



GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

Associate Vice President for Student Affairs

June 1, 2010

Adam Kissel

Director, Individual Rights Defense Program
Foundation for Individual Rights in Education
601 Walnut Street Suite 510
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Dear Mr. Kissel,

I am responding to your recent letter to Georgetown University's President DeGiaci. In my role as Associate Vice President for Student Affairs, I am responsible for student groups with access to benefits. In that context, Dr. DeGiaci asked me to address the concerns raised in your letter regarding the University's Access to Benefits Policy.

We have reviewed the issues that you raised in your letter. As a Catholic and Jesuit institution, our identity as a Catholic and Jesuit institution informs our policies and practices.

Under Georgetown's Speech and Expression Policy, students are afforded the right to engage in the robust expression of ideas and express points of view on the widest range of public and private concerns. As a Catholic and Jesuit institution, however, Georgetown cannot provide access to benefits for groups whose stated purpose conflicts with Catholic moral teaching. This is clearly stated in Georgetown's Access to Benefits Policy, and for that reason, it is not possible to access university benefits.

Thank you for your interest.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Lord, J.D., Ed. D.
Associate Vice President, Student Affairs