

# University of the District of Columbia

Office of Communications and University Spokesperson  
4200 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20008

Telephone: (202) 274-5685

Fax: (202) 274-5384

www.udc.edu



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a new opportunity"*

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact:** Mike Andrews  
(202) 274-5685

## **University of the District of Columbia Opens New Student Counseling & Career Development Center**

*Washington, D.C.* — A major landmark for the students of the only public institution of higher learning in the nation's capital will be achieved Monday, February 13, 2006 with the opening of a new Student Counseling and Career Development Center on the campus of the University of the District of Columbia. The Center, which will open with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 11:00 a.m., demonstrates the University's resolve to provide high-quality support all University students.

Dr. Clemmie Solomon, Vice President for Student Affairs, characterized the new Center as another example of the University's commitment to offer comprehensive student services and resources that promote student success. He emphasized that when higher education institutions invest in quality student support services, student retention and success is more likely to occur.

Solomon added that the center, which features both counseling and career service functions, will provide an avenue for students to obtain personal, social, academic and career guidance and counseling. The Center will also serve to help students address developing skills to better prepare them for the world of work and life in general.

The Counseling and Career Development Center's mission is to meet the unique challenges of the culturally diverse student population of the University. In the belief that every student has basic and unique needs which must be fulfilled in order for them to function successfully in a learning environment, the Center assists students in their personal and developmental growth by providing services and programs.

The Center promotes student growth on a broad spectrum with emphasis on the ability to relate to others in meaningful and mutually satisfying ways. The Center works to help students develop a realistic and positive self-image while assisting them in developing the skills to make appropriate personal, academic and occupational choices.

The Center's Career Development mission focuses primarily on providing occupational support and direction to all students through creative and innovative seminars, workshops, career counseling and on-campus recruiting events. The program is designed to assist students in reaching their career goals and objectives while meeting the staffing needs of local, national and international employers.

The Center employs a full time job locator developer and access to four professional career counselors. The Center also offers a computer lab consisting of three workstations, each configured with Win Way Resume and Bridges' Choices software. This gives University students the flexibility to work on their resumes on a self-paced computer-based tutorial program. Another exciting new tool is the Firebirds Employment Network (FEN). For the first time, employers can directly download job announcements to FEN. Students will be able to enter their resumes onto FEN and employers can review with students' permission; or students can send resumes in direct response to job announcements. These tools will help produce students who can meet the demands of the global workforce.

The new Center is open Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The first Saturday of each month, the Center is open from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The Center is located on Level One, Suite 120 in Building 39. The Center's office number is (202) 274-6000.

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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](http://www.udc.edu).

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