



University of the District of Columbia

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*"...a new day,
a new opportunity"*

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Mayor Anthony Williams to Speak at University of the District of Columbia's Fall Convocation

Washington, D.C. — The chairman of the University of the District of Columbia Board of Trustees, Mr. James W. Dyke, Jr. and University President Dr. William L. Pollard are pleased to announce that the honorable Anthony Williams, mayor of the District of Columbia, will be the keynote speakers at the University of District of Columbia's Eleventh Annual Opening Academic Convocation on Tuesday, September 27, at 10:00 a.m. in the University's auditorium.

"We are delighted that Mayor Williams will join us as we mark the opening of a new school year," said Dr. Pollard. "The mayor has been a consistently strong advocate for the University, and his steadfast support

has been critical to our success. It's only fitting that he addresses the University community during our Opening Academic Convocation."

While the September 27th convocation is the University's eleventh, the legacy of the only public university in the District of Columbia and the nation's only urban land grant university is far richer. The seeds for higher education that grew into the University were first planted in 1851, when Myrtilla Miner founded Miner Normal School, a "school for colored girls." In 1955, Miner Normal - by then known as Miner Teachers College - united with Wilson Teachers College to become District of Columbia Teachers College, the institution from which Dr. McKenzie earned her degree in 1957. D.C. Teachers College merged with Washington Technical Institute and Federal City College in 1977 to form the new institution, the University of the District of Columbia.

The University's theme for this convocation - "A New Day, A New Opportunity," returns to an idea expressed by University President Pollard for several months. The theme reflects the University's mission as providing an authentic opportunity for a better education and an improved quality of life for all District residents.

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.

NOTICE TO MEDIA: Media are welcome to cover the University of the District of Columbia's Eleventh Annual Opening Academic Convocation. They are asked, however, to arrive not later than 9:45 a.m. to avoid disrupting the ceremonial parade at the beginning of the convocation. Parking for media may be arranged by prior notification of Mike Andrews, Senior Director for Communications at (202) 274-5685.

