

Creating Connections



Welcome to Your Hometown University by Dr. Eurmon Hervey, Provost

As Acting Provost of the University of the District of Columbia, it is my great pleasure to welcome you to our wonderful University in the Nation's Capital! UDC is strongly committed to promoting first-year student success through a comprehensive, integrated approach to student learning. We are also genuinely committed to helping our first-year students successfully transition to college to ensure their ultimate success during their entire tenure here.

The following are some important tips you should know. Successful students:

- Are always on time and prepared
- Go to class and ask questions
- Are involved in and out of class
- Do assignments
- Keep and follow course outlines
- Get to know their instructors

- Study with friends
- Join student organizations

Always remember that your college experience will contribute greatly to your human development, cultural advancement, and the overall quality of your life. Indeed, we are here to help you develop a sense of belonging and to create connections with people who want and will help you to succeed!

Creating Connections for Student Success

by Dr. Bertha D. Minus Associate Provost for Student Retention and International Programs

Welcome to the University of the District of Columbia (UDC)! This is a significant milestone in your educational career, and I applaud you for making the decision to continue your education. As you prepare to begin your academic journey at UDC, I want to remind you that we are the District of Columbia's public, urban, land grant university where excellence is the expectation, success is the standard, and character is the cornerstone!

We are a great university with high expectations for our students --- one of which is that you **will** graduate. We are committed to providing

a challenging yet engaging learning environment to enable all of our students to succeed. That commitment is reflected in our student retention theme --- **Creating Connections for Student Success** --- and I urge you to get connected! Get connected to students, to faculty, to tutoring, to academic advising, to student organizations and to other enriching opportunities on our campus!

To those of you who may be wondering ... "Can I succeed?" Yes, you can! HOW?

- Hold on to your dreams to succeed and do not become discouraged;

- Work conscientiously and go the extra mile;
- Exercise your faith and know that there is power in prayer;
- Believe in yourself; and
- Refuse to let anyone else's perception of you dictate the goals and aspirations for you. Finally, always remember the wisdom of Benjamin Elijah Mays who said, "**It is not your environment, it is you --- the quality of your mind, the integrity of your soul, and the determination of your will --- that will decide your future and shape your life.**"

Putting YOU in the Know



What is the process for securing a campus email address?

Name your academic advisor.

When will continuing student registration take place for the spring 2009 semester?

What two identifiers do you need to register online?

If you waive the student health insurance premium can you use the University Health Service in an emergency?



**2007-2008
University-wide Retention
Committee**

**Ms. Donna Minor
Ms. Ann-Marie Waterman
Co-Chairs**

**Ms. Sylvia Benatti
Dr. Janice Borlandoe
Ms. Susie Cato
Dr. Alvin Darby
Ms. Dollie Ellis
Mrs. LaVerne Hill-Flanagan
Mr. Sean Fuller
Mr. Timothy Harrison
Ms. Twyla Jones
Dr. April Massey
Dr. Bertha Minus
Mr. Ahmad Reed
Mr. Morgan Renwick
Mr. Charles Smith
Ms. Marian Smith
Dr. Vernise Steadman
Mr. Godtheson Thomas
Dr. Patricia Thorstenson
Ms. Charlissa Watson
Dr. Ernesta Williams
Dr. Sandra Yates**

DATES TO REMEMBER

AUGUST

Classes Begin 27
Add/Drop Period 29 – 9/2

SEPTEMBER

Labor Day (University Closed) 1
Withdrawal Deadline 2
University Convocation 23

OCTOBER

Columbus Day (University Closed) 13
Mid-Term Week 15-17 & 20-21
CLR James Faculty Honors Convocation 23

NOVEMBER

Academic Advising Period for Spring 2008 3-14
Veteran’s Day (University Closed) 11
Registration for Spring 2008 Begins 11/17-12/23
International Education Week 17-21
Thanksgiving Day (University Closed) 27-28
Last Day to Withdraw without Penalty 10

DECEMBER

Registration continues 3-12
Last Day of Classes 10
Last Day to Pay for Spring 2009 Classes 23
Winter Recess Begins (University Closed) 24



WHERE IS IT? UNIVERSITY RESOURCES JUST FOR YOU

Academic Affairs	Building 39, Room 301D, 202/274-5072
Admissions	Building 39, Room A12, 202/274-6110
Athletics	Building 47, A31, 202/274-5083
Counseling & Career Dev.	Building 39, Room 120, 202/274-6000
Financial Aid	Building 39, Room 101, 202/274-6050
Health Services	Building 44, Room A33, 202/274-5030
Office of the Registrar	Building 39, Room A08, 202/274-6200
Student Accounts	Building 39, Room A09, 202/274-5168
Student Affairs	Building 38, Room A10, 202/274-5210

Introducing the Director of First-Year Experience (FYE)

Esteban Olivares began his service as UDC's Director of First-Year Experience on July 1, 2008. He was most recently employed by American University's School for International Service Pre-College Programs. He brings experience and expertise in curricular and co-curricular programming, academic enrichment, educational advocacy, research and international education.

Mr. Olivares earned his B.S. from the University of the Pacific and his M.A. in International Education from The School for International Training in Vermont. Mr. Olivares has also spent time overseas in the Peoples Republic of China where he conducted research on the economic im-

pact on college student motivations and behaviors. He also enjoys traveling, exploring new things to do in the D.C. area jazz and is an avid participant in various slam poetry circuits.

The mission of the FYE Office is to support our new students in the transition from high school to becoming successful students at the University of the District of Columbia and to engage all segments of the university population in programs and interventions to increase retention rates of our first-year students. This Fall Mr. Olivares hopes to spend time getting to know and meet as many first-year students as possible. He will also be organizing focus groups and surveys with stu-

dents to determine your needs in order to successfully transition to college.

Mr. Olivares will collaborate with other departments on campus in order to provide events and opportunities for first-year students to socialize and make connections with upperclassmen, faculty, and staff. The FYE office will also develop and hold workshops for students to discuss and explore the adjustment to college life while balancing academic, personal, and social schedules.

Mr. Olivares' office is located in the Intelsat Building, 6P, Room 39, International Drive.

Fall Semester 2008 Freshman Orientation Sections 8800-101

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01	34	MW	0800-0920AM	35	1	LEC	41	000424	11418
02	32	MW	0930-1050AM	35	3	LEC	41	000424	11419
03	29	MW	1100-1220PM	35	6	LEC	41	000424	11420
04	30	MW	1230-0150PM	35	5	LEC	41	000424	11421

FRESHMAN BUS MAJORS ONLY

05	33	MW	0200-0320PM		35	2	LEC	41	000424	11422
07	34	MW	0700-0820PM		35	1	LEC	41	000424	11424

FRESHMAN BUS MAJORS ONLY

08	34	TR	0800-0920AM	35	1	LEC	41	000424	11425
09	35	TR	0930-1050AM	35		LEC	41	000424	11426
11	10	TR	1230-0150PM	10		LEC	41	000424	11428
13	33	TR	0530-0650PM	35	2	LEC	41	000424	11430

STUDENTS ARE TALKING ABOUT SMARTTHINKING

What is it?

SMARTHINKING is the leading provider of online tutoring. Students connect to live tutors from any computer that has Internet access. SMARTHINKING is a virtual learning assistance center. We provide online tutoring 24 hours a day, seven days a week. We also have an online writing lab where E-structor® Certified tutors critique and return essays within 24 hours.

How do students and tutors interact?

Students work in real-time with an tutor, submit questions or essays for a next day response, or pre-schedule online appointments. Students communicate with tutors using a virtual whiteboard technology. Scientific and mathematical notation, symbols, geometric figures, graphing and freehand drawing can be rendered quickly and easily. For more information about Smarthinking at UDC, please consult your professor, or the Learning Resources Center. Source: [www.http://www.smarthinking.com](http://www.smarthinking.com)





THE ABCs OF ACADEMIC ADVISING

For first-year students, academic advising at the college level may bring an unfamiliar shift in the advising process than was the norm in high school. While your high school guidance counselor may have taken the lead in assisting you with your course selection and the college entry process, your college academic advisor will expect a new level of participation from you, not only with regard to course selection, but in making important decisions about your future career. Academic advising is one of the most important aspects of the college experience. While academic advising is many different things to many different people, one thing that it should be is a win-win relationship for both the faculty member and the student. Academic advising should consist of more than a twice a year, ten-minute meeting with a faculty member whom you hardly know.

If you are not sure who your faculty advisor is, please visit the office of your chairperson who can be found in the Schedule of Classes. Prior to your initial meeting with your academic advisor, why not write down some questions that you have about your program of study? If you are undecided about what you would like to study, write down questions about those areas in which you have an interest.

Your initial meeting with your advisor should be a time when you discuss your interests, your goals, and the skills that you bring to this new experience. If you are not sure what you want to study, this is an excellent time to discuss your ambitions and dreams with your advisor.

Be mindful of creating a relationship with your advisor that permits you to talk freely as well as incorporate your advisor's suggestions and information with your ideas and interests. Don't be afraid to ask questions and to see your advisor during non-registration periods. Best wishes for a wonderful first semester!

NOTE: During the Registration period, August 20-26, 2008, all undeclared first-year students should report to Building 41, Room 310 for academic advising and registration.

FYE (First-Year Experience)

Connecting YOU to a New World!

*A Publication of the Office of the Provost and Vice President for
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