A while afterward, policemen had to return to a revivified winging, issued a $300 citation to the hosts and quieted things down anew. On a third visit the police broke up a drinking party in front of the house, and then duly took care of the party within. Reportedly, students were running out and away from the house from both front and back. The police arrested two revelers right away, and then literally caught two more egregious offenders.

Before the four were carted off to police headquarters, two other apparent students, one male and one female, interfered with police with excited sass. These apparently were not arrested, but probably should have been. Reportedly, the arrested four were taken to the Sector 2 lockup and booked. In general, after incarceration offenders may easily get to know fellow prisoners, well.

This rental house is or is well on the way to being a Problem House. The police should duly warn the enthusiastic hosts/renters that the house will be given more than usual attention. The university, which has all off-campus listed by address, should all the student renters in for one-time warning, and then, if

Pat Scolaro
Burleith Citizens Association
1807 37th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20007
telephone 338-5321

DATE: January 12, 2000

TO: Teresa Lewis
Staff Director, DCRA

FROM: Burleith Citizens Association

RE: Addresses of Houses that we are requesting the DCRA to inspect in the neighborhood of Burleith. Please keep us informed as to the status of this inspection. We suspect that these houses are not up to code, have illegal apartments, or an illegal number living in them.

1. 3633 R St
2. 3704 R St.
3. 3706 R St.
4. 3708 R St.
5. 3710 R St.
6. 3719 R St.
7. 3718 R St
8. 3724 R St.
9. 3735 R St.
10. 3705 S St.
11. 3606 S St.
12. 3611 S St.
13. 3726 S St.
14. 3703 Reservoir Rd.
15. 1600 37th Street
16. 1704 37th Street
17. 1706 37th Street
18. 1803 37th Street
19. 3606 T Street
20. 3608 T Street
21. 3626 T Street
22. 3636 T Street

Thank you .....

[redacted] Bonnie Hardy

Journal on 3731 R St., N.W.

Wed. May 28, 1998(on or about): 4 to 6 Georgetown University male students moved into 3731 R St., N.W (Next door and attached to the house I live in and own).

Fri. May 29, 1998: Their garbage can & loose garbage strewn all over my back property, I picked it up.

Sat. May 30, 1998: Loud music, yelling, cussing from their backyard, had to go over & ask them to stop. (their were only 6 people there, but it sounded like 20 people. I was having dinner outside on my deck with my son & his Father--we couldn't hear ourselves over their noise.)

Mon. June 1, 1998: Loud yelling, cussing from next door(they were having an outdoor cookout party with lots of drinking; I had to go inside, shut all windows, doors & turn on my fans to keep their noise out & it still didn't.

Tues. June 2, 1998: Their garbage, beer cans, again on my property. I left a note for them to stop putting their garbage on my property.

Fri., June 12, 1998: Around 10p.m. my whole house wall shaking from their stomping, yelling, loud music; my dishes were rattling & wall pictures fell down due to their stomping--went over to ask them to stop it immediately--they moved to their backyard w/ party where noise became even louder w/ cussing, yelling, shrieking. CALLED POLICE(never saw police come).

Sat., June 13, 1998: From my upstairs window, saw their backyard littered w/many, many beer cans; drink plastic glasses all over their front yard.

Sun., June 14, 1998: Wrote letter to them that they were affecting my right to enjoy my property(copy attached), hand delivered, sent copy to landlord(never heard from landlord).

Mon., June 15, 1998: A Brian comes over to apologize & says they were just "settling in" & promised no parties & they would respect my presence as a neighbor.

Thurs. , June 25, 1998: 10:30 p.m. loud music & thumping has been going on for an hour now; yelling & louder music; I can't read, sleep, etc; get up & go over & ask them to stop it. Called the landlord, left message on his answering machine about problems w/ his renters, that they're affecting my rights; asked him to do something, that if it continues, I would sue him and the tennants.

Fri., June 26, 1998: A.M.-owner of 3731 R St., Kalaver, called me to say he's writing tennants ltr. quoting my ltr. of 6/14 about their noise & he hopes that will solve the problem--I suggested he take stonger actions like saying he'll evict them--but he avoided that; I told him about the other incidences but he ignored what I was saying(i.e. didn't say he would do anything solid.

Fri., June 26, 1998: About 10:30 P.M. returned from dinner w/ friend & started to play backgammon; 3731 R had 6-8 party people in their backyard, drinking, very loud, noisy drunk-I cut my evening short; went to bed, turned on A/C's to cut out noise, but it didn't, partying noise went on for another hour, I called police-don't think police ever came as party continued.

Sat., July 11, 1998: 4-6 people outside , drinking, cussing,loud w/ clearly no regard for any neighbor; it started around 7pm & was still going on past 11 p.m. when I had to shut all windows & turn on fans to keep noise out.

Sun., July 12, 1998: A.M.-found football size pile of ripped up vines thrown onto my deck area-clearly

from 3731 R as vineballs are type that grow on mutual fenceline. Their backyard heavily littered w/beercans, old mattress, food containers, pizza boxes-will attract rats.

Mon., July 13, 1998: Called D.C. gov't, landlord/tennant (442-4610); talked w/ Miss Weston about neighbors backyard. She said she would send an inspector in 5-7days as it's illegal-told me to call back in 10 days. She said it's a violation & landlord can be cited.

Fri, July 17,1998: Around 10pm loud, booming rock music pounding through mutual wall. I turned on A/C to cut out noise-yelling, more loud pounding; called police: everything quiet by 11:30 pm(I don't know whether police came).

Sat. July 18, 1998: Found partially eaten sandwich(ham & cheese) thrown onto my deck-clearly thrown by someone at 3731 R.

Fri., July 24, 1998: Very loud music pounding through walls, loud yelling, drinking-began about 11pm & ended around 12:30am.

Sat., July 25, 1998: All residents of 3731 R gone-peace is treasured.

Sat. Aug. 1, 1998: 7pm. pounding rock music through the walls; by 8/9pm yelling erupts w/ loud music, by 10pm yelling, boozing, urination in back yard(guy w/ dk hair, wht. shorts, stocky build (I had looked out upstairs back window to see what I could see & I saw this guy peeing!); then crowd moves outside, loud yelling, etc. I call police. Police came about 10:30pm & broke up noise. Saw police talking to them in back. Police left but people stayed in backyard talking very loud for about 30 min., then another urinates in backyard(people still there). By 11;30 pm people left out front yelling, cussing on way out.

Sun.Aug. 2, 1998: Plastic drink cups all over their front yard & thrown into mine-which I picked up. 10AM loud rock music from their house, yelling & stomping pounding through our mutual wall-it continued through 11am when I decided I couldn't take it anymore so I left my property. I returned about 4pm to find them yelling & cussing, drunk in their front yard--finally they went inside--noise stopped about 45 min. later.

Mon. Aug 3, 1998: Followed up on their yard & trash complaint with D.C. Gov't. A Samuel of Landlord/ tennant said that inspector Victor Brown inspected 3731 on 7/17/98 & found trash all over; Brown to call me back re if he cited landlord/tennants.

Fri. Aug. 8, 1998: Their gone for weekend--all is quite, someone cut their lawn in back & threw mattress in the alley(owner?)

Up to Aug. 24: They've been gone all of this time, but it doesn't look like they moved as grill, beer refrig., still in backyard along w/ month old pizza boxes.

Aug 24, 1998: P.M. They're back--at least 2 of them as there's loud pounding on the wall & loud talking outside.

Sun., Sept. 6, 1998: 4:30am-rock music started pounding through my bedroom wall from their house-went on for about 1 hr. then stopped; started again around 2/3pm for an hr. -a red SUV was parked in the middle of the alley behind their house, blocking all traffic. I called but couldn't get through as lines busy. After an hr. student & girl come out of 3731 & drives off. Rock music starts up again at 8:30pm for hr.

Thurs. Sept. 10, 1998: Rock music pounding through the wall relentlessly-I moved to back bedroom to work, but didn't help.

Fri., Sept.11, 1998: 3:30am-rock music pounding through bedroom wall woke me up-very loud bass thumping-knocked my shoe all along wall yelling "stop it, stop it" but music went on til 4:30 am.
9:30 am-Charles Mallet(on Board of BCA) called to say he was going to have motorbikes confiscated & did I know who owned them.(I told him 3731 owned them & continually parked in the middle of the public sidewalk, blocking foot traffic. He said he had warned them but it did no good). Shortly thereafter, I called Greg @GU student conduct & left message re rock music; called D.C. parking enforcement re their bikes.

Sat. Sept 19, 1998: Again very loud rock music at 4:30 pm which kept getting louder-called GU hotline but person said it didn't start until 9pm--their music blasted throughout the block. I went over to ask them to turn it down-6/8 people in livingroom, drinking beer, eating pizza-redheaded guy said sorry-he knew it was too loud, apologized & turned it down.

Sun Sept 20, 1998: 3:30/4am-again very loud rock music pounding through my bedroom wall woke me up. I went over & pounded on their door constantly but no one answered even though inside lights on. Music went on til 5 am then stopped.

Fri. Sept. 25, 1998: 11pm-loud rock music again-went over again & asked them to stop-door opened-saw 4 drinking beer-they said they didn't live there-they got guy from upstairs who did-I told him to stop all the loud rock music(& noise) that goes on, & on & on.

I was away most of Oct. so I don't know what was going on.

Fri. Oct. 23, 1998: Loud, rock music could be heard in front & rear yards(5pm) & through my walls. I went over-red headed guy had to yell 3/4 times & then go upstairs to get "Brian" to turn it down. Red headed guy apologized & said he realized that Brian was always playing it too loud-music was turned down.

Sat. Nov. 7, 1998: 9:30 pm: loud music w/ periodic yelling continued for 2 hrs. I called GU hotline, spoke to Orlando who said he would handle it & to call him back in 30 min. if noise didn't stop. It stopped finally.

Thurs. Dec. 3, 1998: 9-11pm, blasting music, yelling, etc.--finally went over & again ask them to stop-saw 5 drinking w/ beer cans all over-one made a wise crack saying,"Oh, we thought you would want to hear the music."

I've been away most of Dec. & Jan. so I can't report. Through most of Feb., it appeared tennants were gone but last week loud rock music started periodically.

Sat. Feb. 27, 1999: Beg. about 9:30pm very loud rock music; by 10:30pm loud party noise, yelling, etc. @ 10:45 I called GU hot line & complained, gave my name, tel #. No change in noise; at 11pm I called GU hotline again, she said she sent somone over to get tel # & names as it wasn't on her list. Nothing changed. I called police at 11:10pm, ask them to come my house first to verify raucus noise & pounding through my walls. Police arrived at 11:25pm, came into my house, said no one can live with that noise, said they would shut party down & fine students. Police did what they said. Then went down street to break up another student drinking party.

Gone to Calif. for 10 days; returned early am 3/14.

Sun., Mar.14, 1999: Starting around 9pm loud rock music, party noise, etc. By 10pm I knocked on their door & told them to "stop it, just stop it!!" (about 5 guys-none of whom I recognized drunk, in lvroom. I told them if they didn't stop it I would call police & they would fined $300 & I would do everything I could to get them kicked out of GU. Noise

level lowered but not stopped.

Mon., Mar. 15, 1999:A Peter came by & apologized & said only Brian was there with the other being Freshmen, not tennants & he was sorry for what they did.

Sun, Mar.21, 1999: 10pm-2am: modified yelling, music, noise heard through my bedroom walls-almost called police but decided just to sleep w/ pillow over my head--didn't help much.

Sun. Mar. 28, 1999: Awoken at 3:30am by loud rock music pounding through the wall-it went on for 45 min. then stopped.

Sat.,April 3, 1999: Returned home w/ friend about 8:30; saw 2 guys carrying in beer keg next door; my friend left by 9:30pm. By 10pm, low party noise next door;by 11pm loud pounding yelling, screaming, party noise, etc. Called police by 11:15; police arrived fast, broke up drinking in front of 3731, party inside, etc., students running out front & back. Police arrested 2 right away, then caught 2 more. Officer Rusnak told me students lied to them 4/5times about who they were, what they were doing, etc. but police caught them in lies-4 arrested & taken away; also fined $300 for second time. The police officers were terrific .

Wed. April 24, 1999: All week long, 3731 has been throwing garbage out in the alley(not using a can-just dumping bags, beer cans, food cartons,on street). Back & front yard littered w/ junk, cans, papers, beer cans, etc. Everything overgrown & an eyesore. I called D.C. landlord/tennant office(Miss Weston) which will send inspector in 3-5 days.

Thurs. April 29, 1999: About 4:30pm blasting rock music, loud voices(male&female) from next door-obvious that a drinking party going on. Tried to contact Jeanne Lord& her referral person-both on answering machines. Called police. While waiting for police saw 6/8 male/female students leave back of house-drinking-& pile into dark SUV(looked like car that belongs to one of students at that house)-they were very loud,wild behavior. Loud rock music still playing-could here in front & back of both houses(mine & theirs). Police arrive at my house, come in & confirm impact of sounds on me-said noone can live with that. Police went next door, knocked & knocked but noone answered. Police check back but house locked & they can't force entry-say I'll just have to live with problem until someone comes back-then call police & they'll issue a 61D($300 fine). I talk w/ Sgt. Baylor & Lt. Hayes by phone. Lt. Hayes assures a 61D will be issued & to page him when someone returns so he can get officers over there quick.

What the students did is leave house w/ loud rock music left on.
7pm, Officer Middleton checks back-sound still going on, no one home.
About 8pm I see 1 person enter back of house. Music stops. I paged Lt. Hayes, he has Ofcr. Middleton there within 5 min. Ofcr.Middleton goes straight to house & issues 61D.

Talked to Bonnie Hardy & Jeanne Lord next day to give them details & Landlords tel. #--maybe they can help stop this problem house.

HOW MUCH LONGER WILL THESE STUDENTS BE ALLOWED TO NEGATIVELY IMPACT MY LIFE, OUR COMMUNITY, WASTE THE TIME OF THE POLICE & GENERALLY ABUSE EVERY PACT SOCIETY HAS FOR LIVING TOGETHER PEACEFULLY?

June 14, 1998

Tennants
3731 R St., N.W.
Washington, D.C.20007

Dear Neighbors:

This is to ask you to be more aware and concerned about how your actions are affecting me and I suspect other neighbors.

Over the past three weeks, since your student group moved into 3731 R St., N.W., I have had to go over to your house several times now to ask you to curtail extremely loud party noises. Most recently(Friday, June 12) your partying shook our adjoining walls so badly that my wall pictures fell down and my cupboard dishes were rattling. When I ask you to curtail the stomping, your party moved to your backyard where the noise commenced again. It was so bad that I had to close all doors and windows to try and keep the noise out. While there have been a couple of weekday nights when your noise was out of control, it appears to becoming a constant problem on weekends.

With so many of you living in such a small house, please realize your noise compounds exponentially. A couple of you have such strong, loud voices that they carry throughout the block. While you have complete control over your choice of words and strength of voice, you should know that your presumeably private verbalizations are quite public. When you are outside, it is so loud as to be impossible for me to use my garden or have company outside. If you could exercise some consideration in this regard, I think we all could enjoy our backyards.

This neighborhood has been struggling for years with student "party houses" and students who show a complete lack of regard for neighbors. I sincerely hope that you can demonstrate enough respect and concern for your neighbors to prevent your house from continuing on that disreputable path.

We live in a densely populated area where mutual regard, awareness and understanding are necessary precursors to civility. With the best of intentions, I am asking that you become more aware of the negative impact you are having on my right to enjoy my own property and reverse what seems to be a growing problem.

Sincerely,

Diane DeLand
3729 R St., N.W.

cc: Mr. Kalavar, owner of 3731 R St.,N.W.

April 5, 1999

Lt. Tommy Hayes
3320 Idaho Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20016

Commendation of Ofc. G.M. Rusnak (#2332), Ofc. K.W.Cantwetz (R-181), Ofc. F. Hope (#404) & Ofc. R.Dodson (R 272)

Dear Lt. Hayes:

I want to let you know that the above officers did an outstanding service for our community & for me on Sat. night, April 3, 1999.

Around 11pm on that night, I had to call the police again about a drunken, noisy party at the house next door to me--3731 R St., N.W. It is occupied by Georgetown Univ. students and has been a nuisance house all year long. The police responded immediately, shut the party down, arrested & fined 4 of the occupants.

These students had been warned by the police several times, & fined the last time. I have a detailed journal concerning these students total disregard & disrespect for all around them & the numerous attempts to curtail their frenzied noise & drinking, etc.

Lead Officers Rusnak & Cantwetz were swift, professional & strong in the face of the students running, lying, etc. , & other students trying to intimidate the Officers into releasing the arrested students. After the students were taken away, Ofc. Rusnak gave me a summary of their actions. He was very courteous, professional & is a credit to the police dept. as are all of the Officers involved.

These officers did an exceptional job & I hope you will recognize & praise them all for fulfilling their duty in such an outstanding manner. If appropriate, please put a copy of my letter in all of their personnel folders--they deserve so much credit for their jobs well done.

Sincerely,

Diane DeLand

Diane DeLand
3729 R St., N.W.

ccs:

Commander Cockett
Ofcs.: Rusnak, Cantwetz, Hope & Dodson
Jeanne Lord, GU
Bonnie Hardy, Pres. BCA

Charlotte Augusta Kroll
3641 R Street, NW ◆ Washington, DC 20007-2333 ◆ (202) 333-7676 ◆ e-mail:

December 17, 1998

Ms. Mary L. McCarty
Director of Finance and Facilities
Washington International School
3100 Macomb Street, NW
Washington, DC 20008-3324

Dear Mary,

I am very sad to inform you of the loss of two pine trees on R Street near 37th Street. I am sorry that I did not have time to write to you on Monday and I regret that I did not telephone the police on Saturday night when I heard a group of loud drunk obnoxious Georgetown students across the street on the WIS property. I did go downstairs and outside, but I could not see what had happened in the darkness. My presence at the doorway seemed to encourage the group to move on. I said nothing.

On Sunday I discovered two mutilated trees, a botched attempt to top the two pines to obtain a free Christmas tree I would assume. They did not even take the topped parts after ripping them down, leaving the remains on the hill just below each tree.

I am including a copy of this correspondence in a letter to Jean Lord at Georgetown to let her know of the incident. I would encourage you to seek compensation from Georgetown. Perhaps they could get students to replant replacement trees in the spring.

Let me take this opportunity to give you my office telephone number so that you may reach me during the day if you need any additional information about this incident: 797-6244.

Sincerely yours,

Charlotte A. Kroll

Cc: Jean Lord, Georgetown
Linda Greenan
Bonnie Hardy
Peter Pulsifer