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The
George
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University
WASHINGTON DC

1392723
b.c.c.: Thomas McLarthy,

THE PRESIDENT

February 28, 1994

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I have the great honor to invite you to receive an honorary degree and deliver the address at the commencement exercises of The George Washington University on Sunday, May 8, 1994. The ceremony will be held at 10:00 A.M. on the Ellipse, a short walk from your home, before an audience of some 3,000 excited graduates and their 15,000 proud parents, family members and friends. Your rigorous and sustained efforts devoted to the review and reform of our health care system and the exemplary and unique style you have brought to the role of First Lady of our nation inspires our choice.

May 8 is also Mother's Day! We have found that families enjoy this, and we do our best to include the mothers in our ceremony in one way or another. We would like to propose that you bring your mother to the ceremony so that she can participate in presenting you for your honorary degree. Many of the families in the audience represent three and four generations, making the Commencement/Mother's Day celebrations real family affairs. We would be honored to have two generations of Rodhams on our stage! The ceremony lasts no more than an hour and a half which leaves plenty of time for private family gatherings.

I was delighted to share your company at Molly Raiser's on Friday night. I thought of raising this item with you at dinner but decided it might be an inappropriate imposition on a social occasion. However, I do most earnestly hope that you will choose to share a bit of Mother's Day with The George

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Washington University's 1994 graduates and their families. I can definitely promise you a warm and enthusiastic welcome, and we will do our very best to provide a warm and sunny day. So far, we are two for two on the Ellipse!

I look forward to hearing from you.

With warm wishes,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Steve Trachtenberg". The signature is written in dark ink and has a fluid, connected style.

Stephen Joel Trachtenberg
President



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PRESIDENT STEPHEN JOEL TRACHTENBERG
THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

February 28, 1994

Dear Mack:

I would be grateful for anything you can do
to make this happen.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Steve", written over a horizontal line.

2121 EYE STREET, N.W., WASHINGTON, D.C. 20052

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 9, 1994

Mr. Stephen Joel Trachtenberg
President
The George Washington University
2121 Eye Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20052

Dear Steve:

It was good to hear from you, and I appreciate your bringing to my attention your invitation to Mrs. Clinton to address the George Washington University graduating class and receive an honorary degree on Mother's Day, May 8.

It sounds like a real family event, as you describe, and I agree that Mrs. Clinton would be a great speaker and inspiration for this year's graduates. I have shared your letter directly with the First Lady's scheduler, Patti Solis, to ensure she has been made aware of your invitation, and you can be certain it is receiving full consideration.

Again, thank you for your note and please keep in touch.

Personally,



Mack McLarty
Chief of Staff to the President

cc: Patti Solis



NEWS

OFFICE OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS • WASHINGTON, D.C. 20052 • (202)994-6460

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 29, 1994

CONTACT: Mike Freedman or
Karen Sibert (202) 994-6460

**FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON TO DELIVER KEYNOTE ADDRESS
 AT THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT MAY 8**

4,800 graduates to be honored at ceremony on the Ellipse

**Mrs. Clinton, Roderic Hollett Davison, Elizabeth Drew,
 John Hope Franklin, Thaddeus Lindner to receive honorary degrees**

Washington, D.C. -- Stephen Joel Trachtenberg, president of The George Washington University, has announced that First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton will receive an honorary Doctor of Public Service degree and deliver the keynote address at GW's Commencement on the Ellipse May 8. The ceremony, honoring 4,800 GW graduates, begins at 10 a.m.

"We are immensely proud to have the First Lady as this year's Commencement speaker at The George Washington University," commented President Trachtenberg. "Her indomitable spirit, enduring commitment and contagious energy are qualities which will serve to inspire GW graduates as they embark on their career and life paths."

Some 20,000 people are expected to attend GW's Commencement, which will be held in the historic oval-shaped park along E Street opposite the south lawn of the White House. The academic processions for Commencement will begin on the Ellipse at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, May 8, Mother's Day. The Commencement ceremony will be held -- rain or shine -- on the Ellipse.

Ekaterini Malliou, a Master of Public Health degree candidate in the School of Medicine and Health Sciences, will serve as student speaker. She was selected through a University-wide competition.

During the ceremonies, President Trachtenberg will bestow The George Washington University President's Medal posthumously on Terry Michael Duncan, a 1993 graduate of the GW National Law Center who died a hero in Russia last October. Duncan had moved to Moscow last summer to start his own law firm. During an uprising staged by government opponents, he saved the lives of several people by pulling them to safety during an attack on a radio and television station. He was shot while protecting wounded New York Times photographer Otto Pohl.

(more)



OFFICE OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

May 4, 1994

To: Liz Boyer
Office of the First Lady

From: Mike Freedman
GW Public Affairs

Liz --

Attached is some data you may find helpful in preparing Mrs. Clinton's briefing book for Sunday's Commencement. Included are:

(1) A four-page Commencement release with information on the student speaker, the other honorary degree recipients and a special tribute to 1993 GW National Law Center graduate Terry Michael Duncan, who died a hero in Moscow last fall while saving the life of a New York Times photographer during an uprising staged by government opponents. I believe Mrs. Clinton has met Duncan's parents who will accept the "GW President's medal" on his behalf. - ?

(2) A one page fact sheet on GW including the names of distinguished alumni such as former First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, Chairman of the Joints Chiefs of Staff John Shalikashvili and HUD Secretary Henry Cisneros.

Other points worth noting:

* Many of the graduating students have been part of the excitement of the Clinton Administration having been volunteers when GW served as the Clinton/Gore Inaugural Press Center in January, 1993 and witnesses to the White House Health Care Task Force public hearing held in GW's Smith Center in March of 1993. Some have also had the honor of interning in the White House.

* The Commencement honors not only bachelor degree recipients -- but also a number of Masters and Doctoral degree recipients. While the GW National Law Center and Medical School will hold separate ceremonies later this month -- representatives from both graduating classes will be in attendance Sunday. In all, 4,800 graduates will be honored. Some 2,600 will attend Sunday. With families and friends, the total audience will be 20,000.

* It's Mother's Day -- and this commencement is designed to honor families and the mom's attending as well as the graduates.

Honoring
Terry Michael Duncan
HRC met
GW parent's ~~medal~~ -
1st Ann. to doc-
dred saving life
of NYTimes photo

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The President's Medal is the highest honor President Trachtenberg can bestow in the name of The George Washington University. The award will be presented to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Duncan, the parents of Terry Michael Duncan.

The University will also confer honorary degrees upon five outstanding contributors to public service, journalism, business and history at its Commencement ceremony. Honorary degree recipients include:

Hillary Rodham Clinton, Doctor of Public Service. Mrs. Clinton has brought extraordinary dynamism to her role as First Lady, heading the President's Task Force on National Health Care Reform while also attending to family and ceremonial responsibilities. Throughout her adult life, Mrs. Clinton has successfully balanced her family, work, and public service; as First Lady of Arkansas, she combined chairing an education committee that set public school standards in the state with practicing law and managing a home. Mrs. Clinton has devoted much of her career to the interests of children and families. She was a staff attorney for the Children's Defense Fund, founded the Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families, pioneered the Arkansas Home Instruction for Preschool Youth program, and chaired the Arkansas Education Standards Committee. Mrs. Clinton was named Arkansas Woman of the Year in 1983 and Arkansas Mother of the Year in 1984.

Roderic Hollett Davison, Doctor of Humane Letters. Davison began teaching at GW in 1947 and is currently Professor Emeritus of History. A specialist in modern European and Near Eastern history, he is a founding member and former president of both the Middle East Studies Association and the Turkish Studies Association of North America. Davison has tirelessly contributed to the University community as a member of the GW faculty, including stellar service for many years on the faculty senate, as chairman of the History Department, on dean's councils for Columbian College and as acting dean of the Graduate Council.

Elizabeth Drew, Doctor of Letters. Drew is a highly acclaimed journalist who for 19 years was the Washington correspondent for The New Yorker magazine and appears regularly on such public affairs shows as "Meet the Press" and "The MacNeil Lehrer NewsHour." In the early '70s, she was the host of "Thirty Minutes with ...," a weekly television program on the Public Broadcasting Service where she conducted one-on-one interviews with public figures such as John Erlichman, Hubert Humphrey, King Hussein, Indira Gandhi and Golda Meir. She also served as a panelist for the presidential debates in 1976 and moderator of the League of Women Voters Democratic candidates' debate in April 1984.

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John Hope Franklin, Doctor of Humane Letters. Franklin is well regarded as the foremost authority on the history of African-Americans. He has written ten books and many articles on the issues of slavery and freedom, segregation and equality, race and civil rights. He is the James B. Duke Professor of History Emeritus at Duke University, where for seven years he was professor of legal history at that institution's law school.

Thaddeus Alphonse Lindner, Doctor of Public Service. Lindner is a distinguished businessman and community activist, loyal GW alumnus and dedicated University trustee. As an undergraduate student at GW, Lindner began a business venture which grew into the largest commercial parking company in the Washington metropolitan area and one of the largest in the country, Colonial Parking, Inc. He is a 24-year member of the board of trustees and a former president of the General Alumni Association and Colonials, Inc., once the official support group for intercollegiate activities.

The University's Commencement weekend will encompass a number of celebrations, beginning Friday, May 6, with the **School of Business and Public Management annual awards** at 7 p.m. in the Marvin Center Ballroom (800 21st Street, NW). There will be a reception following the awards ceremony.

The **doctoral candidate hooding ceremony** will take place on Saturday, May 7, at 9:30 a.m. in the Dorothy Betts Marvin Theatre (800 21st Street, NW). The ceremony will include candidates from Columbian College and Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, the School of Business and Public Management, the School of Education and Human Development and the School of Engineering and Applied Science. Candidates will receive their doctoral hoods during the ceremony. A reception will follow.

The May 7 schedule also includes the **Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps commissioning ceremony**, 2 p.m. at Fort Meyer, Virginia. This ceremony is for graduating NROTC students and their guests.

The **Columbian College and Graduate School of Arts and Sciences undergraduate awards ceremony** will take place in the Marvin Center Theatre at 4 p.m. Receptions will follow the presentations.

The **Elliott School of International Affairs** will host its annual **Dean's Skaal** in the GW University Club, Marvin Center third floor at 5 p.m.

The East Hall of Union Station (50 Massachusetts Ave., NE) is the site of **The Distinguished Alumni Achievement Awards dinner** on May 7 at 6 p.m. This annual black-tie event honors outstanding alumni of the University.

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Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award recipients are:

William P. Barr, former attorney general of the United States;

Lydia Simone Bond, renowned expert in prevention of HIV infection in third-world countries;

Pete L. Manos, chairman of Giant Food, one of the largest regional supermarket chains in the United States;

Herbert Weissbach, internationally-acclaimed molecular biologist; and

Rear Admiral Louise C. Wilmot, highest ranking woman in the United States Armed Forces and first female to command a Naval Base;

"A Monumental Celebration at Union Station" honoring graduates follows the Alumni Achievement Awards dinner. The event will be held in the Main Hall of Union Station and will feature live entertainment, desserts and dancing to "ODYSSEY." This celebration is for the entire University community, their family members and guests.

On Sunday, May 8, the GW academic processions will begin on the Ellipse at 9:30 a.m. The Commencement ceremony will begin at 10 a.m. At the conclusion of the program, graduates and their guests are invited to a reception in a football field-size tent on the Ellipse.

Graduation ceremonies for GW's School of Medicine and Health Sciences will take place Friday, May 27, at 11 a.m. at Lisner Auditorium (730 21st Street, NW). The keynote address will be delivered by Dr. Joycelyn Elders, U.S. Surgeon General, who will receive an honorary Doctor of Public Service degree. Robert Petersdorf, President Emeritus of the Association of American Medical Colleges, will receive an honorary Doctor of Science degree.

The GW National Law Center will hold its graduation on Sunday, May 29, at 1:30 p.m. in the Smith Center (600 22nd Street, NW). The keynote speaker will be Joyce Hens Green, United States District Judge for the District of Columbia, who will receive an honorary Doctor of Laws degree. William J. Brennan, Jr., retired Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court, will also be honored during the ceremony with an honorary Doctor of Laws degree.

Members of the media interested in attending GW's Commencement should contact Michael Freedman or Karen Sibert of the GW Office of Public Affairs at (202) 994-6460.

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OFFICE OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

The George Washington University, located four blocks from the White House, was created by an Act of Congress in 1821. Today, GW is the largest higher education institution and the largest non-governmental employer in the nation's capital. The University offers comprehensive programs of undergraduate and graduate liberal arts study as well as degree programs in medicine, law, engineering, education, business/public management, and international affairs.

Each year GW enrolls a diverse population of approximately 19,000 undergraduate, graduate, and professional students from all 50 states and all over the world--including more than 2,700 international students representing some 99 countries. The 50 percent male, 50 percent female student body consists of 21 percent minority group members. This year, graduate and professional school enrollment totaled 10,091 students; undergraduate enrollment was 6,201; and non-degree student enrollment was 2,308.

The George Washington University comprises eight divisions:

The Columbian College and Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
The School of Medicine and Health Sciences
The National Law Center
The School of Engineering and Applied Science
The School of Education and Human Development
The School of Business and Public Management
The Elliott School of International Affairs
The Division of Continuing Education

Faculty in these divisions numbers 1,281. Faculty and students are served by three main libraries on campus--The Gelman Library, the Burns Law Library and the Himmelfarb Medical Library.

GW's more than 110,000 alumni reside all around the world. Among the most distinguished of them are HUD Secretary Henry Cisneros, EMILY's List founder/president Ellen Malcolm, Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman General John Shalikashvili, and former First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis.

GW is a private, nonsectarian, coeducational institution accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Universities. It has an endowment of approximately \$350 million.