Mr. David R. Smedley
Associate Director
Compliance and Training
The George Washington University
800 21st Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20052

MAY 17 2011

Dear Mr. Smedley:

This is in response to your letter, dated May 2, 2011, in which you ask about the applicability of the consent provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) to guidance contained in the *Federal Student Financial Aid Handbook*. Because the Department's Federal Student Aid (FSA) issued the guidance to which you refer, I have asked the following official in FSA to respond to your question:

Mr. Philip B. Aaronson
Operations Services
Federal Student Aid
U. S. Department of Education
830 First Street, N.E.
Suite 44G2
Washington, D.C. 20202

We work very closely with (b)(6) on FSA issues as they relate to FERPA, and he will coordinate with us on any FERPA issues in his response.

Sincerely,

Ellen Campbell
Acting Director
Family Policy Compliance Office

cc: Mr. Philip B. Aaronson
FSA