Miriam H. Lindner
1525 33rd Street, NW
Washington, DC 20007
202/342-2498

July 5, 2000

Ms. Sheila Cross Reid
Chairperson
DC Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 -4th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

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Reference: BZA Application No. 16566 (Georgetown University)

Dear Ms. Reid:

It has come to my attention that the Board will be considering Georgetown's proposed master plan. I hope in doing so you will weigh the tremendous benefits that the University brings to our neighborhood, as well as our city.

When my then fiancé (now husband) and I were considering where we wished to live, we selected the West Village of Georgetown. We did this because of the vibrancy and diversity that we found there, so much of which is attributable to the University community. We were not looking for (nor did we expect) a quiet suburban living experience.

In the fourteen years that have ensued we have had wonderful experiences with Georgetown and her students. Our children — 10, 7, 5 and 3 — have had at least twenty Georgetown undergrads serve as their babysitters, and every single one has been a wonderful role model and teacher for our kids. We believe that it is not coincidental that these students have been so terrific, feeling that it reflects upon the high standards of the University, not to mention its culture. I expect that this excellence will only continue as Georgetown's national reputation and standing continue to grow as it has over the last ten years.

We also take comfort in the fact that there are students in our neighborhood, walking our streets day and night. Such foot traffic makes me far more comfortable when I'm walking from my car to my home. Three years ago my husband and sister were robbed at gunpoint near St. Johns Church and he is convinced this occurred because he chose a route down a quiet street in the evening, rather than one with plenty of foot traffic.

As with any school, a few of Georgetown's students may get a bit rambunctious on occasion. But I believe that the University has worked hard and conscientiously to remind its students of their obligations as neighbors (not to mention, as representatives of the school), and have demonstrated its resolve to get tough with repeat offenders.

I sincerely hope that you and the Board vote in favor of the University's plans, permitting them to continue to bring a tremendous benefit to our neighborhood.

Thank you very much.

Respectfully submitted,

Miriam H. Lindner

BZA
Case No. 16566
Exhibit No. 87

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16566
EXHIBIT NO.87