The Farmers Market of the University of the District of Colombia Opens May 17

A representative from USDA will be on hand to help open season

Washington, D.C. – The College of Agriculture, Urban Sustainability and Environmental Sciences (CAUSES) of the University of the District of Columbia (UDC) is pleased to announce the start of its 2014 farmers market season. On hand at the May 17 opening will be representatives for the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Located at 4340 Connecticut Ave. in front of the David A. Clarke School of Law, the market will offer fresh and local food to the Van Ness neighborhood in Northwest Washington. Vendors include farmers, producers, growers, bakers and artisans from D.C., Maryland, Virginia and Pennsylvania. The market will be open Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., May 17 until mid-November.

According to the USDA’s Agricultural Marketing Service, the United States had 8,144 known markets as of 2013, a 3.6 percent increase over 2012. The numbers continue to rise as farmers markets become fresh food mainstays for people across all socioeconomic, political and ethnic classifications. Farmers markets serve as community anchors, promoting the regional economy and local farm businesses, increased access to fresh, nutritious food, and stronger social networks that help keep communities healthy.

This year’s market has a new staff. Isaac Gembi is the new market manager and will be supported by Xiangling Shi. Both are CAUSES students and have planned to make the farmers market an integrated venture, inclusive of several CAUSES divisions.

Weekly events for this season include live music, cooking demonstrations, and information about food safety and ethnic crops. UDC nutrition educators and chefs will also be on hand to offer cooking tips and nutrition information to shoppers. Children’s’ activities will also be available. Click here for more information.

“This year’s farmers market at the University of the District of Columbia is shaping up to be one of our most exciting,” said Project Specialist Dr. Wayne Curtis, who has market oversight responsibility. “There will be something at the market for every member of the family.”

The UDC farmers market is a program of the Center for Sustainable Development, a division of CAUSES.

About the University of the District of Columbia
An HBCU, urban land-grant, and the only public university in the nation’s capital, The University of the District of Columbia is committed to a broad mission of education, research and community service. Established by abolitionist Myrtilla Miner in 1851, the University of DC offers Associate’s, Bachelor’s and Master’s Degrees and a host of workplace development services designed to create opportunities for student success. The University is comprised of the College of Agriculture, Urban
Sustainability and Environmental Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, School of Business and Public Administration, School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, a Community College and the David A. Clarke School of Law. To learn more, visit www.udc.edu. The University of the District of Columbia is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action institution. Minorities, women, veterans and persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply. For a full version of the University's EO Policy Statement, please visit: http://www.udc.edu/equal_opportunity. 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.