January 12, 2010

Dear SEAHO Award Selection Committee,

It is my honor to nominate Ms. Nadia Camille Roberts for the 2010 James C. Grim Outstanding New Professional Award, presented by the Southeastern Association of Housing Officers (SEAHO).

I was originally hired by the Department of University Housing (the Department), at the University of Georgia, (UGA) in 2008 to serve as an owner’s representative to the general contractor and architect in the construction of four fraternity houses, within a *Greek Park*, at UGA. Near completion of that project, the Department extended my contract to oversee construction of the New Residence Hall at East Campus, for the facilities and maintenance divisions of the Department. Since accepting my role in working with the New Residence Hall at East Campus (UGA Building 1516), I have worked closely with Nadia, as she will be the Residence Hall Director of Building 1516. As the future Hall Director, and among her other current responsibilities with the Department, Nadia works with me to oversee the construction and design of the New Hall from a Residence Life perspective. Nadia also serves with me in leading our Department’s New Hall Planning Team which is charged with ensuring a smooth, seamless transition from construction to opening; this team coordinates all owner responsibilities for opening Building 1516, from discussing gender breakdown of building residents to selecting and ordering 100% of the furniture to be installed upon move-in.

Since the first day of our work together, Nadia has taken an interest in the construction project and has proven to be a valuable resource in ensuring that various design elements (from data outlet locations to the layout of the main administrative office spaces) are the most preferred and will not only provide a comfortable and enjoyable experience for the future residents/customers but will also support the Department’s mission of providing *comfortable, affordable and secure on-campus housing options in residential communities where the academic success and personal growth of residents are encouraged and supported*. While tracking the construction project and regularly attending meetings with the general contractor and architects, Nadia has maintained a consistent focus on her future duties as Director of the New Residence Hall and the work that she will conduct in service to the students of the University of Georgia. With no previous construction experience, Nadia strives to understand the factors involved in each decision, and she considers the effect(s) of each decision on the future University customers that will live in Building 1516.

One of the attributes that I have noticed in working with Nadia is her ability to balance the various work responsibilities with which she is charged. Working within the Residence Life Division of our Department, Nadia has duties in addition to oversight of design and construction of the New Residence Hall and leadership within the Department’s internal planning group. In working with her on the project, I have been able to observe Nadia’s commitment to the Department as well as her attention to the various other responsibilities of her job.

The James C. Grim Outstanding New Professional Award is given based on the following: *This award is presented to a new professional in Housing/Residence Life who is within his/her first three years of professional-level employment and has demonstrated outstanding performance to his/her campus and profession, therefore demonstrating potential for a successful and effective career in housing.* Nadia Roberts’ dedication thus far, to serve the Residence Life Division of the Department of University Housing at the University of Georgia, in managing the implementation of Building 1516 into our facility complement qualifies her to receive this honor.

Thank you for your time and consideration of Nadia Camille Roberts.

Sincerely,

John Jones

Project Superintendent

Division of Student Affairs

Department of University Housing

The University of Georgia

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