New Counseling and Career Development Center Opens Monday

The University Community is invited to join the celebration as a major landmark for our students in observed next Monday, February 13, 2006 with the opening of the Student Counseling and Career Development Center. The Center will open with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 11:00 a.m.

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’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.

**Two Confirmed to Join Board of Trustees**

The Council of the District of Columbia yesterday cleared the way for two distinguished citizens to join the University’s Board of Trustees with the approval of Mayor Anthony A. Williams’ nomination of Kristin Mannion and Emily Durso. Ms Mannion and Ms. Durso will join the governing body of the only public university in the District of Columbia at the Board’s March meeting.

“The Board is most fortunate to welcome Ms. Mannion and Ms. Durso to our membership,” said James W. Dyke, Jr., Chairman of the Board of Trustees. “Their addition, along with our three other recent additions, demonstrates the commitment of Mayor Williams and Councilmember Kathy Patterson (Chair of the District Council’s Committee on Education, Libraries, and Recreation) to provide the University with strong, engaged leadership. We are excited to continue working with Dr. Pollard to take the University to the next level of excellence.”

Kristin A. Mannion is a Senior Client Partner in the Washington, DC office of Korn/Ferry International. She leads the nonprofit practice in DC, where she recruits leadership for cultural, cause-related, philanthropic and foundation interests. Additionally, she leads the Global Board Services practice, recruiting corporate Board Directors for public and private companies. Prior to joining Korn/Ferry, Ms. Mannion's previous career include long term experience in marketing, external affairs and public policy. Ms. Mannion has served on numerous Boards of Directors and Advisory Committees, including terms with the Child Care Action Campaign, New York State Mentoring Program, Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs, and The National Child Research Center, and the American Council of Young Political Leaders.

Emily Durso currently serves as President of the Hotel Association of Washington, D.C., a non-profit trade association representing the interests of ninety member hotels in the District of Columbia on a variety of governmental and public affairs issues. She has served as President and CEO of E.V. Housing Inc., a Washington-based nonprofit affordable housing development corporation, as well as President and CEO of Home Rule Development Corporation, a for-profit development company specializing in community based mixed use projects. Ms. Durso is the founder and a board member of the Hospitality High School of Washington, an academic Charter High School. She currently serves as a member of the Greater Washington Urban League Board, the COMCAST Board of Advisors, and is a sponsor of the Washington Jesuit Academy.
Founders Day Convocation Honorees Announced.

The University of the District of Columbia’s Founder’s Day Convocation, scheduled for Wednesday, February 15, 2005, at 10 a.m. in the University’s Auditorium, will present four awards to honor excellence in educational leadership and service, as well as a lifetime achievement award for sustained and exceptional commitment to the University’s mission. The awards, which include the Ronald H. Brown Distinguished Leadership Award, the Dr. Marjorie Holloman Parker Distinguished Educational Leadership Award, the Dr. Cleveland L. Dennard Distinguished Service Award, and the Paul Phillips Cooke Lifetime Achievement Award, have become an important part of the University’s Founders’ Day observances.

Mayor Anthony A. Williams, the fourth Mayor of the District of Columbia and a consistent support of the University, will receive the Ronald H. Brown Distinguished Leadership Award.

The Dr. Cleveland L. Dennard Distinguished Service Award will be presented to A. Knighton Stanley, a former Chair of University’s Board of Trustees.

Dr. Portia Holmes Shields, former president of Albany State University in Albany, Georgia, will receive the Dr. Marjorie Holloman Parker Distinguished Educational Leadership Award. Dr. Shields will also provide the keynote address to this year’s Founders’ Day Convocation.

Dr. Sandra Grady Yates, an outstanding University of the District of Columbia faculty member for more than 30 years, is the recipient of the Paul Phillips Cooke Lifetime Achievement Award.

The Founders’ Day Convocation will held in the University Auditorium, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, February 15. In order to encourage the greatest participation among students, faculty, and staff in attending the Founders’ Day Convocation, classes will be suspended from 9:00 a.m. to 12:50 p.m. on the day of the Convocation. The Provost sincerely requests that faculty strongly encourage their students to attend the Convocation since it is another opportunity for students to broaden their educational perspectives. This is a great opportunity for our students to learn much about the unique and interesting history of the University.

UDC PRIDE WEEK ITINERARY - FEBRUARY 13-FEBRUARY 17, 2006

Monday, Feb 13th
• 11:00am – 12:30pm - Ribbon cutting ceremony for Counseling and Development - Bldg 39 suite 120. 
Reception following – Public Invited.
• 10:00am – 6:00pm - Counseling and Development Center Open House. All are welcomed. Building 39 Suite 120
• 4:00pm – 5:30 pm - “A Celebration of Pride” Panel Discussion led by Dr. Solomon featuring various local guests. Located in Bldg 38, 2nd floor Lounge.

Tuesday, Feb 14th
• Carnation giveaway - Carnations will be given out 9am - 5pm in Bldg 38/39 breezeway & Lobby, Bldg 52.
• 12:30 – 1:30 - COI Lunch & Dialogue session w/Dr. Holness Bldg 44 Room A-03. Open to the Public.
• Game Room will be hosting a Table Tennis Tournament. All participants have been enrolled. Students are welcomed to watch.
• All day event - 1pm to 5 pm - USGA Open House. All are welcomed.
4pm – 8pm - UDC Valentine’s Day Dance. Location: Firebird Inn. No cover charge.

Wednesday, Feb 15th
- Red and Gold Day Feb 1st – Feb 15th
- Founder’s Day Convocation 10:00am - Auditorium - Open to the Public.
- 6:00pm – Poetry Slam in Firebird Inn. Auditions Feb 1st and 2nd in Firebird Inn 5pm-7pm Audition are open to all students, first priority given to UDC students. Poetry Slam is Open to all students w/valid school ID.
- Game Room will be hosting a Chess Tournament. All participants have been enrolled. Students are welcomed to watch. All day event.

Thursday, Feb 16th
- 12:30- 1:30 - COI Lunch & Dialogue Session w/Dr. Holness - Bldg 44 Room A-03. Open to the Public.
- 6pm -9pm - Alumni panel discussion “What UDC did for me and what UDC can do for you?” Reception following in the Firebird Inn.
- Game Room will be hosting a Pool Tournament. All participants have been enrolled. Students are welcomed to watch. All day event.

Friday, Feb 17th
- 6pm – “The Untold Story of Emmett Till” film and panel discussion - Auditorium - Open to the public.
- Club and Organizations showcase from 10am – 3pm in Bldg 38 B-level hallway.

Christal Cherry Moves to Spelman

Christal M. Cherry, the University’s Director of Development since September of 2004, has announced she is leaving the University to assume the position of Associate Vice President for Institutional Advancement at Spelman College in Atlanta. Christal’s tenure has seen the function of University Development grow and prosper in a variety of ways. Innovations introduced by Christal include:

- Back to School Barbeque (Fall)
- Thank-A-Thon (week before Thanksgiving)
- Faculty & Staff Giving Program (year-round)
- The Legacy Fund (Annual Fund, annually launched in August)
- UDC Neighbor (delivered to residents & businesses in 20008 zip code; and by Street-Team to businesses nearby)
- On-line Giving Capability through the UDC Foundation to benefits the University (year-round)
- Faculty & Staff Appreciation Day (Spring)
- Development Update (UDC Spark)

Christal brought an enthusiasm and level of energy needed for a successful development operation. Along with her team, she represented the University well, and created, or at least reinvigorated a spirit of giving within the University. Her accomplishments have been significant and she will be greatly missed.
Save the Date - *Calvin Jones BIG BAND Jazz Festival*

Make sure to mark your calendar for the big celebration. On **Monday, April 24, 2006**, at 8:00 P.M., the BIG BAND sound will return to UDC for the 20th year. Save the date and join us again for what has become one of the most anticipated events on D.C.’s jazz calendar as the powerhouse jazz ensembles of the University of the District of Columbia (directed by Allyn Johnson), Howard University (directed by Fred Irby III), and the University of Maryland (directed by Chris Vadala) celebrate Jazz Appreciation Month and a remarkable 20th anniversary. Produced by UDC’s Jazz Studies Program and the Felix E. Grant Jazz Archives, the festival began in 1987 as part of a citywide tribute to Duke Ellington, and it remains one of the most anticipated events on Washington, D.C.’s jazz calendar. For more information on the 2006 festival, contact Judith Korey at (202) 274-5803 or JazzAlive@udc.edu.

$75,000 EPA Award to CES to Target Roaches & Other Pests

David K. Jefferson, Extension Specialist and Pesticide Safety Education Program Coordinator for the University’s Cooperative Extension Service recently received notification that the Environmental Protection Agency had awarded $75,000 to fund his proposal “Integrated Pest Management for the sustained reduction of pest populations in low-income urban residences in the District of Columbia.” The objectives of this program include the implementation of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in a targeted multi-unit, attached or detached dwellings in low-income neighborhoods in Washington D.C. Program participants will seek to build enduring strategic partnerships to engender long-term commitment to IPM implementation, and to distribute literacy and language appropriate information that residents can use a quick reference material. The primary targets pests are roaches, rodents and bedbugs.

Nursing and Allied Health Recruits Faculty and Students for RIMI Project

The Research Infrastructure in Minority Institutions (RIMI) Project, housed within the Department of Nursing and Allied Health, is actively recruiting UDC faculty and highly motivated allied health students to serve as mentees in order to build institutional research capacity and individual enrichment skills. Program criteria: all nursing and allied health junior faculty (tenure track) and senior-level UDC faculty interested in health disparity research. Candidates must also submit a statement of research interest. Recruitment packages are available in the RIMI Office, Building 44, Room #105. All materials must be completed and submitted to Ms. Regina Norman by close of business, February 17. The RIMI Project was funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to enhance the research infrastructure within UDC’s Nursing and Allied Health Programs and to strengthen the research capacity of nursing and allied health faculty and undergraduate students, in an effort to advance the nation towards the elimination of racial and ethnic health disparities. For more information or to pick up a RIMI Research Mentee recruitment packet, please contact Dr. Connie Webster, Project Director, cwebster@udc.edu or Ms. Regina Norman, Program Coordinator, rnorman@udc.edu at (202) 274-6185 or 6285.
Demonstration of Interactive Classroom Scheduled for February 14

There will be a second demonstration of the capabilities of the Interactive Classroom (located in building 39, room 201) on Tuesday, February 14, 2006, between the hours of 12:00 and 2:00 p.m. All faculty, staff and students are invited to attend this demonstration. If additional information is needed, please feel free to contact Armando Prieto at 438-2179.

Black History Month Student Speak-Out Forum Co-Hosted by UDC

The National Park Service will present a Student Speak-Out Forum in honor of African American History Month at the Mary McLeod Bethune Council House National Historic Site, February 22, 2006 beginning at 6:30 p.m. The topic of the forum will focus on “Black Fraternities and Sororities.”

The University of the District of Columbia’s (UDC) Department of Urban Affairs Social Science and Social Work, and UDC’s Pan-Hellenic Council, are co-hosting a student speak-out forum. This forum will shed more light to the public about the purpose and creation of African American Sororities and Fraternities. Encouraging dialogue among the organizations as well as discussing the philosophies of students presently involved in active collegiate chapters talk about how they are continuing to enrich the nation through dedicated community service.

This is part of the ongoing public programs offered at the Mary McLeod Bethune Council House National Historic Site. For additional information regarding this program and other events, please call the site directly at (202) 673-2402.

Tom Teasley, percussionist with Allyn Johnson, pianist - Described in the Washington Post as a “percussionist in the widest and most exuberant sense of the word”, Tom Teasley combines percussion instruments and playing styles from Africa, India and the Middle East. He has fused this eclectic concept with American jazz and Western Classical music creating what noted jazz writer Bill Milkowski calls “a beautiful tapestry of rhythm.” Tuesday, February 14, 2006 at 12:30 p.m. in Recital Hall (Bldg. 46-West).

UDC Jazz Ensembles - Jazz ensembles under the direction of Allyn Johnson celebrate Black History Month on February 28, 2006 at 12:30 PM in the Recital Hall, Bldg. 46-West.

Contact Judith Korey at (202) 274-5803 or JazzAlive@udc.edu for more information. For a listing of confirmed events for this year, visit JazzAlive at www.lrdudc.wrlc.org/events.html.
The Untold Story of Emmett Till

Panel Discussion: Healing Through Justice

Time: Friday the 17th of February, 6:00pm
Location: University of the District of Columbia Auditorium

Keith Beauchamp’s film, The Untold Story of Emmett Till recounts the murder of Emmett Till, a Chicago teenager who, while on a visit to Mississippi, was murdered and his body dumped in the Tallahatchie River in the small town of Money, Mississippi in August, 1955. The film demonstrates the horrors of racism and how Till’s slaying reverberated around the world.

The panel discussion which follows the film presentation will examine how Till’s murder and its resolution impacted race relations, the justice system, and civil rights.
DC Water Resources Research Institute Seeks Proposals for FY2006

The Water Resources Research Institute (WRRI) at the University of the District of Columbia (UDC) was created in 1973 by the Water Resources Research Act of 1964 (PL 88-379) which established a federal/state partnership in research, information transfer, and education of new experts in areas related to water resource management. DC WRRI is one of a network of Institutes at land-grant universities, partly funded by the US Geological Survey (USGS), under the National Water Resources Research Institutes program.

WRRI mission is to provide the District of Columbia with interdisciplinary research support to identify DC water resources problems and contribute to their solution. The Institute maintains a website that highlights its mission and program overview. A publication list of water resources related research projects sponsored by WRRI over the past years is also available along with important issues related to DC water resources.

WRRI Seed Grant Program is requesting research proposals related to critical areas of water resource in the District of Columbia. Proposals must follow the format listed below. Funds requested must not exceed $15,000. Student training, an integral part of the Seed Grant Program, must be included in the research proposal.

Please mail one hard copy and one electronic pdf copy of proposal to the following address by December 1, 2005.

DC Water Resources Research Institute
University of the District of Columbia
Building 52 Room 416G
4200 Connecticut Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20008

For additional information, please contact William W. Hare at whare@udc.edu or (202) 274-7139.

If You Didn’t Write It You Must Cite It: How To Write And Cite Like A Scholar

A seminar on how to avoid plagiarism will be offered Tuesday, February 28, 5:30-6:50 p.m. and again Wednesday, March 1, 2:00– 3:20 p.m. Both sessions held in Building 41/A03. These seminars are being team taught by three professors to educate students on writing skills, with the main emphasis on how to avoid plagiarism. While students often commit unintentional plagiarism, these seminars will teach student the skills of how to write like a scholar and avoid charges of dishonesty. Each seminar will contain the same information and students need only attend one.

For more information, please contact:
- Dr. Harkness—sharkness@udc.edu
- Dr. Jowers—sjowers@udc.edu
- Professor Moore—mmoore@udc.edu

UDC Delegation Attend United Nations Commission

Seven University professors and staff members are attending the 47th Session of the United Nations Commission of Social Development in New York during February 8th and 15th. The Session will be dealing with a “Review of the first United Nations Decade of Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006). In addition to the priority theme of poverty, the session will include review of United Nations plans and programs of action pertaining to the situation of groups such as: disabled persons, youth and ageing. On return, the UDC delegation will be panelists at a Public Forum entitled “Poverty In America & Around The World” at UDC on
March 22nd at 5:30 p.m. Bldg 44/Room A-03.
The delegations members are: Dr. Sheila Martin, Dr Silvia Hill, Dr. Angelyn Flowers, Dr Suzan Harkness Dr. Beth Ausbrooks, Dr Sandra Lawson and Paul Tennessee, Director of International Affairs.

Acclaimed D.C. Writers Featured in Reading Series

The University of the District of Columbia’s English Department will host “Literature Live! A Reading Series” on Friday nights in February and March on campus (4200 Connecticut Avenue, NW). All sessions with authors start at 7 p.m. and take place in Building 44, Room A-03.

The series begins Friday, February 17th, with Novelist Patricia Elam, author of the novel *Breathing Room*. Ms. Elam's fiction has appeared in the anthologies, *New Stories from the South*, and *Gumbo*; her articles have also been published in many newspapers and journals including the Washington Post, Essence, and Newsday. Ms. Elam has also worked as a commentator for National Public Radio. *Breathing Room* was a finalist for the 2001 Hurston/Wright Legacy Award in Debut Fiction.

On Friday, March 10th, Poet/Memoirist E. Ethelbert Miller will take the stage. Mr. Miller is the author of numerous award-winning books of poetry including *How We Sleep On The Nights We Don't Make Love* and the anthology, *In Search of Color Everywhere*, as well as the memoir, *Fathering Words*. One of Washington D.C.’s major literary and cultural activists, Miller is director of the African American Resource Center at Howard University and chairperson of the board of the Institute for Policy Studies.

The final session will be Friday, March 31st, with Lynne Duke, a writer for the Washington Post, and author of *Mandela, Mobutu and Me*. During 18 years at the Washington Post, Lynne Duke has written local, national and international magazine articles and served as bureau chief for the Post in Johannesburg, South Africa for four years. *Mandela, Mobutu and Me*, inspired by her travels through Central and southern Africa, was a finalist for the 2004 Hurston/Wright Legacy Award in Nonfiction.

Final Thoughts

*The UDC Spark* is your publication. It can only be effective if you make contributions. If there is something happening in your department that everyone else should know about, then tell us. As always, we ask that you please submit items of interest in text format by e-mail only to mandrews@udc.edu by noon on every other Thursday. PLEASE – NO FILIERS – text paragraphs in Times Roman 12 (black) only. We always welcome photos and appropriate clip art.