An Essay Competition in Commemoration of African American History Month, February 2013
Open to all UDC Undergraduate Students

Topic: The Relevance of Historically Black Universities and Colleges (HBCUs) in 2013

Writing Prompt: Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) have had a long history of trying to level the academic playing field for Americans of African descent, whose access to higher education has been denied and/or restricted because of their race. Supported by a Federal law, these institutions have sought to deal variously with the effects of slavery and segregation, and the economic hardships resulting from “separate but equal” education.

As America has lifted racial and class barriers, some feel that the HBCU in a post-racial 21st Century society should be considered obsolete. What do you think? Are HBCUs relevant in 2013 America?

All Undergraduate University students are hereby invited to enter the Essay Writing Contest on the above topic. The specifics are as follows:

Length: 750-1000 words, double-spaced

Font and Style: Typed or Word Processed, using Times New Roman 12 inch font; 1” margins
**Research Format:** Follow Modern Language Association Stylebook (MLA) in matters of style and research.

**Prizes:**
- **First Place**...$150.00 cash
- **Second Place**...$100.00 cash
- **Third Place**...$50.00 cash

**Deadline for Submissions:** Thursday, February 21, 2013

**Decisions of Judges will be Final.**

Winners will be expected to read their essays during the 7:00 PM Evening Session of February 27, 2013.

To enter, complete the attached cover sheet and submit it along with three (3) copies of your essay to

Dr. Matthew Petti  
Department of English  
Van Ness Campus  
Building 41, Office 416  
E-mail – mpetti@udc.edu  
Telephone – 202-274-5635

Thank you for your participation!

**Faculty-Staff Committee in Commemoration of Black History Month**  
February 26, 27, 28

**Co-Chairs:** Mr. Paul N. Tennessee  
Dr. Elsie A. Williams
ESSAY ENTRY COVER SHEET

Name of Entrant ________________________________

Classification ________________________________
(i.e., Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior)

Home Address _________________________________

Email __________________________________________

Telephone ________________________________