FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Francis-Olvera Administration would like to take the time to highlight and congratulate the members of the Community Scholars Program (CSP). This program has been in operation for over 50 years and has provided first-generation and low-income students the knowledge and resources to help them successfully navigate their time at Georgetown. During the five week program, Community Scholars are able to take classes and learn about the different resources that Georgetown has to offer. Most important of all, CSP offers a community of faculty, staff, and students that helps the Community Scholars acclimate to Georgetown’s unique social atmosphere. Despite being predominantly low-income, first-generation students, Community Scholars boast impressive retention and graduation rates compared to the national average. These students in particular come from a range of identities and backgrounds, but are united under a common narrative that they overcame tremendous obstacles in order to get to Georgetown. For this reason they are referred to as the "Spirit of Georgetown".

As this year’s program comes to an end, we want to commend the scholars on a productive and successful summer. It is not easy to sacrifice the summer after high school graduation, and we are so grateful to have had you on the Hilltop. GUSA wants to extend our arms and offer continuous support as the scholars navigate their time at Georgetown.

To the scholars, the obstacles that you have faced will not go away once you return, but we want to make it known that you and your experiences, identities, and character are what make Georgetown special. We want to encourage you to allow Georgetown to become your second home with the understanding that we are behind you every step of the way. You deserve to be here and should be proud of everything you have accomplished.

We stand with our Community Scholars both past and present and are determined to make sure that they, and all students, forever feel welcomed and at home on the Hilltop.

In solidarity,

President, Norman Francis Jr.
Vice President, Aleida Olvera (2016 Community Scholar)

Georgetown University Student Association