

UNIVERSITY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

WINTER/SPRING 2011

THE FLAME

ALUMNI MAGAZINE



160 YEARS OF ALUMNI SUCCESS



UNIVERSITY OF THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
1851
Celebrating 160 Years of Scholarship & Achievement

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



2011 marks the University of the District of Columbia's 160th anniversary, and it falls at a time of positive transformation for the University. In recognition of this important milestone, we have planned an exciting, yearlong celebration that kicked off with a very successful gala in January and will be followed by lectures, seminars and a host of special events! I invite all alumni, especially those of our predecessor institutions, to join us in celebrating our illustrious history.

When you visit your alma mater, you will quickly see that we are doing some amazing things on our campus. From green roofs to appealing green campus spaces with energy-efficient, recycled water falls, we are creating an inviting atmosphere and transforming the campus from the ground up. A special project currently underway is the renovation of our plaza, soon to be renamed Founders' Commons. This campus beautification project further demonstrates our sustainability commitment and will create a more welcoming environment for University and community gatherings.

These are only a few examples of the many things to be proud of this year! Notably regarding academics, our business school will celebrate its 40th year, and the David A. Clarke School of Law continues to enjoy national rankings for diversity and its focus on civic law. Further, I am happy to report that our Community College is thriving. After its first year of operation, the Community College has moved its central location to a brand new, state-of-the-art facility at 801 N. Capitol St. NE, just two blocks from Union Station. The Community College has also expanded operations in the former Bertie Backus Middle School site on South Dakota

Avenue NE, where our renowned and growing nursing program will reside. Additionally, we plan to develop the Backus site as a School of Allied Health serving both the University and the Community College.

With these and other program developments, we are committed to bringing our students the best possible college experience, including the opportunity to live on campus. In partnership with a local property management firm, we are now housing nearly 100 students across the street from the University's main campus this semester. Additionally, our campus master plan includes plans to build residence halls directly on the Van Ness campus with an expected completion date of 2013.

In sports, look for the Firebirds to continue their climb upward and for the University to consistently offer our student athletes a great competitive experience. We look forward to exceptional performances from our existing teams this season with much more to come in the future as we add lacrosse, women's crew and men's football programs.

The Firebird is rising here at UDC. As the only public university in the District, and the only urban land-grant university in America, we have a unique mission and responsibility.

Please visit our website, www.udc.edu, to discover everything we're doing and ways in which you can reconnect with us during our 160th anniversary and continued celebration of scholarship and achievement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Allen L. Sessoms". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

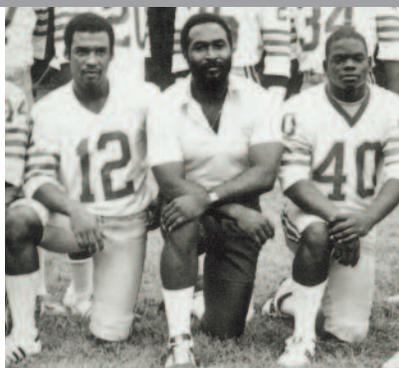
Allen L. Sessoms



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FIRST ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY ACTION SUMMIT

On April 16, the University of the District of Columbia’s College of Agriculture, Urban Sustainability and Environmental Sciences (CAUSES) and the David A. Clarke School of Law presented the first annual International Urban Sustainability Action Summit.

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KICKOFF GALA A RESOUNDING SUCCESS

In January, we kicked off our milestone anniversary in grand style at the Mellon Auditorium, where members of the university community mingled with the District leaders in government, law, business and philanthropy.

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ALUMNI PROFILES

Our alumni are accomplishing some amazing things! Here, we have showcased just a few of their stories.

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BUILDING A LEGACY

Lucy Lumpkins Johnson, whom Herron said “was a scholar,” started a family tradition when she completed her studies at Miner Normal School in 1906.

The University of the District of Columbia is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, 3624 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104. (267.284.5000) The Middle States Commission on Higher Education is an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY POLICY: The University of the District of Columbia provides equal opportunity to all persons regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, personal appearance, sexual orientation, family responsibilities, matriculation, physical disability, political affiliation, source of income or place of residence, in accordance with the provisions of the DC Human Rights Act of 1977 (DC Law 2-38). ©2011 University of the District of Columbia 5/11



Greetings, friends!

What an exciting time to join the University of the District of Columbia. With major capital improvements, 160th anniversary activities and many other initiatives under way, I am thrilled to have the opportunity to join the administration and contribute to the legacy of this fine institution.

As associate vice president for institutional advancement, I will be working hard to build a more robust infrastructure that can help secure the resources needed to move the University forward. This includes strengthening the Foundation Board of Directors, centralizing advancement operations and enhancing alumni relations. Additionally, in conjunction with our Communications and Public Relations Office, we will continue to actively promote the University and Community College regionally and nationally. As we do this, I am especially excited about the prospect of exploring ways in which we can better engage you, our alumni, through events, programs and our 160th anniversary celebration.

In 2011 we have a welcome opportunity to call attention to the founding and history of the University of the District of Columbia, as we trace the lines of continuity from our predecessor institutions. Rightfully, we will take time over the ensuing months to celebrate this 160-year milestone of scholarship and achievement. Whether you are an alumnus or alumna of a predecessor institution or have loved ones whose families can trace their roots to the Normal School established by Myrtila Miner in 1851, this year gives us all special cause for celebration. The unique character and history of each of our founding institutions weave a rich and storied past on which we now build.

I look forward to connecting with many of you as I move forward on this new and important agenda. Please bookmark our website, www.udc.edu, and visit frequently to stay up-to-date on what's happening on campus. I also ask you to help us reconnect all alumni who have not been involved in recent years so that, together, we can further build and strengthen this great institution.

I look forward to meeting and getting to know you during our celebration and beyond. Thank you for your dedication to UDC.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John T. Butler". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

John T. Butler

Associate Vice President for Institutional Advancement

FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR JOINS JUSTICE PROGRAM

The Administration of Justice Program in the fall welcomed Officer Tola Munro of the Gwent Police Department in Wales, United Kingdom, to the faculty as a Fulbright Scholar. His research interest is in the area of domestic violence. As a Fulbright Police Research Scholar, he will investigate intervention programs for male perpetrators of domestic abuse and compare responses of municipal police departments to domestic violence with those in the UK. Additionally, he will serve as guest lecturer in the Dynamics of Domestic Violence course taught by Dr. Margaret A. Moore and will collaborate with her and a number of community partners to convene a community-based learning and research forum. The forum will examine law enforcement response to domestic violence from a national and international perspective. During his

stay, he will also be affiliated with the Montgomery County (MD) Police Department.

Munro studied at Leicester Polytechnic (now De Montford University), where he earned a BS in engineering technology and a master's degree in manufacturing. He joined the Gwent Police force in 2006 and currently works as a dedicated neighborhood constable for Bargoed in the Rhymney Valley. He is a trained domestic abuse liaison officer.

The Fulbright Commission exists to advance knowledge and scholarship between scholars throughout the world and to bring new perspectives to the full spectrum of academic disciplines, including law enforcement and other applied fields.



LIVE TO GIVE GRANT TO SUPPORT CIVIC PROGRAMS



Shown from left: UDC President Allen L. Sessoms with Live to Give's Heather Burns and Kathleen Maloy.

The Live to Give Foundation, a local grant-making organization, made a generous, private donation of \$160,000 to underwrite the planning year of a five-year, civic-minded initiative. The initiative is designed to instill a campus-wide culture of service to promote equity, civic responsibility and community leadership—all elements that support the University's land-grant mission. A core team of two faculty members and two graduate assistants along with University administrators and other interested members of the UDC community will spearhead the planning process.

SESSOMS ANNOUNCES UNIVERSITY SUSTAINABILITY TASK FORCE



As an integral part of the University's new strategic plan, UDC has committed to improving sustainability in the design and operation of our campus facilities as well as in our educational offerings. As a public-serving institution of higher education, it is our responsibility to reduce our impact on the environment while educating students to become lifelong stewards of the global sustainability movement.

In August 2010, the University kicked off its Sustainability Initiative. The US Environmental Protection Agency defines sustainability as "policies and strategies that meet society's present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

For UDC, the Sustainability Initiative will expand and enhance academic offerings to prepare students for some of the greatest environmentally related challenges of our time: climate change, global urbanization, natural resource scarcity and energy demand. Physical improvements over the next several years include the renovation of the Dennard Plaza into a public green space, the installation of green roofs on our buildings and the development of the campus plan for the 21st century. With the new College of Urban Agriculture, Sustainability and Environmental Sciences, sustainability will take center stage as new courses, internships and service learning opportunities are being developed.

The goal is for UDC to serve as a sustainability leader among institutions of higher education and as a national model for urban sustainability in both campus operations and educational offerings. To that end, in September, Dr. Sessoms announced the formation of the University Sustainability Task Force, which is charged with developing a long-term strategic vision on sustainability for UDC.

Over the next several months, this group will meet to identify challenges and evaluate opportunities for implementing UDC's sustainability program. The task force will also assist, on an ad-hoc basis, with implementing short-term sustainability projects when possible.

This framework will provide general recommendations and outline potential actions to be taken in the coming years in the following areas:

BUILDINGS | CURRICULUM | GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS | DEVELOPMENT
ENERGY | EXTENSION AND OUTREACH | INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
INNOVATION | PARTNERSHIPS | PROCUREMENT | RESEARCH | SERVICE LEARNING
STUDENT LIFE | TRANSPORTATION | WATER | WASTE AND RECYCLING

FOOD, SOVEREIGNTY, SECURITY AND JUSTICE



Nora



On April 16, the University of the District of Columbia's College of Agriculture, Urban Sustainability and Environmental Sciences (CAUSES) and the David A. Clarke School of Law presented the first annual International Urban Sustainability Action Summit. The event featured 2008 MacArthur Fellow and green innovator Will Allen. Allen is the founder of Growing Power, an organization that transforms communities by supporting people from diverse backgrounds and the environments in which they live through the development of community food systems.

With a growing concern about food deserts, sustainability in the urban environment and equal access to healthy choices, the University is the ideal setting for thoughtful discourse on the current urban condition and cutting-edge best practices. This gathering of experts, scholars, professionals, organizational leaders and members of the community was a beneficial forum for exchanging information and ideas about fair and equal access to healthy food options in the urban environment.

Urban sustainability is of paramount interest at the University. Find out more about UDC's CAUSES at www.udc.edu/CAUSES and learn more about the University's sustainability initiative at www.udc.edu/sustainability.

WINTER COMMENCEMENT: THE SHOW MUST GO ON

Neither snow nor school closures nor upended scheduling could keep the winter 2011 graduates, ages 21 to 64, from their day in the sun. On Friday, Jan. 28, the second annual Winter Commencement went off without a hitch as speakers (President Sessoms, board chair Joseph L. Askew Jr., board member Dr. Kendrick E. Curry, UDCNAS president Michael Woodard and deans) welcomed the newest alums and congratulated them on their achievements. One hundred twenty of the 216 eligible men and women walked

across the stage in a celebration that included musical selections and enthusiastic cheers from a proud and supportive audience. The keynote speaker, Fox 5 weathercaster Gwen Tolbart, spoke from personal experience as she exhorted students to empower, embrace and excel. For the first time ever, a student graduated from the new College of Agriculture, Urban Sustainability and Environmental Sciences (CAUSES), receiving a BS in architecture.

A NEW TAKE ON THE PYRAMIDS



Pictured is a sculpture of the ancient Egyptian god Anubis. His original name is Anpu, god of embalming and safe passage into the afterlife.

As part of the University of the District of Columbia's Black History Month special events, in February, the internationally acclaimed Egyptologist, cosmologist and astronomer Robert Bauval delivered a lecture on the origin and purpose of the pyramids of Egypt. He presented his findings on the pyramids of Giza Plateau to more than 700 rapt listeners in the UDC Auditorium.

Based on decades of study, critical thinking and analysis, Bauval concludes that the origins of Pharonic Egypt are to be found in the interior of Black Africa near the Tabesti mountain range. He lectured to a captivated audience for nearly three hours, showing convincing photographic support for his archeological findings.

This scholar, raconteur and scientist managed to flip conventional ideas in Egyptology on its side with his radical but rational new theory.

During a book signing after the lecture, Bauval answered questions from attendees, many of whom had either travelled to Egypt or were interested in Egyptian antiquity.

Purnell Pinkney '66, Student Affairs Division, and Charles Butler '81 and '90, Learning Resources, arranged the evening of discovery. They plan to build on the event's success by attracting figures from a variety of academic thought to expose the University community to cutting-edge intellectual inquiry.

“AS A GRADUATE OF THE UNIVERSITY, I WAS THRILLED TO SEE UDC SPONSORING SUCH AN EVENT, TRULY ELEVATING THE IMAGE AND PERCEPTION OF THE INSTITUTION.”

– Deborah Collins '07

THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE EXPANDS ITS FOOTPRINT TO 10 SITES

The Community College network of sites is growing. The Community College has new and improved classroom, office and community spaces at convenient satellite locations across Washington, DC.

At 801 N. Capitol St. NE is an exciting new, state-of-the-art center with one-stop student services and community meeting facilities. Just a few blocks from Union Station, the 88,000-square-foot center houses classrooms and lab space, faculty and administrative

offices and offers 16 degree programs and a full array of student services.

The Bertie Backus Middle School site is home to the practical nursing, nursing assistant and home health aide programs and the fashion merchandising, architectural engineering technology and construction management degree programs.

The Excel Institute is the site of the automotive technology degree and certification programs. At Reagan

National Airport are the aviation maintenance technology certification and degree programs, and on the Van Ness campus are the mortuary and medical radiography programs.

The P. R. Harris Education Center, located in Ward 8, is the Workforce Development and Lifelong Learning's (WDLL) lead location, housing administrative and teaching staff, student testing, a computer center and an array of career training programs.



For more information, visit www.ccdc.usdc.edu/locations.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE LOCATIONS:

- 801 N. CAPITOL ST. NE
- EXCEL INSTITUTE
- BERTIE BACKUS
- REAGAN NATIONAL AIRPORT
- UDC VAN NESS CAMPUS

WDLL LOCATIONS:

- CARDOZO HIGH SCHOOL
- FRIENDSHIP PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL
- P. R. HARRIS EDUCATION CENTER
- ROOSEVELT HIGH SCHOOL
- WOODSON AT FLETCHER-JOHNSON

STUDENTS TAKE ON PROSTATE CANCER



Left to right: Albert Dobi (CPDR), Shiv Srivastava (CPDR), Gyorgy Petrovics (CPDR), Habib Kedir (junior in biology and chemistry), Juliet Chijoke (junior in biology), Zainab Afzal (junior in biology and nursing), Deepak Kumar (UDC faculty), Nicola Abdul (sophomore in nursing), Christelle Donfack (junior in biology), David G. McLeod (CPDR), Tadaru Sreenath (CDPR), Ahmed Mohamed (CPDR), Tseday Z. Tegegn (junior in biology)

Five UDC undergraduates spent summer 2010 doing research to improve the prognosis of prostate cancer—the No. 1 non-skin cancer affecting US men, and the No. 2 cancer killer of men. Mentored by researchers at the Center for Prostate Disease Research at the Uniformed Services University Health Sciences campus in Bethesda, MD, the students presented their results at a symposium on Aug. 18, 2010. In some cases, the students’ results represent significant, unanticipated discoveries with potential benefits for the diagnosis or treatment of prostate cancer.

“We are doing this for the cancer patients,” said Dr. Shiv Srivastava (CPDR), co-director of the research program with UDC biology chairperson, Dr. Deepak Kumar. At CPDR, the program was coordinated by Dr. Tadaru Sreenath.

“I learned a lot, a lot, a lot about research,” said junior biology/nursing major Zainab Afzal, a sentiment echoed by the others. The HBCU Summer Undergraduate Training Program in Prostate Cancer Research is funded by a grant from the Department of Defense to Srivastava and Kumar. The students presented their research at major national conferences in the fall.

The UDC students worked on the following topics, using state-of-the-art techniques, including immunofluorescence microscopy, gain and loss of function studies utilizing

adenovirus- and siRNA-based approaches, analyzing signaling proteins by Western Blotting and immunohistochemistry:

- **Zainab Afzal**, junior, biology and nursing major: Shadowing Patients with Prostate Cancer; mentor, Dr. Jane Hudak
- **Habib Kedir**, junior, biology and chemistry major: Urine-Based Prostate Cancer; mentor, Dr. Gyorgy Petrovics
- Diagnostic Assay Development **Juliet Chijioke**, junior, biology major: Regulation of Androgen Receptor Levels through the PMEPA1-NEDD4-1 Feedback Loop; mentor, Dr. Shyh-Han Tan
- **Christelle Donfack**, junior, biology major: Characterization of ERG Protein in Prostate Cancer and other Tumor Cell Lines; mentor, Dr. Ahmed Mohamed
- **Nicola Abdul**, sophomore, nursing major: TMPRSS2-ETS-Related Gene Fusions in Mouse Model for Prostate Cancer; mentor, Dr. Tadaru Sreenath

According to the National Cancer Institute, about 218,000 American men are expected to be diagnosed with prostate cancer in 2010, and prostate cancer will result in 32,000 deaths in 2010. Compared with white men, African-American men have a 60 percent higher incidence of and twice the death rate from prostate cancer.

PLAZA DECK RENOVATION GROUNDBREAKING



On August 5, 2010 President Sessoms and University officials broke ground in the center of the University, heralding the start of the renovation of the Plaza Deck area of the campus of the University of the District of Columbia.



This is one of the projects in the University's current capital project portfolio that will transform the heart of the campus from the bleak sea of colorless pavers into a vibrant and friendly gathering place. The renovation of the Plaza Deck, to be named Founders'



Commons, will create a new, greener area with enhanced lighting and a new water fountain. The new design will also feature an eco-friendly storm water management system to help reduce the runoff entering the city's overburdened storm sewers.

FARMERS' MARKET A FORUM FOR GIVING BACK



Taria Nelson, one of UDC's alums, returned to the University of the District of Columbia last summer, accompanied by participants of her grassroots youth volunteer organization, Come Back to Give Back, to help out at UDC's weekly Farmers' Market on the Van Ness campus.

The young residents sold handmade soaps and provided quality customer service. The seasonal market serves as

an outdoor classroom where local youths can learn about entrepreneurship, professionalism and community service.

A native Washingtonian, Nelson said, "Funds were limited, and UDC gave me more for my money to do what I needed to do to earn a degree in urban studies and an American humanics certificate in nonprofit leadership."

Nelson and her fiancé, Byron Ezell, founded Come Back to Give Back for at-risk youth in Washington, DC. The organization aims to educate, inspire, mentor and provide parental guidance and advocacy for what appears to be an abandoned culture of youth in Washington.

Nelson's own childhood was not easy, making her more determined to go to college. "UDC allowed me to make my own way in the world and discover my talents in order to go back to my community and serve and help to improve the human condition," she said.

The UDC farmers' market is open on Saturdays, 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., May to November.

MOVING FORWARD: A MESSAGE TO THE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

These have been difficult days at the University, and it is regrettable that the recent news coverage has disappointed the UDC family—especially you, our alumni. Worse, it has overshadowed the tremendous accomplishments of our campus community and the strides we have made—and continue to make—as we transform and reinvent this proud Washington institution for generations of students to come.

While many of the details are well known, this is what we are now doing to ensure progress in this area:

Acting with the guidance of the Board of Trustees, we are conducting an audit of travel expenses, which we expect to be completed by the end of March. While the audit is in progress, the University is putting in place policies to ensure that staff trips are fully documented with receipts and travel logs.

We will continue dialogue with students, faculty members, staff and city leaders about the University's budget priorities.

We should clarify one point: The University's travel budget last year was approximately \$800,000. This total includes all travel by approximately 200 staff and faculty members. The president's work-related travel comprised less than 10 percent of this total. Last year, as in most previous years, the University spent less than the amount budgeted for travel. The characterization that these business trips, particularly travel by the president, were "lavish" or "luxurious," is patently false. Travel is required in order to expand the academic mission of the University and to promote and secure resources for it, and it is what every other university does to support itself.

We understand the need to be prudent with university resources and to be sensitive to the concerns of tuition-paying students and the taxpayers of the District of Columbia. Other improvements will continue as we work to ensure that the University remains the "glorious" UDC you know and love.

VITAL FEDERAL FUNDING ON HOLD

A House of Representatives subcommittee last year approved the investment of up to \$10.75 million in new federal funding for the University of the District of Columbia. Most of that money would ensure solid footing for the District's first public community college.

"Our colleagues in Congress know it is critical that the nation's capital be a model for effective, accessible higher education, and this new financial commitment to the University system represents that," said UDC President Allen L. Sessoms.

Among various measures, \$10 million included in the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations bill would fund the continued expansion of the Community

College. That bill would also give \$250,000 to jumpstart the Urban Teacher Residency Academy, giving aspiring teachers opportunities to develop skills to meet the demands of high-poverty, high-need school districts.

Under the Energy and Water Appropriations bill, the University's School of Engineering and Applied Sciences would receive \$500,000 to develop a renewable energy institute.

Continued Congressional action had been expected, however, elections in November that shifted the balance of power in Congress have left all fiscal year 2011 appropriations bills, including these new funding opportunities, unfinished.

NEW HIRES

John T. Butler, a longtime, Washington-area leader in education and resource development, has been named associate vice president for Institutional Advancement at the University of the District of Columbia. Butler most recently served as vice president for University Advancement at Mount St. Mary's University in Emmitsburg, MD, where he successfully led the largest fundraising effort in the university's history—a \$60 million comprehensive campaign—and oversaw a variety of additional and valuable initiatives. He also served as president and CEO of Archbishop Carroll High School in Washington, where he had primary responsibility for institutional advancement as well as fiscal and administrative management.

“Having a seasoned professional like John puts UDC on the development map,” said Dr. Allen L. Sessoms. “His ability to organize and lead effective campaigns will benefit DC's only public university well into the future.”

Butler has done high-level human resources and development consulting across the country and is an active member of several professional organizations, including Leadership Greater Washington, CASE, the Association of Fundraising Professionals, and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts Community Advisory Council.

Patrick Knapp, associate director of athletics for external operations, will focus on development activities, including corporate relationships and the implementation of the Firebird Support Club. Knapp brings 35 years of men's and women's basketball coaching experience, including NCAA Division I head coaching stints at New Mexico State University, Georgetown University and The University of Pennsylvania. “Patrick was a successful coach and fund raiser in previous positions. He possesses a strong work ethic and outstanding ability to develop relationships,” stated Patricia Thomas, the University's athletic director.

Knapp graduated from Widener University with a degree in history. He and his wife Maggie reside in Gaithersburg, MD, and are proud parents of two grown children and have three grandchildren.

Alton McKenzie has been selected to lead the Firebird cross country and track and field programs. McKenzie graduated from Georgetown University with a degree in business administration. A Dean's Citation student athlete, McKenzie was an All-American and served as captain of the 1993 men's track and field team under the leadership of the legendary Frank Gagliano. Among his various credentials, McKenzie has extensive experience managing major track and field events in New York. “Alton McKenzie totally embraced excellence as a student athlete,” said Patricia Thomas. “He is an outstanding addition to our staff,” she added.

Alton and his wife Charlene reside in Silver Spring, MD, and are the proud parents of son Micah and daughter Gabriella.

UDC GETS GOLDEN LINKS AWARD

The Greater Washington Board of Trade on Nov. 23 endowed UDC with its prestigious Golden Links award, given to institutions and individuals who have demonstrated outstanding community leadership and development.

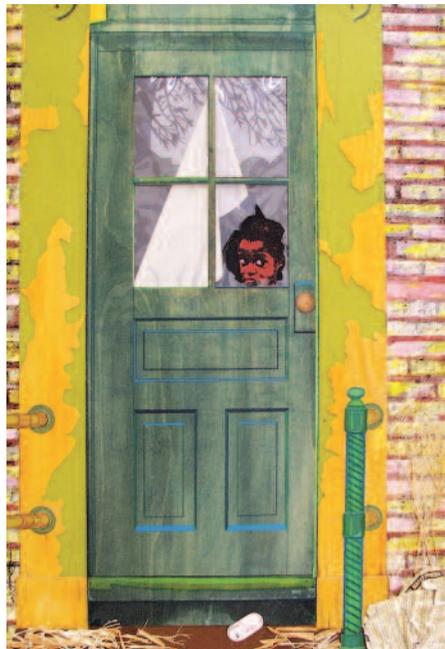
In presenting the award to Dr. Allen L. Sessoms, the organization's president, James W. Dyke Jr., praised the city's only public university for its continued transformation into a “world-class institution of higher learning.” Under the direction of Sessoms, the four-year flagship UDC has given birth to a community college with open admissions and a focus on associate degree and certificate programs and workforce development, has created admission

standards, and has set a tone of success as the University celebrates its 160th year of service.

“Our business partners are recognizing our public university should be at the forefront in the growth and development of this city, the region and the nation,” said Sessoms.

Earlier this year, the DC Chamber of Commerce honored UDC with the Emerging Business of the Year award, which credited Sessoms for establishing a systematic approach to delivering high quality, affordable higher education and embracing a business plan to deliver these services in the most cost-effective way.

ART SPEAKS: BLACK EXHIBITION IS VIBRANT, EXPRESSIVE



Where is my rainbow? by Jaqueline V. Lee, portrays the sadness of an at-risk child hoping for a brighter day and future.

Engrossing and dazzling describe The Black Exhibition, presented by the Black Artists of DC, at The Charles Sumner School Museum and Archives. Despite the double-entendre of the title, referring to both black people and culture and the color black, participating artists offered a profusion of color, texture and gradation in a variety of media. **Jacqueline V. Lee '79** and **Daniel T. Brooking** (who has returned to UDC to further his studies in art) were among the featured artists. The exhibition opened Feb. 11.

Lee designs jewelry and enjoys photography but considers herself a collage/mixed media artist first and foremost, using paper, fabrics, wood, acrylics and found objects in her collages. “My themes vary, but most are statements about people and places I’ve encountered that I share through my work.” She believes art is a means of communicating ideas and telling stories, like the subject in “Where is my rainbow?” Some of Lee’s earlier work can be seen on reruns of *Living Single*, *Cosby* and *A Different World*.

Brooking, a native Washingtonian, is the consummate artist and has participated in the cultural life of DC for many years: in the '70s as the poetry director of DC Black Writers, in the '80s and '90s as the artistic director of Encore Theatre Company of DC, and currently as archivist and curator for DC Black Artists. He is also a member of the Washington Project for the Arts. He often explores new processes to see and express the traditional in a new light. “Artists should *never* limit themselves to a particular genre; learn as much as you can, do as much as you can and never stop,” said Brooking. At 68, he is learning Shibori, an eighth century Japanese art form.



Far left: Black Migration to the Promise Land, by Daniel T. Brooking, represents his family in their South Carolina poverty and their move to the city.



Left: Riot, digital print, by Daniel T. Brooking

BIG-BAND JAZZ IS ALIVE AND CELEBRATED AT UDC

The rousing, finger-snapping sound of big-band jazz is a time-honored tradition at the University of the District of Columbia, especially during Jazz Appreciation Month each April.

On April 25, the traditionally-featured jazz ensembles from UDC, Howard University and the University of Maryland assembled in the University Auditorium for the Calvin Jones Big Band Jazz Festival to celebrate 25 years of world-class jazz at UDC.

Produced by UDC's Jazz Studies Program and the Felix E. Grant Jazz Archives, the festival began in 1987 as part of a citywide tribute to Duke Ellington, and it remains one of the

most anticipated events on Washington, DC's jazz calendar. Rep. John Conyers Jr., a longtime, distinguished advocate of jazz, served as honorary chair for this year's festival.

The Felix E. Grant Jazz Archives at 4200 Connecticut Ave. NW in Washington is a non-circulating collection of recordings, books and archives that may be consulted on site and online at www.jazzarchives.org for reference or academic research.

For information on upcoming JAZZAlive events at UDC, visit www.udc.edu/jazzalive.



KICKOFF GALA A RESOUNDING SUCCESS



A glittering evening of entertainment, fine food and wine, elegant surroundings and a story so exciting, it has taken 160 years to tell.



Above: Lauren Maillian Bias of Sugarleaf Vineyards, US Congressman James P. Moran (D-Va) and LuAnn Bennett, The Bennett Group

Above: Guests enjoyed gourmet hors d'oeuvres and entrées, lavish desserts, wine from Sugarleaf Vineyards and cocktails, as well as specialty teas and coffee.

Top of page: President Sessoms gives greetings and encourages gala attendees to participate in the 160th year-long celebration.



Woodrow Wilson High School Marching Band greeted guests at the Andrew W. Mellon Auditorium.

In January, we kicked off our milestone anniversary in grand style at the Mellon Auditorium, where members of the university community mingled with the District leaders in government, law, business and philanthropy. The kickoff gala was chaired by Judith F. Terra, co-chaired by Virginia E. Hayes Williams and emceed by Maureen Bunyan, veteran television news broadcaster and primary anchor for ABC7/WJLA-TV. The official wine of the 160th Anniversary Celebration was Sugarleaf Vineyards, the official floral designer was Lee's Flowers & Card Shop and the official chocolatier was GODIVA Chocolatier. The celebration included live performances by the UDC Chorale, The Voices, The UDC Jazztet and selections from the UDC Jazz Ensemble DVD. Speakers included President Allen Sessoms, board chair Joseph L. Askew Jr. and UDC's biggest, most unabashed fan, Mayor Vincent C. Gray. To help tell the story, vignettes anchoring the room imaginatively showcased 160 years of scholarship and achievement as depicted by all the schools and colleges, by alumni and advancement and by athletics. Photos and videos of the event have been posted online. Major kudos to Lee Brian Reba, executive director of corporate relations and special events, for conceiving this evening and bringing it passionately to life. Check www.udc.edu/160 for updates on future anniversary activities.

Below: Councilmember David Catania; Sonia Gutierrez, founder & CEO, Carlos Rosario International Public Charter School; Gloria Wyche-Moore, dean of CAUSES; DC Council Chairman Kwame R. Brown



Left: gala co-chair, Virginia E. Hayes Williams, Mayor Vincent C. Gray and gala chair Judith F. Terra



Left: Alumni vignette showing historical artifacts and a chronological history of UDC's 160 years of excellence in teaching, research and service

Below: Community College vignette detailing regionally beneficial opportunities it provides DC residents and employers



Above: Peggy Cooper Cafritz, Katherine and David Bradley, Mayor Vincent C. Gray

Right: Erik Thompson, senior project manager for Capital Construction; Joseph L. Askew Jr., Esq., the Board of Trustees chairman; Dr. Allen L. Sessoms, UDC president; Barbara Jumper, VP for facilities; Sherry Jones-Quashie, contracting officer for Capital Procurement

Bottom Right: Dr Allen Sessoms, Alan Etter, vice president for University Relations & Public Affairs, Lee Brian Reba, and Maureen Bunyan, ABC7/WJLA-TV

Below: THE VOICES, led by Gerry Gillespie, director, and Tiffeny Williams, student director



CELEBRATING 160 YEARS OF SCHOLARSHIP AND ACHIEVEMENT, 1851–2011

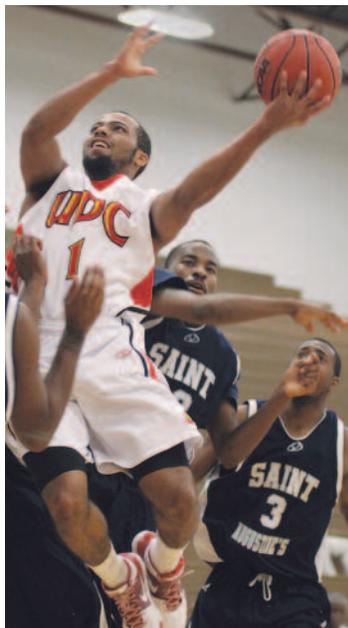
If you have a story, a memory or photo from the last 160 years—or know someone who does—please contact us at 160@udc.edu. For 160th Anniversary sponsorship and donor opportunities, please contact **Lee Brian Reba**, executive director of corporate relations and special events, at **202.274.5561** or lbreba@udc.edu.

Learn more and be among the first to receive UDC's new commemorative coffee table book, *160 Years of Scholarship and Achievement in the Nation's Capital*. See back cover for ordering details.

HERBERT, MUNSON LED MEN'S BASKETBALL IN 2010-11



Nigel Munson, junior guard



Brandon Herbert, junior guard

The men's basketball team ended their season upbeat and excited about what the future promises. Despite the challenges presented by players' injuries, head coach Jeff Ruland isn't disappointed with the season's outcome.

"Overall, the players did what we asked them to do. I think our team played together. I reminded them how far we have come," said Ruland. The team was 1 and 20 in the 2009-10 season. "We are starting from scratch. I asked

them to believe and hang in there, and they did," he said. The Firebirds ended the 2010-11 season with an improved 11-15 overall record.

Junior guard Brandon Herbert (Baltimore, MD) led the team with 517 points in 26 games (19.9 points-per-game average). He also led the team in three-point field goals (71), free throws (78) and steals (35), and had a team-high 906 minutes of play, averaging 34.8 minutes per game.

Junior guard Nigel Munson (Washington, DC), who started in 18 games this year, led the team in assists, making 121 in 18 games played this season, while scoring 332 points and averaged 18.4 points per game. "Nigel could get his shot any time he wanted," said Ruland.

Senior guard Tim Ellison (Alexandria, VA), who was Heritage Sports Radio Network Division II's National Basketball Player of the Week in January, had 805 minutes of play this season in 26 games, averaging 31 minutes per game. In his final home game Feb. 22, the Firebirds defeated Fairmont State University 88-81, and Ellison was honored with a framed jersey for his commitment to the team.

Sophomore forward Dyrek Jones (Brooklyn, NY) was out for part of the season but came back to play in the last four games. He blocked 45 shots in 17 games played this season and averaged six rebounds per game.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IS A TEAM EVENT

In keeping with an annual tradition of volunteerism, the UDC women's basketball team got involved with the Special Olympics of the District of Columbia in October and volunteered to help the Food & Friends program at its downtown center in November.

At the Special Olympics games, the Firebirds teammates refereed games during the basketball tournament, worked the scorer's table, helped serve lunch and participated in

the opening and closing ceremonies. Members of the team felt a sense of accomplishment in volunteering their service to those with special needs.

Junior Jamilia Bonner said, "Being able to help [special-needs children] play a sport was overwhelming for me. As I refereed them, I encouraged healthy, wholesome interaction. They were smart kids, and I was so moved from the experience that it made me want to earn a medal also."

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL IS AHEAD AT SEASON'S END



Above: Jasmine Rich, junior guard

Left: Lillian McGill, senior forward/center

The University of the District of Columbia hosted the 2011 Independent Schools Invitational Women's Basketball Classic Feb. 25 to 27 in the UDC Sports Complex, with six Division II schools participating. The event marked the end of regular season play. With two wins and a loss in the event, they completed the season with a 19–9 record, much improved from last year's 12–13 record.

“Overall we had a successful season. I was pleased with the addition of nine new players and only five returning players,” said coach Jay Butler. “We were still able to be a force in the Atlantic Region. I was really pleased with our defense as well. We were fortunate to finish in the top 10 in the nation in two statistical defensive categories.”

Senior forward/center and team co-captain Lillian McGill (Sumter, SC) has been a force on the team for four years. In the 2010–11 season, she was the leading scorer with

315 points in 25 games, and she led the team in rebounds, with 107 offensive rebounds and 171 defensive rebounds, and in free throws made (61).

Junior guard/forward Jamilia Bonner (Mobile, AL) will be an important player for the Firebirds next season, given her outstanding showing. She scored 292 points in 23 games, averaging a team-high 12.7 points per game.

Junior guard Jasmine Rich (Willingboro, NJ) logged 738 minutes of play and led her team in assists with 148 in 28 games this season. “Jasmine has continued her improvement as our primary floor leader. She ranked in the top 20 in the nation in assists this past season, and I look forward to her having a strong senior campaign,” Butler said.

Junior guard/forward Dohnay Banice (Wilmington, DE) shot 50 percent from the field and made 5.7 points per game while averaging 5.2 rebounds per game. “Dohnay Banice had a very impressive season after being moved into the starting lineup midway through,” said Butler. “Her toughness and her ability to rebound made her a major contributor, and my expectations are high for her as a senior.”

Junior guard Kendra Johnson (Mt. Laurel, NJ) had 80 steals in 26 games played, averaging 3.1 per game. She logged 705 minutes of play this season. Junior forward/center Stacy Griffith (Fredericksburg, VA) had the highest number of blocked shots—16 in 23 games played, averaging 0.7 per game.

The team looks forward to a chance at the NCAA tournament next year.

The team assisted the Food & Friends program by preparing food for those in need, packing bags with groceries and assisting with other activities. Food & Friends is the only organization in the Washington, DC, area providing specialized nutritious meals, groceries, nutrition counseling and friendship to people living with HIV/AIDS, cancer and other life-challenging illnesses.

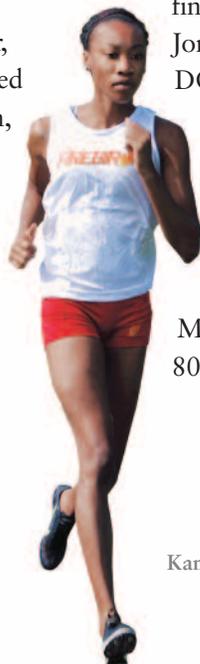
Expressing her feelings about the two programs, junior Stacy Griffith said, “I like the fact that our coaches place emphasis on doing community service. To see those kids [in Special Olympics] playing the games that we play every day was fun. They are serious about the sport they play while facing the challenges that are in front of them. They have motivated me.”

HOLLIS IS STANDOUT ON WOMEN'S XC TEAM

Junior Kaneesha Hollis (Centreville, MD), the women's cross country co-captain, led the team of harriers through the 2010 season, beginning with the Sea Gull Invitational opener in Salisbury, MD, on Sept. 4. The women's course had recently been extended from 5K to a new 6K course. Hollis finished it in 26:10. The team placed eighth overall.

Hollis led the team again on Sept. 11 at the Delaware State University Invitational in Dover, DE. She finished the 5K in eighth place, followed by sophomore Callister Jones (Fort Washington, MD) in 12th, returning senior and co-captain Demia Franklin (Baltimore) in 16th, and freshmen Amber and Ashlee Lindsay (Upper Marlboro, MD) in 31st and 32nd, respectively.

On Sept. 18 the Firebirds competed in the 5K Delaware Invitational at the University of Delaware. Hollis ran it in 23:26.12, finishing 68th. She was closely followed by Jones, in 70th, at 23:34.20. The team placed ninth out of nine teams.



Kaneesha Hollis, junior distance runner

Hollis bettered her time in the 5K Towson State University Invitational in Hunt Valley, MD, on Sept. 25 with a time of 23:02.20. Franklin came in at 24:02.60, followed by Jones at 24:54.80. The team finished in seventh place overall.

The Firebirds turned up the heat Oct. 2 at the 5K HBCU Challenge in Cary, NC, versus Lincoln University. Franklin finished second with a time of 22:27.3, closely followed by Jones in third at 22:41.6. Junior Latoya Allen (Washington, DC) was sixth at 24:52.5 and freshman Aerial Clark was seventh at 25:32.8. Senior Saleena Green (Kingston, Jamaica) came in 10th at 27:17.0. In the end, Lincoln just edged past UDC 27-28.

Hollis improved her 5K time to 22:29.39 at the University of Delaware Blue & Gold Cross-Country Meet on Oct. 16 in Newark, DE. Her time gave her an 80th place finish.

NEW WOMEN'S TRACK COACH OPTIMISTIC



Alton McKenzie, new head coach

The UDC women's indoor track-and-field team has made some good showings at their first few invitational meets this winter, and new head coach Alton McKenzie is optimistic about his team's progression in the 2011 season.

In the Jan. 29 George Mason University Patriot Games in Fairfax, VA, freshman Shauna Kay Creary (Kingston, Jamaica) placed second in the women's high jump at 1.60 meters. Two-time All-American senior Erica Nixon (Bronx, NY) finished fifth overall in the women's 60-meter dash with a time of 7.98 seconds. It was her best 60-meter performance in two years.

McKenzie said, "With us having a late start to the season, I was impressed with the level of competitiveness, based on this being our first meet. I think that will carry over through the outdoor season."

On Feb. 12, the Firebirds secured high-place finishes at the University of Maryland-Eastern Shore Invitational in Princess Anne, MD. Creary led the team in events with a second-place finish in the high jump at 1.57 meters. Freshman Aerial Clark (Kennesaw, GA) had a third-place finish in the shot put event with a distance of 11.90 meters. Senior Dicoda Waugh (Kingston, Jamaica) placed third, out of eight, in the long jump at 4.89 meters and fourth in the triple jump at 10.45 meters.

MUGUN ELEVATES MEN'S XC TEAM

Sophomore harrier Hillary Mugun (Nandi Hills, Kenya) certainly made a great first impression at UDC after transferring in the fall from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, where he earned PSAC Freshman of the Year and All-American. His first season running men's cross country for UDC was marked by multiple first-place finishes in various races from the Sea Gull Opener invitational at Salisbury University to the NCAA Division II Championship.

Mugun had four first-place finishes in races in September alone. He finished at 25:43 in the Sea Gull Opener 8K on Sept. 4. At the Delaware State Invitational 5K in Dover, DE, he finished at 15:32.43 to ease the Firebirds team into second place. The Firebirds won the meet at Bowie State on Sept. 15 with 31 points; Mugun finished the 8K in 25:27. He came in first among Division II runners at the Delaware Invitational at the University of Delaware, finishing the 8K third overall in 25:44.1.

At the HBCU Challenge in Cary, NC, on Oct. 2, Mugun placed sixth in the meet, running a personal best time in the 8K at 25:32.5. Teammates junior Linus Kosgei (Kapsabet, Kenya), sophomore Zephaniah Koech (Nandi Hills, Kenya) and sophomore Peter Rotich (Kapsabet, Kenya) placed

16th, 19th and 24th, respectively, giving the team a fourth-place finish. All four won medals.

Mugun recorded his fifth first-place win at the University of Delaware 2010 Blue & Gold Cross-Country Meet on Oct. 16. Competing against elite runners from 139 NCAA Division I and II schools, Mugun finished in 25:33.58.

"Hillary did an outstanding job once again," said head coach Jasmine Rogers. "He has been training hard, and it showed in his performance. He improved his time by 12 seconds since the last time we ran on that course in September. He dominated the competition, beating all Division I competitors in route to his victory."



Hillary Mugun, sophomore distance runner

On the track, junior Latoya Allen (Washington, DC), senior Saleena Green (Kingston, Jamaica), junior Kaneesha Hollis (Centreville, MD) and sophomore Callister Jones (Ft. Washington, MD) finished the 4x400 meter relay second in their heat at 4:05.03 minutes. Nixon finished fourth and freshman Shemeia Barnes (Forestville, MD) finished sixth in the 60-meter dash finals at 8.07 and 8.18 seconds, respectively. Barnes and Allen competed in the 200-meter run, finishing first and second in their heat at 27.24 seconds and 27.86 seconds, respectively, while sophomore Clarice Melvin (Ft. Washington, MD) finished first in her 200-meter heat at 28.20 seconds. Jones and returning senior Demia Franklin (Baltimore) competed in the 500-meter run, finishing fourth and sixth at 1:21.40 minutes and 1:25.19 minutes, respectively.

Waugh and Nixon made impressive showings Feb. 19 at the Princeton Invitational in Princeton, NJ. Waugh placed

second in the triple jump with a distance of 10.56 meters. Nixon placed fourth in the finals with a time of 8:00 seconds flat. In the 60-meter hurdles she placed 10th, out of 29 competitors, at 9.36 seconds, just missing qualification for finals by a few hundredths of a second. In the shot put, Clark improved her throw to a distance of 12.48 meters for a fifth place finish, out of 17 competitors.



Shemeia Barnes, sophomore sprinter

Latoya Allen, junior sprinter

FIREBIRDS 'SWEEP UP' IN 2010 VOLLEYBALL



Mirella Nunes, junior

The women's volleyball team set the pace with a season-opening sweep of Virginia Union University on Sept. 2. Senior middle hitter Karen Trevino (Anthony, NM) and junior outside hitter Vanessa Garley (Rio Rancho, NM), with 14 kills each, were key players.

The next day, they captured the Livingstone Tournament Championship title in Livingstone, NC, by sweeping both St. Paul's and Livingstone colleges 3-0. Trevino made 19 kills, Garley made 17 kills and sophomore Grace Perilli (Thompson Station, TN) made 16 kills to lead the team to victory.

Head coach Sheila Weaver considered it a milestone. She said, "It is the first time we have won a tournament, and to sweep every team made the victory even sweeter. The Firebirds played with composure, combining excellent passing with precision serving and exceptional defense."

They continued their sweep action on Sept. 7 with a 3-0 win against Catholic University. On Sept. 10 the team suffered its first string of losses during the NOVA Southeastern Shark's Tournament in Ft. Lauderdale, FL.

"Our goal was to expose our players to the top echelon of Division II volleyball and challenge our players to compete on that level. Although not victorious, the Firebirds played hard and received many compliments for their defense and competitiveness on the court, losing several games by less than five points to nationally ranked teams Minnesota-Duluth and Minnesota-Mankato," said coach Weaver.

Coming off the tournament losses, the Firebirds came back with 3-0 sweeps over opponents in their next four games Sept. 14 to 23. On Sept. 25, UDC played in the Washington Bible College tri-match in Lanham, MD. They soundly defeated Washington Bible College 3-0, then defeated Notre Dame College 4-0. The sweeps continued in the next four games Sept. 27 to Oct. 7.

The winning streak was broken by St. Mary's College, who defeated the Firebirds 3-0. Perilli led the Firebirds' effort with six kills, two service aces and three digs.

The team bounced back quickly with wins against the College of Notre Dame and Marywood College at the Notre Dame Gators Tournament Oct. 23 in Baltimore. Trevino made 15 kills and Perilli made 12 kills in the Notre Dame match. The match against Marywood forced a fifth set for a hard-fought 3-2 victory in which Perilli and Trevino were, again, key players with 16 and 17 kills, respectively.

An Oct. 28 win against Bowie State was quickly followed by one tour-



Vanessa Garley, sophomore

namment win and three losses at the St. Mary's College Seahawk Invitational Tournament in St. Mary's, MD, Oct. 29-30. The Firebirds defeated Bridgewater College, then fell to St. Mary's College, Salisbury State University and Virginia Wesleyan University.

The Firebirds ended their regular season, defeating Virginia State 3-1 on Nov. 1 in Petersburg, VA. Trevino closed out her regular season playing career leading the Firebirds to the win with 12 kills, 2 service aces, 12 digs and a .880 career hitting average.

Trevino led the team in total kills (210), kills per set (2.88), total blocks (31) and blocks per set (.42). Junior Mirella Nunes (São Paulo, Brazil) led in serves with 47 service aces (.947 percent). Senior Ashley Jefferson (Manvel, TX) led defense with 173 digs, averaging 2.79 digs per set, and receptions (7), averaging .13 per set.

The UDC women's volleyball team ended their season with a 20-8 overall record.

SOCCER PLAYERS SHEHADEH, ANYABUIKE HONORED DURING SENIOR DAY



Samer Shehadeh,
senior defender/midfielder



Henry Reyes Jr. (13),
freshman defender
Odingas Anyabuikie (12),
senior defender/midfielder

The soccer team honored two of its members on Oct. 23 during a Senior Day pre-match ceremony at the soccer match against the East Stroudsburg University Warriors in Washington, DC. Samer Shehadeh (Falls Church, VA) and Odingas Anyabuikie (Washington, DC) were recognized for their contributions to the team during their playing careers.

Although UDC lost the match 3–0, it did not dampen the team's or spectators' spirits in celebrating an important milestone of these players' careers. UDC head soccer coach Khary Stockton lauded the players with statements citing their contributions, then presented each with a large framed jersey with their uniform number on it.

Shehadeh was senior captain. He maintains a 3.0 cumulative average as a criminal justice major with a concentration in administration of justice. Shehadeh logged more than 4,500 minutes of play during his soccer career representing the Firebirds, mostly patrolling the left side of midfield. He has been one of the few left-sided players on the team. His total

production for the season was 10 goals and one assist. Future goals include law school or working for the justice department.

Anyabuikie is a senior defender/midfielder. He has a cumulative average of 3.2 as an economics major. Anyabuikie is a skillful, athletic player whose skills will be missed. He has been consistent over the course of his career with the Firebirds, where he has logged over 4,000 minutes of play. In 2008, he was voted Defender of the Year by his teammates. Anyabuikie is a committed student who always puts academics first. Goals after graduation include working for the World Bank or International American Development Bank. Anyabuikie resides with his parents in our nation's capital.

The Firebirds closed out their season Oct. 30 losing 2–0 to Davis & Elkins College in West Virginia. While goalkeeper freshman Kyle Heatherington (Collingwood, Ontario, Canada) made six saves that game against the Senators, he faced six shots, five on goal, and allowed two goals. The Firebirds' season ended at 4–13–1, with two wins against Lincoln University, wins against Washington Adventist and George Washington and a 2–2 tie game with West Virginia Wesleyan after a stubborn double-overtime game in the Johnstown Classic in Johnstown, PA.

Leading point scorers during the Firebirds' 2010 season were Adriel Garcia with 16 (from 18 shots on goal), Mario Banegas and Kaine Moar with 11 each (from 10 and 11 shots on goal, respectively), and Desean Ragland and Shehadeh with 10 each (from 15 and 17 shots on goal, respectively).



For the latest on UDC sports news, schedules and results, visit www.UDCFirebirds.com.

UZCATEGUI'S CHAMPIONSHIP WIN SETS TONE FOR MEN'S TENNIS

If an early-fall championship win is a good omen, then the men's tennis team has a lot to look forward to, courtesy of freshman Miquel Uzcategui.

On Sept. 20, Uzcategui won the USTA/ITA East Regional Tennis "B" Singles Championship at Chestnut Hill College in Philadelphia. He defeated Temur Nanikashvilli from Queens College 8-4 in the championship match. He reached the championships after defeating Caio Rodriquez of Post University 8-1 in the opening round of the regionals, Aaron Bergeron of Stonehill College 8-1 in the quarterfinals and, finally, Andrew Waddington of Bentley University 8-0 in the semifinals.

In their season opener Sept. 22, the Firebirds defeated Catholic University in Washington, DC. Freshman Carlos Quiroga (Valencia, Venezuela) decided the outcome with a come-from-behind

win over Cassian Utrie, 2-6, 6-3, 6-1. Uzcategui and sophomore Tomas Gajdusek (Prague, Czech Republic) also won their singles matches. Quiroga/Uzcategui and Gajdusek/senior Lalindra Jayatilleke (Suva, Fiji Islands) won their doubles matches. The Firebirds defeated the Cardinals 5-4.

The Oct. 5 game against Howard University in Washington, DC, had an entirely different result. Howard took the game by storm, winning 6-1. Gajdusek had the sole winning singles match (2-6, 6-3, 10-8) against Omar Haloui.

The Firebirds got back on track with a 7-0 home-game shutout of Chowan University on Oct. 9, led by freshmen doubles partners Quiroga and Uzcategui. They defeated Bjorn Blythe and Scott Van Eck 8-1. Jayatilleke and senior Bernard Karlon (Scarborough, Trinidad) defeated Lamar Williams and

George Zeidan 8-1. In singles play, Gajdusek defeated Blythe 6-0, 6-0. Quiroga defeated Van Eck 6-0, 6-2. Uzcategui defeated Williams 6-0, 6-0. Jayatilleke defeated Zeidan 6-3, 6-1 for the team's win.

The UDC men's tennis team ended the fall season 2-1. Tennis resumed at the end of February.



Miquel Uzcategui, freshman

EDDIE L. MARTIN IS PASSIONATE ABOUT SPORTS AND DEDICATED TO PUBLIC SERVICE



Far left: District Heights, MD, Vice Mayor Eddie L. Martin today

Left: In the early 80s, Assistant Coach Martin (*center, first row*) with some members of the UDC Firebird football team

TENNIS PLAYERS VITKINA AND NUNEZ ARE A WINNING PAIR



Jessica Nunez, freshman



Maria Vitkina, senior

Despite having only won two games this fall, the women's tennis team has a couple of standout players who provide some optimism for the spring. Senior Maria Vitkina (Ekaterinburg, Russia) and freshman Jessica Nunez (Guayaquil, Ecuador) are a winning pair.

Vitkina, a sociology major, has, to date, an impressive 9–1 record in singles matches. Nunez, an electrical engineering

major, sports a very good 8–2 record in singles. Partnered in doubles matches, they hold an 8–2 record and are a force to be reckoned with.

In October, the two women were named to the East Coast Conference 2010 All-Conference First Team. Head coach T. Richard Mahaffey III said, “I am very pleased that Jessica and Maria have been selected to the 2010 ECC Women’s Tennis All-Conference First Team. Both ladies competed at a very high level in both singles and doubles against conference and nonconference opponents during the fall season, and it is an honor that my peers recognized their accomplishments.”

The Firebirds’ two wins were in home games against Cheyney University and Chowan University. On Sept. 14, UDC swept Cheyney 9–0, and Tadaï Abilla and Phantasia Nolan recorded the win that gives their pairing a 1–0 record in doubles. On Oct. 9, UDC defeated Chowan 8–1 by winning all three doubles matches and four singles matches. Chowan forfeited a singles match to UDC for an incomplete lineup and won one singles match.

The UDC women’s tennis team ended their fall season 2–8. Tennis resumed in mid March.

Eddie L. Martin played football for Federal City College (MVP in 1972), was an assistant football coach at UDC and became a running back for the Washington Redskins.

Martin worked in the District of Columbia Public School system for more than 18 years and acted as dean of students on the junior high level during his final four years.

For the past eight years, Martin has served the City of District Heights in several public capacities—as vice mayor, as commission liaison for police and code enforcement and as chairman of the city’s Ways and Means Committee. He has also served as the regional director for the National League of Cities.

Martin brought the Bill Pickett Black Rodeo—the country’s only touring African-American rodeo—to District Heights a few years ago. He has been recognized by the Maryland House of Delegates and the Missouri House of Representatives for his commitment to public service.

He is active in the National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials, the NFL Alumni, Inc., Black College Coaches Visiting Program, the NAACP and the Citizen Action Patrol.

An avid golfer and PGA-certified instructor, Martin parlays his love of sports by giving free golf lessons to underprivileged youths and senior citizens.

IN MEMORIAM

The Rev. Dr. Emanuel David Chatman '72 died Nov. 5, 2008. The passionate believer in higher education had distinguished himself as a professor in the University's School of Business and Public Administration for many years. The teacher who never abdicated his concern for students beyond the classroom had also been an adjunct lecturer with the nationally recognized Lorton Prison College Program at the University where he worked for more than 20 years. In that position, he was selected three times by the inmates as Teacher of the Year.

In addition to his accomplishments at UDC, Chatman worked for more than 10 years as a professor of accounting at American University. He served as a graduate lecturer, teaching management accounting and financial planning/analysis at Central Michigan University. He represented CMU around the country and had been honored by the University in print and television media for his many contributions.

In response to the articulated needs of various communities in the city, Chatman initiated several citywide seminars on violence. These seminars led to several published manuscripts and creation of the Safe Streets Project, which received national recognition. He appeared on the "Geraldo Rivera Show," worked to produce a "Nightline Show," and was interviewed on many American networks and foreign programs discussing the rise in drug-related homicides.

The Pleasant Plains Civic Association elected Chatman as its president in 1984. Subsequently, he assumed the title of chair in 1993. He served in a variety of roles for the Federation of Civic Associations and was the recipient of the organization's Human Rights Award in 1990.

At the time of his death, he was serving as vice president of academic affairs and associate professor of theology and education at Maple Springs Baptist College and Seminary.

The learned Chatman had earned the following degrees: EdD, University of Southern California; DTh, MA and MREd, Maple Springs Bible College; MBA, Howard University; BS, Federal City College; and AA, Strayer College.

Wesley Hanes '78 (BA) died Nov. 18, 2010, in Washington, DC. A native of Winston-Salem, NC, Hanes was a WWII veteran (a US Army journalist in Germany) who studied engineering at Howard University before receiving his degree in gerontology from UDC. Professor Clavon Fields, first chair of the gerontology department and one of Hanes's

professors said, "Hanes chaired the Students International Senior Citizen Association and was the DC president for a number of years." He added, "He did an outstanding job."

Hanes was a letter carrier and later a mail classification specialist with the US Postal Service, from which he retired. He was a dedicated volunteer and was active in several organizations and causes, including All Souls Church, Unitarian (member and usher); DC Chapter of the International Senior Citizens Association; Neighbors, Inc.; Boy Scouts of America Troop 36; DC Reading Is Fundamental, Inc.; DC residential water pipe legal reform; and DC environmental public health/pesticide poisoning prevention. He was also a block captain of his neighborhood.

A music lover, he studied music at the renowned Washington, DC Conservatory of Music, where he met his future wife, Loretta Carter '49. The son of Frank and Evelyn Jeffreys Hanes, he is survived by his wife, Loretta; his children, Peter and Cynthia '88; his sister, Margrett Hanes; his brothers, Edward and Eugene; and nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Mary Louise Harris, EdD, associate professor in the School of Business and Public Administration at the University of the District of Columbia, died on June 6, 2010. Dr. Harris received the Bachelor of Science and Master of Business Education degrees from UDC in 1975 and 1977, respectively. She was awarded an EdD degree in higher education administration from The George Washington University in 1994.

Prior to her career at UDC, Harris had worked in a range of professions, including as a teacher for the DC Public School System, an administrative assistant for the federal government, and a human resources consultant for various agencies throughout the District.

At UDC, Harris served on numerous University and SBPA committees. Her greatest joy at the University was working with the many students whom she taught over the years. Twice a year for 15 years, Harris sponsored trips for her students to visit Wall Street in New York City to expose them to the financial world of business.

Harris was a jazz enthusiast who enjoyed attending the Smooth Jazz Cruise each year. She also loved going to jewelry shows and bargain shopping at the clothing districts in New York City.

Harris was a member of the National Business Education Association, American Society for Training and Development and Phi Delta Kappa, and she was listed in “Outstanding Young Women in America” and “Outstanding Teachers of America.”

Lucy B. Henson '50 (BS, Wilson Teachers College) died on Jan. 17, 2010, in Timonium, MD. Henson earned her law degree in 1953 from The George Washington University School of Law. She did additional graduate work at the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania and University of Miami Law School.

Henson established a three-woman law firm in Washington, and in 1958 moved to Delaware, where she passed the Delaware Bar. A year later, she went to work in the trust

department of the Bank of Delaware. Henson held senior-level positions at Equitable Trust Co. in Baltimore and Carroll County Bank and Trust. Henson taught business law for 18 years at the Weekend College of Notre Dame of Maryland.

Henson held affiliations with a number of civic and professional organizations, including president of the Baltimore Chapter of the National Association of Bank Women, member of the Baltimore Association of Tax Lawyers and the Baltimore Estate Planning Council, trustee of Good Samaritan Hospital and the President’s Council of the College of Notre Dame of Maryland.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO PAUL PHILLIPS COOKE, EDD (1917–2010)

On Nov. 13, 2010, the University of the District of Columbia National Alumni Society presented this resolution to the University community as a testament to the accomplishments of the late Paul Phillips Cooke, EdD, the esteemed former president of the District of Columbia Teachers College and illustrious alumnus for his contributions as a leader in the arenas of education and civil and social affairs, locally, nationally and internationally. He died on July 4, 2010.

Resolution

WHEREAS, Paul Phillips Cooke was born in New York City in 1917 and later moved to Washington, DC, where he matriculated at the renowned Paul Lawrence Dunbar High School and received a diploma in 1933; and

WHEREAS, the prestigious Mr. Cooke went on to pursue higher education at Miner Teachers College—a University of the District of Columbia predecessor school—where he received a Bachelor of Science degree (cum laude) in English in 1937; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cooke continued his academic training by studying at New York University, where he received a MA in education in 1941; at The Catholic University of America, where he received a MA in English literature in 1943; and at Columbia University, where he received a Doctorate in Education in 1947; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Cooke returned to his alma mater as a professor of English, and later served as dean, at the District of Columbia Teachers College—another University of the District of Columbia predecessor school—from 1944 to 1974; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Cooke became president of the District of Columbia Teachers College in 1966 and served in that capacity

until 1974, touching scores of students who went on to become teachers, education administrators and college presidents in the District and elsewhere; and

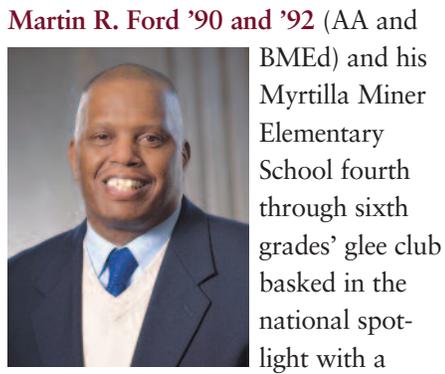
WHEREAS, Dr. Cooke authored more than 200 publications and papers and won the admiration and respect of colleagues and associations in a wide range of disciplines; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Cooke, over the years, remained active in many professional, social, international, community and civic organizations, including but not limited to: Catholic Interracial Council of Washington, DC; American Veterans Committee; World Veterans Federation; and the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the UDCNAS joins the University family and Dr. Cooke’s loved ones in exulting in the long, rich and triumphant life that he led, a life that touched so many and made a discernible difference for the hallowed halls of this institution of higher learning.

Michael D. Woodard, PhD, '72
UDCNAS President

ALUMNI PROFILES



Martin R. Ford '90 and '92 (AA and BMed) and his Myrtila Miner Elementary School fourth through sixth grades' glee club basked in the national spotlight with a White House performance before First Lady Michelle Obama in 2010. Ford and his students have been acclaimed throughout the city for years and applauded for their high level of musicality and excellence. With performances before audiences from Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice to charitable organizations to the Washington Redskins, the group had already made a name for themselves. However, the command performance at the White House was in a realm of its own. There, the club's rousing rendition of Martha Reeves's hit song "Heat Wave"—using lyrics Ford wrote about the students' school—was a smashing success.

"I've been in Washington all of my life and it was my first time in the White House," said Ford following the event. "It was a very special moment for me and definitely for my students."

A music teacher at Miner for 18 years, Ford often runs an optional summer camp to hone his students' musical skills. In addition to teaching general music and keyboard, he leads his age-delineated chorus groups—or glees, as he named them—from the Kinder Singers all the way through the Intermediate Glee Club, composed of fourth- and fifth-graders, on alternate days during the last school period.

The White House performance gave rise to another performance opportunity.

Ford was approached by an organization that was hosting a screening of the first episode of *Glee*'s new season on Fox TV. "They thought it would be cool to have a real glee club perform at the event, and they'd seen the footage from the White House and called," he said. "We entertained the crowd before the screening. It was a lot of fun."



Shelly Robinson Graham '96 (BBA in accounting) is the public safety budget director for the District of Columbia, Office of the Chief Financial Officer. She has over 20 years of combined accounting and budgeting experience. Her role is to ensure that 20 agencies' budgets (worth a combined \$1.2 billion) are established and executed in accordance with District law. Those agencies employ approximately 10,000 people.

Graham has been an active member of the National Forum for Black Public Administration's Washington, DC, chapter since 2001. Currently, she serves on the NFBPA's national Annual Leadership Banquet Committee and, locally, as the committee chair for UDC's student chapter, which was chartered in 2009. Graham also plays an active role in Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. She joined the sorority as an undergraduate student while earning her degree.

Graham credits her professional development to seasoned experts—most of whom are NFBPA members—who took the time to nurture her growth. NFBPA is an organization that enables its members to become skilled, strategic thinkers and strong communicators by providing mentorship opportunities.



Justine Love '87, director of community and public affairs for CBS Radio in Washington, DC, is a multifaceted professional who is just as at ease in front of a microphone as she is in handling health, education and civic issues for communities that are often overlooked. For 13 years, she was wildly popular as the co-host of WPGC 95.5's evening radio show *Love Talk and Slow Jams* and scored record ratings. Love now gets similar high marks for her work closing the disparity gap for those in need of access to resources and information on health and civil rights concerns.

Love has worked with countless organizations to bring awareness regarding the day-to-day issues that plague citizens in and around the Washington metropolitan area. She passionately educates listeners about being healthy and whole, focusing particularly on youth and women of color. Some of her partnerships in this objective have included the DC Department of Health; Planned Parenthood; HIV/AIDS Administration; HHS Office of Women's Health; Metropolitan, Prince George's County, Montgomery County and Fairfax County police departments; March of Dimes District Campaign; and National Organization of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome.

Love has made appearances on several national television shows to heighten the awareness of issues that affect black women and youth. Those shows include BET's "Teen Summit," "Our Voices," "BET Tonight with Tavis Smiley" and "Heart and Soul." She was honored with the prestigious Citizen of the Year award from the

Metropolitan Police Department of the District of Columbia for her exceptional efforts to bring positive change for so many in this city.

Tabitha D. Tyson '92 (BBA) is the president and chief executive officer of Empowerment Technology, Inc., an IT services provider to public and private sectors. Tyson has more than 20 years of IT experience as a senior manager and network engineer, and she has a combined 10 years of service as a former federal and DC government employee.



Incorporated in Washington, DC, ETI has a core mission that encompasses technical innovation and business management solutions using a hands-on approach in working with client needs. The 11-year-old company employs 12 full-time and four part-time employees and three consultants.

ETI's clients include Department of Labor (ETA and Job Corp); Department of Justice (CSOSA); Office of the Chief Technology Officer (DC Government); Office of Property Management (DC Government); Anago of Washington, DC; and QinetiQ North America (DHS/CBP).

The outstanding work of Tyson and her ETI team has paid off. In 2009, the Small Business Commerce Association selected ETI for a Best of Business Award in information technology consulting services.

Selvon M. Waldron '08 (BBA) recently



wrote a policy brief titled, "Globalization and its Impact on the Development and Protection of Human Rights—

Evaluations and Recommendations" for the *Guyana Journal*. In the brief, Waldron provides a detailed study of how commodities, ideas and cultures affect developing nations and their citizens. The May 2011 MPA candidate at UDC says that parental expectations and early studies of South Africa's iconic leader Nelson Mandela helped lay the groundwork for his interest in looking at issues from a global perspective.

"I was inspired by Nelson Mandela's struggles at a very young age," said Waldron, who was born in Trinidad and Tobago. "My father would always watch the 7 p.m. news, and my brothers and I would have to watch the news before looking at anything else on television." He went on, "It was at those moments that I saw the world as a place of many people fighting for their voices...When I attended UDC, my experiences and interaction with the very diverse student body peaked my interest in globalization further," he said.

Waldron has served on the UDC Board of Trustees as an elected student representative and was a leader in UDC's Undergraduate Student Government Association. Today, he is an active member of the UDC National Alumni Society (UDCNAS) and is busy encouraging other young graduates to step up their involvement in UDC's official alumni volunteer organization.



Kenneth B. Ellerbe '97 was named chief of the District of Columbia Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department by Mayor Vincent C. Gray. Since 2009, Ellerbe has been the chief of the Sarasota County (FL) Fire Department. Prior to that, he served 27 years with the DC Fire & EMS Department, rising to the rank of deputy chief. The mayor had contacted Ellerbe last year about returning to DC.

In 1997, Ellerbe received a BS in fire science administration from UDC. He received his Master of Public Administration degree in 2006. He lives in southeast Washington and is active in many local groups as well as in the International Association of Fire Chiefs and Leadership Greater Washington.

BUILDING A LEGACY: ONE EXTENDED FAMILY'S STRONG TIES TO UDC



Lucy Lumpkins Johnson (*top, second from right*) in 1906 with Miner Normal School classmates, including Anna Serena Carter (*top, far left*) and Bessie R. Parker (*bottom, right*). Photo is courtesy of District of Columbia Public Library.

On a long display table in the living room of Georgia Johnson Herron's northwest Washington, DC, home are a number of cherished symbols of Herron's affiliation with her alma mater. Each memento—alumni directories and magazines, programs from commencement and other special events, certificates and plaques honoring service, and letters from almost every University president—helps to tell the story of the Miner Teachers College class of 1946 graduate and her family's legacy that began with Herron's mother.

Lucy Lumpkins Johnson, whom Herron said “was a scholar,” started a family tradition when she completed her studies at Miner Normal School in 1906. Her diploma in teaching was a symbol of accomplishment for an African-American woman in her day. At the time, though, once a female teacher married, she was expected to relinquish her job, and so she did after eight years of teaching in the District of Columbia.

“Despite the fact that she had to end her professional career early, my mother and father provided their eight children with a happy childhood that did not focus on any of the limitations of the times, including living in a segregated society,” Herron said. The young ones attended school and church and played as all children did, but it was Herron who had the inclination, from an early age, to follow in her mother's footsteps. It was on walks to the Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens, a few steps from the family's home on Douglas Street NE, where flowers and plants were in abundance, that Herron said her interest in science began. To her mother's delight and urgings, Herron thought more and more about becoming a teacher—a science teacher—as the years went by.

The vivacious, hardworking Herron thrived in the environment of Miner Teachers College, always wanting to learn and do more. As a science teacher, she would pass on her natural curiosity and her thirst for learning to her students, knowing that she was “teaching teachers.” For more than 30 years, Herron taught at a number of District public schools, including Turner, Giddings, Whittier, Bancroft, Langdon, Bruce-Monroe, Beers and Malcolm X. After retirement from DC schools and a master's degree from Trinity College, she taught higher education at Howard University, Trinity College and UDC as a professor.

The Lumpkins-Johnson family connection to UDC and its predecessor schools branched out into the family to include Clara Lumpkins Bundy (Herron's aunt), Doris Bundy (her cousin) and Eliza P. Shippen (her godmother), who all attended Miner Teachers College. Niece Benita Pyndell graduated from DC Teachers College, while nephew Rodney McJimpsey and his wife Pamela McJimpsey graduated from Washington Technical Institute. Grand-niece Kelly M. McManus, Esq., and grand-nephew Darren S. Johnson, Esq., both graduates of the UDC David A. Clarke School of Law, round out the group. Each set out on a

“THERE IS SO MUCH WORK TO BE DONE, AND IT IS REWARDING...IT MEANS SO MUCH FOR ALUMNI TO SUPPORT THE SCHOOL AND ITS STUDENTS.”

– Georgia Johnson Herron



At home, Georgia Johnson Herron displays her college mementos.

different path; each acknowledges the positive role the University played in paving the road toward a rewarding career.

Pyndell said that her aunt, whom she proudly calls “the ultimate science teacher,” was a big inspiration to her. Although Penn State was her first choice, Pyndell decided DC Teachers College was a practical option where she received a “wonderful education.” She added, “I wouldn’t

trade it for anything.” In 1961, at 19, she graduated from DC Teachers College. Ironically, Pyndell’s first assignment was teaching first grade at Lovejoy Elementary School, where her grandmother, Lucy Lumpkins, had taught. Pyndell taught first grade for six years and spent the remaining 28 years of her career as a reading specialist and an English teacher. Continuing the legacy, Pyndell encouraged her brother Benjamin to attend Washington Technical Institute, where he received an associate degree in 1981.

Herron, now 86, believes that her family’s affinity for the University will go on. What’s more, she’s taken this “birthright” a step further—as a mandate to get other alumni, particularly her Miner classmates, involved in the University’s evolution. Herron says she talks to them and writes to them to help them “see the link between the predecessor school and UDC.” She continued, “There is so much work to be done, and it is rewarding... It means so much for alumni to support the school and its students.”

Enriching a legacy and daring others to follow suit is Georgia Johnson Herron’s credo.

UDCNAS BESTOWS TWO WITH DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD



From left: Cheryl Hawkins '93, Gregory Evans '06, Joan Jackson, EdD, '75, Cornett Njoku '96 and '99, Rosa L. Clayton '76 and '79, Carol E. Parks '84, Jacquelynn V. Thompson (Office of Alumni Relations), Herman “Rip” Preston '75, Jacqueline Daughtry-Miller '04, Jacquelyn Malcolm (Office of Alumni Relations), Michael Woodard '72, Sharon Young-Wester '90 and '94, Valerie Grant '90, and Gloria Green-Ridley '75 and '76

Below, from left: Board chairman Joseph L. Askew Jr., Esq. '98, Homecoming chair Herman “Rip” Preston '75, keynote speaker Portia Holmes Shields '60, Michael D. Woodard, PhD, '72, US Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton and President Allen L. Sessoms

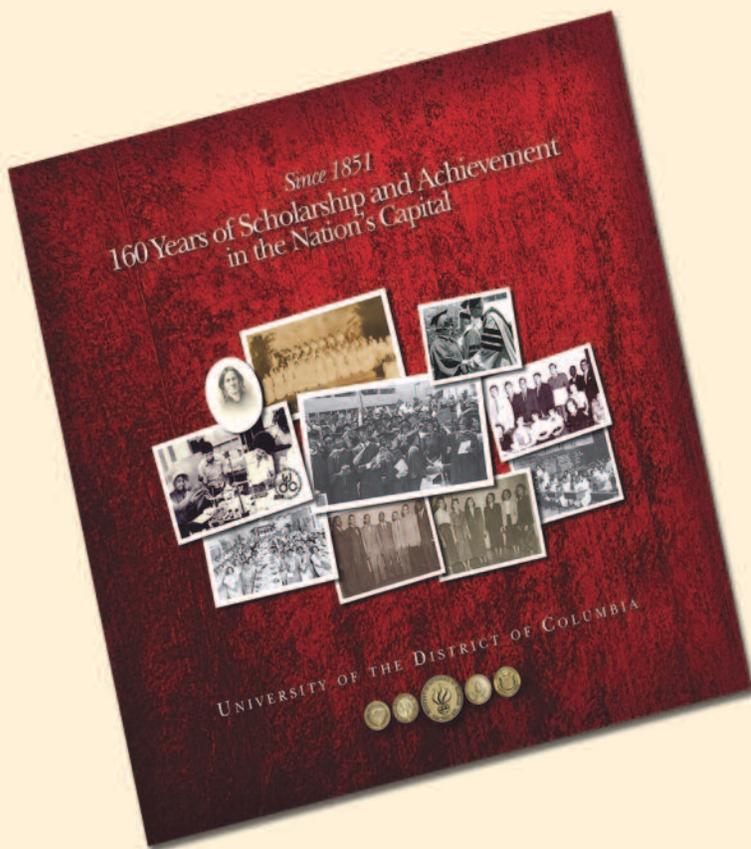
During its annual Alumni Homecoming bash in November, the UDC National Alumni Society awarded Georgia Johnson Herron '46 and Theresa Nelson Travis '77 and '90 with the Distinguished Alumni Award for their continuous, laudatory service to UDCNAS, UDC and its students. Portia Holmes Shields '60, higher education consultant and former president of Albany State University, delivered the keynote address, and US Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton, Shields’s sister and DC delegate to Congress, gave remarks at the event. More than 130 guests, including President Allen Sessoms, attended the formal affair, held at Ft. McNair Officers Club in Washington.



TO VIEW A SLIDE SHOW OF MORE IMAGES FROM THIS EVENT, VISIT WWW.UDC.EDU/ALUMNI/UDCNAS.HTM.



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