725 17th Street, N.W.
Washington D.C. 20503-0009
jmietus@omb.eop.gov
May 12th, 2003

Washington D.C. Zoning Commission
Carol Mitten, Chair
441 4th Street, N.W.
Suite 210 South
Washington, D.C. 20001

2003 MAY 13 PM 4:58

**Reference Case #02-30, Georgetown University Boathouse**

Dear Chair Mitten and Members of the D.C. Zoning Commission:

I am writing to urge you and your colleagues to approve the Georgetown University boathouse. It seems to me there are at least three good reasons why you want to do that:

1. **Rowing and the new Georgetown boathouse are good for D.C. kids** – both men and women – who row. Rowing makes kids healthy – physically and emotionally. It improves their self-confidence and self-respect. It keeps them off the streets, out of the bars and out of trouble. It teaches hard work pays off. The Georgetown Boathouse will allow more students to see the shells practicing and racing…help the sport grow...and help open up new opportunities for the city's young people.
2. **Rowing and the Georgetown boathouse are good for the city.** Shells practicing and racing on the Potomac are a vivid reminder that Washingtonians live intensely and relish competition. The new Georgetown boathouse makes a very important statement: this is a city whose civic leaders know how to use valuable and limited natural resources wisely and well.
3. **Rowing and the Georgetown boathouse are good for the soul.** Rowing through the mist on the Potomac at early dawn is an unforgettable experience. So is rowing at sunset, when a flock of ducks or geese flies majestically overhead. I rowed for Georgetown University forty years ago, from 1959 though 1963 and those memories stay with me and provide continuing inspiration. Your support for the boathouse will ensure men and women forty years from now and more look back over the years and think gratefully about you and your foresight and your vision.

Thank you for your time and attention and support.

Respectfully,

James D. Mietus

James D. Mietus
Georgetown University crew, 1959-1963
Office of Management and Budget, EXOP, 1974-present

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
Case 02-30
Exhibit 117

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO.02-30
EXHIBIT NO.117