1775 Corcoran Street, NW, Apt. 44
Washington, DC 20009

September 12, 2002

Zoning Commission for the District of Columbia
441 4th Street, N.W., Suite 220
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Zoning Commission members,

As a resident of the neighborhood that includes 1615 New Hampshire, N.W., I am opposing the special exception requested by the University of Notre Dame to establish a university at this address.

This neighborhood is currently a wonderful mix of residential and low-impact commercial space, and I feel strongly that allowing a university to hold classes and especially house students here will have a negative impact on the neighborhood. I lived for about two years in Foggy Bottom, and do not look forward to the prospect of loud parties, housing that isn't kept up, and other unpleasant results of having a student population in the neighborhood.

I would also argue that Notre Dame's plan would deteriorate the tax base. If owned by a university, the building would be taken off the tax rolls. Since students seldom pay income tax where their college is located, the income taxes generated from residents living in the building would also be lost.

The residential tenants of 1615 New Hampshire (our address is 1775 Corcoran) are working with developers to find an alternative plan that would allow the property to continue without a zone change. This is a viable property that does not need a zone change to be fully used, and therefore, a zone change is unnecessary—and harmful to the neighborhood.

I urge you to reject this request.

Many thanks,

Carole Burns

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
Case 02-25
Exhibit 29

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO.02-25
EXHIBIT NO.29