FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
November 18, 2011

CONTACT: Emily Alianello  
98ALIANELLO@CARDINALMAIL.CUA.EDU

Graduate Student Association Offers Opportunities to Serve Local Community for the Holidays

Washington, DC – James Lewis, president of CUA’s Graduate Student Association, has created an Ad-Hoc Committee on Philanthropy. The committee’s formation was unanimously approved by the GSA Senate, and it corresponds to CUA’s 125th Anniversary, which is being celebrated in part through the contribution of 125,000 hours of service by the members of the university community. The Committee on Philanthropy has announced its first two projects, which coincide with the winter holiday season.

“Given the University’s emphasis this year on service and philanthropy, I thought it was appropriate to direct the philanthropic efforts of the GSA in a more concerted way,” Lewis said.

The first project is an on-going Winter Apparel Drive, running from today until Friday, December 16 2011. Students are asked to donate their gently used coats, hats, gloves, scarves and other winter outwear. Collected items will be donated to Bread for the City, an Arlington non-profit working with the homeless and other needy members of the community, and distributed where they are most needed. Items should be dropped off at Campus Ministry.

The second event, to be held on Saturday, December 10, 2011, is a trip to the Armed Forces Retirement Center to sing Christmas carols and visit the seniors there. The GSA will join others from CUA for this morning event, bringing Christmas cheer to honored members of the community. Those interested in caroling are asked to RSVP to gsa.outreach@gmail.com, so we can ensure adequate transportation to the Center. The event will begin at 9 am at the Pryz with time for fellowship and refreshments prior to departing for the Center.

Lewis will co-chair the committee, along with Rodney Still, Jr., who is a member of the Senate representing the Business and Economics Department. The remaining committee members are Allie Dryden, a member of the Senate and representing the National Catholic School of Social Service, Ashton Kunkle, a student in the Politics Department, and Daniel Petri, a member of the Senate representing the Politics Department. The committee represents the efforts of CUA graduate students to engage in service to our greater community in DC, Maryland and Virginia, serving alongside the other members of the University community.

The Graduate Student Association is a student-run organization dedicated to serving the graduate student community at the Catholic University of America through academic, cultural and professional enrichment. The GSA provides a voice for graduate students at all levels of the University and offers events and forums to build the graduate student community.

For more information on the GSA, please visit http://gradstudents.cua.edu.

###