



SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY

August 6, 2008

Chris Myers Asch
U.S. Public Service Academy
1225 I Street NW, Suite 600
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Dr. Asch,

As Chancellor and President of Syracuse University, an institution driven by our vision of *Scholarship in Action* that considers public engagement an integral component of scholarly excellence, it is with great pleasure that I offer my endorsement and support for the United States Public Service Academy.

I firmly believe that a national public service academy that provides hands-on leadership training for the nation's brightest, service-minded students will become an important training ground for the next generation of skilled, talented, public service professionals. These students will graduate equipped with the means to explore creative and innovative ways to serve our nation on the local, national and global level as we face the challenges posed to us in the 21st century.

Across our nation, institutions of higher learning recognize the need to integrate classroom learning with real-world problem solving. Many of us groom our students to become the best in their fields while also contributing to their communities through public engagement. Establishing the U.S. Public Service Academy will greatly enhance this growing movement to educate and nurture the next generation of public leaders.

I applaud the U.S. Public Service Academy's goal of providing tuition-free education like our US military academies. Without the deterrent of paying back expensive student loans, more talented graduating service-minded students will be able to pursue careers in public service. Thus, absent the burden of student loans, more high school graduates will choose lifelong public careers.

In light of the many benefits that will result from having a steady pool of well-trained, intelligent, enthusiastic public servants, I urge Congress to pass the U.S. Public Service Academy Act (S. 960 and H.R. 1671) to create this unique institution that will undoubtedly strengthen our nation in this rapidly changing, technology-driven, interconnected world.

Cordially,

Nancy Cantor

CHANCELLOR AND PRESIDENT