

May 16, 2012

President John J. DeGioia
Office of the President
204 Healy Hall
37th & O Streets, NW
Washington, DC 20057

Dean Edward Montgomery
Georgetown Public Policy Institute
Old North Building
37th & O Streets, NW
Washington, DC 20057

Dear President DeGioia and Dean Montgomery,

We, the students of the Georgetown Public Policy Institute who chose Secretary Kathleen Sebelius to speak at our Tropaia ceremony, wanted to make clear the intentions we had in selecting her to speak.

Secretary Sebelius was chosen through a process devoid of political considerations or partisan ideology. As students, we have learned that policy making is about more than just positions on issues. There are important lessons to be learned about leadership and the process of making and implementing policy, regardless of the positions that individual policy makers hold. Many of our students may disagree with some of the speakers who come to Georgetown, but we all feel lucky to attend a university where we hear directly from top leaders in our field of studies.

Secretary Sebelius has spent her career in public service, making her an ideal speaker for this important occasion marking the end of our time at the Georgetown Public Policy Institute. She has experience implementing major public policy initiatives, from her time as governor of Kansas to her role as Secretary of Health and Human Services. She also oversees one of the largest government programs and budgets, which is an important aspect of governing that interests most policy students. We invited her in this spirit and expect that her remarks will not be a political statement, but will reflect the experiences she has had throughout her life in public service.

We thank you for the opportunity to attend a university that exposes us to top leaders and officials in our country and throughout the world. They have important lessons in leadership and governing to share, regardless of their positions on specific issues. We have enjoyed our time at the Georgetown Public Policy Institute immensely and are looking forward to taking what we have learned here and proudly representing Georgetown in our chosen policy fields.

Hoya Saxa,
Julia Druhan
Tropaia Chair- 2012

Co-signed by the following Georgetown Public Policy Institute students:

Adina Appelbaum
Althea Arnold
Lauren Barth
Scott Baumgartner
Gergory Berger
Matthew Brault
Cynthia Brenner
Michelle Brown
Brielle Bryan
Josh Caplan
April Carter-Chau
Mirlinda Caton
Charlie Chaplin
William Chen
Laura Cordero
Stephen Cottle
Charles Covell
Joseph Cox
Kimberly Dancy
Colin Deffet
Caitlin Delaney
Kevin Dieterle
Molly Dillon
Matthew Doyle
Luca Etter
Adam Fernandes
Latosha Floyd
Amanda Gant
Andrew Gerard
Christina Golubski
Hal Gordon
Dan Grant
Daniel Gregory
Janelle Gren DiLuccia
Lindsey Grumbo
Vanessa Harbin
Jennifer Hardy
Jaclyn Harris
Nicole Herman
Jennie Herriot Hatfield
Christopher Hildebrand

Thomas Holloran
Amanda Huffman
Traci Johnson
Kristen Johnson
Robert Johnson
Maria Joy
Alexander Karjerker
Elizabeth Keating
Aruna Maya Khan
Christopher Klein
Andrew Knudsen
Kelsey Kurth
Cassandra Lovejoy
Jacklyn Lussier
Anna Markowitz
John Marotta
Christopher McCall
Kevin McGrath
Eileen McKeown
Patrick Murray
Rebecca Nellis
Itai Nixon
Sarah Nixon
Samual Norton
Eduardo Nunes
Osondu Felix Obi
Courtney O'Brien
Erica Ogoe
Amy Olson
Kristina Pecorelli
Kim Peyser
Matt Rogers
Adam Robbins
Nikita Salgaonkar
Douglas Saunders
Galen Savidge-Wilkins
Michele Scarbrough
Chris Schreck
Nikhil Sharma
Malina Silva
Jim Steiner
Kathryn Steingraber
Hannah Stevenson
Leigh Szubrowski
Gaurav Tanwar
Isabel Taylor

Rachel Thomas
Erin Thompson
Chand Tulai Mazumdar
Rose Tintera
Lauren Wilson
Robert Wood