FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

University of the District of Columbia to Sponsor Ninth Annual HBCU Summit on Retention

Washington, D.C. -- The University of the District of Columbia is one of several Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) scheduled to participate in the Ninth Annual Regional HBCU Summit on Retention scheduled for March 9-11, 2006 at the Clarion Resort Hotel, 10100 Coastal Highway in Ocean City. Expected to draw hundreds of educators, college leaders, parents and students, the summit this year has as its focus ‘Improving Retention at HBCUs: Strategies and Solutions for Structure, Engagement and Commitment.”

Among the highlights of this year’s summit are:

- March 9 -- Keynote address by Dr. Tony Brown, CEO Tony Brown Productions
- March 10 & 11 – A variety of concurrent workshops and discussions in which panels of distinguished educators explore a wide range of topics related to student retention.
• March 10 – Luncheon speaker will be Dr. John T. Wolfe, Jr., Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs/Diversity and Academic Leadership Development, who will speak on the subject “The Dilemmas We Must Confront and Resolve Beyond the Numbers in Student Retention, Progression and Graduation - Whose Responsibility Is It?”

• March 11 – Plenary Session featuring a Student Services Retention Panel who will explore “Health, Counseling, Residence life, Student Special Services and Enrollment Management.”

The Summit’s co-sponsors include HBCUs in regional states and the Maryland Higher Education Commission, among others. In addition to the University of the District of Columbia, participating area higher education institutions include Bethune-Cookman College, Bowie State University, Howard University, Coppin University, Morgan State University, the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, and the University System of Maryland. For details about the conference, including registration information, please contact Dr. Anne L. Gaskins-Nedd, Program Director, at 301-860-3687, or Dr. Ernesta Pendleton, Summit chair, at 202-274-5718, or visit online at www.morgan.edu/hbcu.

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The University of the District of Columbia is the fully-accredited 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 Spokesperson at (202) 274-5685 or visit the University’s web site at www.udc.edu.

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