

Dear:

As you may have heard, we lost my husband and your former professor Rafel Lucea this July to glioblastoma multiforme (GBM) brain cancer, an illness he fought for more than two years. During that time, he never failed in his commitment to his family or his work. In fact, even as his health was declining at the end, he maintained a fervent desire to get in front of the class once again.

Rafel's death is a tremendous loss for all of us, including the GW School of Business community. He was a widely respected scholar who pushed the boundaries of current research, a creative and energetic teacher who passionately encouraged his students to expand their world views, and an ardent supporter of GWSB students and alumni. His impact was, quite literally, global.

When the GWSB alumni office contacted me to discuss options for a memorial to honor Rafel, I was overwhelmed by the generosity of this idea. We talked over several different options, including whether we should focus on a memorial dedicated to brain cancer research or something else. I felt strongly that, while cancer is what ultimately took his life, it wasn't by any means what defined his life.

What defined my husband, instead, was the passion and commitment he brought to both his family and his work. And one aspect of his work he was particularly fond of was the GWSB's Global MBA Consulting Abroad Program (CAP), which provides Global MBA students the opportunity to work on a professional consultancy project abroad. Rafel loved this program, and he poured himself into each session that he led.

Participation in this program is not cheap. The airfare is an out-of-pocket expense for students, which makes it challenging for some to take advantage of a potentially life-changing experience. A memorial scholarship to mitigate this cost would be perfectly aligned with who Rafel was and what he believed.

So, in conjunction with the great GW community, the School of Business, and our family, we have established the Rafel Lucea Global Experiential Fund to continue his work on international business education. Our aim is to raise a minimum of \$50,000 to ensure an enduring scholarship.

You can help us get closer to achieving our goal. [Please consider making a gift to the fund online.](#)

Together, we can honor Rafel's memory and provide GWSB students the best possible global experiences. We hope to do our part to bring some of the brightest and most globally minded young professionals to the world of business-for years to come.

Thank you, and best wishes to you and yours.

Sincerely,

Marguerite B. Lucea