

April 19, 2005
Ser 05-017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**University of the District of Columbia Board Chairman Resigns; Served
District for Six Years**

Washington, D.C. — Following six years of service to the Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia, Professor Charles J. Ogletree, Jr. announced today his intention to resign from the governing board of the District's only public institution of higher learning. Professor Ogletree has served as Chairman of the University's Board of Trustees throughout his board service.

"While I regret the fact that my service on the UDC Board of Trustees will end May 15, 2005," said Professor Ogletree, "I'm also excited about my new role as the Founding and Executive Director of the Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race and Justice at Harvard Law School. The new Institute will allow me to continue the important work of the great Harvard law graduate and Howard Law Dean, who was principally responsible for defeating Jim Crow segregation, and training the many lawyers, like Justice Thurgood Marshall and Oliver Hill, among others, who successfully argued the *Brown v. Board of Education* case in 1954. I intend to follow Houston's dream of making America a better place to live for everyone."

"Professor Ogletree will be sorely missed," said Mayor Anthony A. Williams. "He did an outstanding job as chairman of the UDC Board of Trustees, providing much-needed leadership throughout his tenure. UDC is a better school because of him - and Washington is a better city. His service to the city has enhanced the quality of life for many of our young people."

“Charles Ogletree’s leadership of our Board of Trustees cannot be understated,” said Dr. William L. Pollard, University President. “Much has been accomplished during his tenure, with his guidance playing a pivotal role in our forward progress. I’ve personally enjoyed working with Professor Ogletree and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.”

Significant changes have taken place on the campus of the nation’s only urban land grant university during Ogletree’s tenure as Board Chairman. “The school has turned around,” reflected Professor Ogletree. “We have solid leadership in place with Dr. Pollard. We stand on strong financial ground, have a healthier and cleaner physical campus, have successfully launched a new National Alumni Society, and are enjoying an increasingly enthusiastic student body.”

In addition to his role at the University of the District of Columbia, Professor Ogletree is the Harvard Law School Jesse Climenko Professor of Law and Associate Dean for Clinical Programs and a prominent legal theorist who has made an international reputation by taking a hard look at complex issues of law and by working to secure the rights guaranteed by the Constitution for everyone equally under the law. Professor Ogletree has examined these issues not only in the classroom, on the Internet and in the pages of prestigious law journals, but also in the everyday world of the public defender in the courtroom and in forums where these issues can be dramatically revealed. Armed with an arsenal of facts, Charles Ogletree presents and discusses the challenges that face our justice system: its attempt to deliver equal treatment to all our citizens. He furthers dialogue by insisting that the justice system protect rights guaranteed to those citizens by law.

Professor Ogletree’s successor as Chairman of the Board will be elected by other members of the Board of Trustees at their next board meeting, which is scheduled for today, April 19, 2005, beginning at 5:00 p.m.

The University of the District of Columbia is the sole public source for accessible, inclusive, affordable, and comprehensive public higher education in the District of Columbia and provides additional life-long learning opportunities. The University delivers quality instruction and uses student-centered approaches to empower and benefit both individuals and its local communities. The University, an urban land grant institution, is a very diverse community, a gateway to the world, and a significant investment engine for the District of Columbia. The University is located at 4200 Connecticut Ave, NW Washington, and is conveniently located at the Van Ness/UDC stop on the Red Line of Metro. For more information on other University activities, contact Mike Andrews, Senior Director for Communications and University Spokesman at (202) 274-5685 or visit the University's web site at www.udc.edu.

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