3619 S Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20007-2245
July 16, 2000

Ms. Sheila Cross-Reid
Director, Board of Zoning Adjustment
Suite 210
441 Fourth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

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Dear Ms. Cross-Reid,

I am a resident of Burleith, having lived here with my family since 1988. The house we occupy has been in our family since 1962; although our primary residence was in northeast Washington, I attended Gordon Jr. High and Western High School, and remained familiar with the neighborhood during the intervening years. Much has changed in our city since 1962. The changes in Burleith have been considerable. Some of the changes have been good, and some of them have been bad. I would like to address a few of the bad ones, specifically in reference to the upcoming plan by Georgetown University - the Ten Year Plan - to increase enrollment again without having established controls over the student population they currently possess.

It is standard policy to sleep with closed windows, with air conditioners running (fan only in the winter) on weekends, just to be able to sleep through the night. Students have stolen furniture out of my back yard. Student parties from an adjoining house have been held in my back yard when the students thought I had fallen asleep (I am talking about waking up and finding 60 strangers in my back yard, crushing flowers and blind drunk). Students, during last year's drought, repeatedly set off fireworks around the neighborhood and launched some from my stoop, at midnight, after I asked them to stop because it posed a fire hazard.

There are numerous other issues which I am sure my neighbors have adequately cited. What I would like to stress is the utter inability of the University to exercise any control whatever over the students it currently

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enrolls. We have a traditionally quiet residential neighborhood which some students see as merely an extension of Animal House. We have a University with a teaching hospital which refuses to identify, confront and attempt to rehabilitate its alcohol-addicted population. They are focusing on getting more money. We need them to focus on the disruptions their students already cause to the community in which they reside.

Until Georgetown University can successfully and consistently monitor the students it currently has, it's increased ability to flood Burleith with noise, litter and vandalism is unacceptable to me and to my family. I hope the feelings of born-and-raised-in DC residents count for something as you weigh the impact of GTU on our small community.

Sincerely,

Gina Van Weddingen