



GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

Office of the President

November 16, 2011

Ms. Wanda Urbanska
Director
Jan Karski U.S. Centennial Campaign
P.O. Box 6161
Raleigh, NC 27628-6161

Dear Ms. Urbanska:

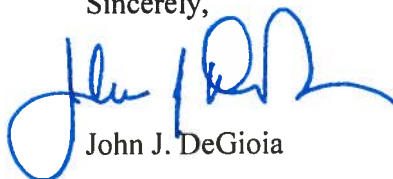
On behalf of the entire Georgetown community, I would like to congratulate you for the outstanding initiative in which you and your steering committee are engaged. We at Georgetown wholeheartedly support and endorse the idea of our distinguished late Professor Jan Karski receiving the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Jan Karski U.S. Centennial Campaign will help bring wider recognition to this remarkable and gifted individual – a man of principle, courage and action – a man who has rightfully gained the appellation: “Humanity’s Hero.”

As you know, Professor Karski was a hero to all of us here at Georgetown: students, faculty and staff. During his years here – which spanned nearly five decades, first as a graduate student in the early 1950s and later as a professor in the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service – Professor Karski stood as a beacon to everyone who crossed his path. His courageous mission during World War II of informing the Allies about the Holocaust and conditions on the ground in Poland inspired those who studied with him and continues to speak to new generations of students – even those who never met him.

An example is Loghman Fattahi, the speaker at Georgetown’s School of Foreign Service Senior Convocation this year, who chose to center his remarks on the testimony of Professor Karski. Loghman’s own family came to America after suffering persecution in Iran for human rights activism. “Jan Karski embodies the compassionate spirit of the men and women of Georgetown University,” Loghman said at Convocation, “a feeling of empathy for strangers affirmed in the crucible of human suffering.”

We appreciate and applaud your work to shine light on Jan Karski. Please keep us apprised about how the campaign is progressing and how we can assist with your efforts. You have my very best wishes.

Sincerely,



John J. DeGioia