

EXHIBIT A

About The George Washington University

George Washington was determined to have a great national university in the nation's capital. His hope was that students from all parts of the country would gain a first-hand knowledge of the practice as well as the theory of republican government while being instructed in the arts and sciences. He bequeathed 50 shares of The Potomac Company "towards the endowment of a University to be established within the limits of the District of Columbia, under the auspices of the General Government, if that government should incline to extend a fostering hand towards it." Despite Washington's intentions, The Potomac Company folded and Congress never extended a "fostering hand," so the University did not take shape until a group of Baptist clergymen led by Reverend Luther Rice took up the cause. They raised funds for the purchase of a site and petitioned Congress for a charter. Congress insisted on giving the institution a nonsectarian charter stating "That persons of every religious denomination shall be capable of being elected Trustees; nor shall any person, either as President, Professor, Tutor, or pupil, be refused admittance into said College, or denied any of the privileges, immunities, or advantages thereof, for or on account of his sentiments in matters of religion."

Columbian College, as it was originally named, took up residence on College Hill, a 46-acre tract between the present 14th and 15th Streets extending from Florida Avenue to Columbia Road. The name of the institution was changed in 1873 to Columbian University and in 1904 to The George Washington University.

By 1918, the University had moved to the Foggy Bottom neighborhood— between 19th and 24th Streets, south of Pennsylvania Avenue—in the heart of Washington, D.C. The more than 100 buildings are situated on 43 acres bordered by the White House, the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the State Department, and the World Bank, as well as numerous federal agencies, national galleries, and museums.

GW's Virginia Campus, initiated for graduate studies, research projects, and professional development programs, is located along the high-tech corridor on Route 7, just to the west of Route 28, in Loudoun County.

In 1999, GW established The George Washington University at Mount Vernon College. The campus, which was home to Mount Vernon Seminary prior to Mount Vernon College, is located at 2100 Foxhall Road in Northwest Washington, DC adjacent to the Foxhall and Palisades neighborhoods. Today, the 23-acre campus is a fully integrated co-educational "Academic Village" that is a complement to GW's Foggy Bottom Campus. The Mount Vernon Campus offers a unique living and learning community that combines the resources of a major international research university with the benefits of a campus that is smaller yet easily accessible to downtown DC and all that the nation's capital has to offer.

Currently, the University's enrollments worldwide total more than 25,000, of which 10,300 are undergraduates, about 14,000 are graduate and professional students, and some 800 are nondegree students. The students come from all 50 states and about 125 different countries.