



University Mourns Loss of Dr. Marjorie Holloman Parker

Dr. Marjorie Holloman Parker, alumnae, faculty member and chairman of the University's Board of Trustees, died at her home in Washington on January 16. In tribute to this extraordinary educator and pivotal figure in the history of the University, the following resolution has been forwarded for ratification by the University's Board of Trustees:



WHEREAS, the University of the District of Columbia Board of Trustees honors the legacy of Marjorie Holloman Parker, Ph.D., as a bequest of distinguished and voluminous leadership and service in community, civic, and educational affairs that has garnered recognition locally, nationally, and internationally; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Marjorie Holloman Parker was a 1936 *magna cum laude* graduate of Miner Teachers College—a University of the District of Columbia predecessor institution—where she helped to establish the Beta Lambda Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, the nation's oldest black sorority, and served as a charter member and the chapter's first Basileus; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Marjorie Holloman Parker earned the master of arts and doctor of philosophy degrees at the University of Chicago and held memberships in Pi Lambda Theta, a national sorority for women in education, and Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society while matriculating at the University; and

What's Inside

*Three New Members Join
Board of Trustees*

*Merritt Tapped as New
Director of Intercollegiate
Athletics*

*RIMI Project to Study Student
Risk Behavior*

*Pride Week Schedule of Events
A Variety of Jazz Offerings on
the Horizon*

*Future City on Campus this
Weekend*

...and more

WHEREAS, from 1939 to 1949, Dr. Marjorie Holloman Parker taught in the elementary schools of Washington, D.C., where she exemplified superior teaching skills and guided her colleagues to become active in community service; and

WHEREAS, in 1949 Dr. Marjorie Holloman Parker joined the faculty of Miner Teachers College, where she taught for 10 years before becoming director of student teaching at Bowie State College. She returned to Washington in 1965 to become professor of history and philosophy of education at the District of Columbia Teachers College (formerly Miner Teachers College), a position she held until her retirement in 1974; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Marjorie Holloman Parker was appointed in 1972 by President Richard Nixon to the District of Columbia City Council, where she chaired the committees on education and council administration. It was during her tenure on the District

Council that Dr. Parker's lone voice insisted that there be equal per capita funding for each of the city's then three separate, publicly supported institutions of higher education. And, it was subsequent hearings on this proposal—which she chaired—that eventually led to the merger of these institutions by congressional legislation, and the establishment of the University of the District of Columbia; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Marjorie Holloman Parker was a charter member of the University's Board of Trustees and served as treasurer of the Board, and as its chairman. In 1988, the University awarded her the honorary degree *doctor of humane letters* for her continuous, outstanding contributions to its mission. In 2005, the University paid tribute to her with the establishment of The Marjorie Holloman Parker Distinguished Educator's Award, which will be presented annually to that individual whose laudable achievements as an educator have made a discernible difference in the city's or nation's schools, colleges, universities, or private institutions of higher learning.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Board, faculty, staff, students, and alumni of the University of the District of Columbia proclaim themselves to be beneficiaries of Dr. Marjorie Holloman Parker's largesse and life's commitment to the public higher education ideals, goals, and objectives she put in motion with her unwavering vision and steadfast fortitude.

Three Members Join University Board of Trustees



The ranks of the University of the District of Columbia's Board of Trustees recently expanded, as three new members were sworn into service today as members of the governing board of the only public university in the District of Columbia on Tuesday, January 17, 2006. The new trustees, Major General (retired) Leo V. Williams, III, Mr. Gerald B. Lang, and Mr. Verle B. Hammond (shown from left to right) were sworn into their new office by Mr. Ronald R. Collins, Director, Office of Boards and Commissions in conjunction with the Board of Trustees regular meeting last week.

"These three distinguished gentlemen bring a wealth of experiences and ideas that compliment our current Board membership," said James W. Dyke, Jr., Chairman of the Board of Trustees. "You don't find such a distinguished trio everyday and I'm delighted to have them join us. Their addition, along with two other candidates for Board membership we anticipate adding to the Board following a February 7 confirmation hearing, provides us with a strong board needed to propel the University to the next level."

Major General (retired) Leo V. Williams, III is Executive Vice President of Medifast, Inc. and Chairman of the Board of its Take Shape for Life network marketing subsidiary. Medifast, Inc. is a manufacturer, marketer and distributor of consumable, portion-controlled diet and health food products. General Williams retired from the Marine Corps Reserve on January 1, 2004 following 33 and one-half years of service. Prior to Medifast, Inc., General Williams was a marketing and strategic planning executive with Ford Motor Company. He was a principal manager on the design teams for Ford's Explorer, Expedition, Escape, Excursion and F-150 Pickup Truck. General Williams presently serves as Vice Chairman of the Board, Marine Toys for Tots Foundation.

Mr. Gerald B. Lang, a recognized marketing and sales executive for The Prudential Insurance Company of America for over thirty years, is now retired from corporate life and is involved in management consulting. He serves as Chairman of the Board of The Capital Corridor Group, LLC (CCG), a real estate development firm. While at The Prudential, he accumulated an impressive record of sales achievements as a sales associate, sales manager, training consultant, district agency manager and executive director.

Mr. Verle B. Hammond is President and CEO of Innovative Logistics Techniques, Inc. (INNOLOG). Since founding INNOLOG in 1989, he has grown the company to its current status as one of the nation's leading providers of logistics systems engineering, information

services and supply chain management. Under Mr. Hammond, INNOLOG has grown from a staff of eight with a \$250,000 contract to more than 300 employees and over \$65 million a year in revenue. During his 28 years in the U.S. Army, he earned the rank of Colonel and held key command and management assignments in all aspects of logistics and weapons systems acquisitions. In December 2002, Mr. Hammond and his wife Eleanor (a retired educator) founded The Verle and Eleanor Hammond Foundation as a non-profit public charity which focuses on working with families, schools, and communities to enable and inspire youth who are not given the opportunity to realize their full potential, through programs that increase their visibility and self awareness.

Merritt to Lead Department of Intercollegiate Athletics

The University has announced the appointment of Dr. Harold M. Merritt, Ed.D (shown at right), as the new Director of Intercollegiate Athletics. Dr. Merritt will join the staff of the only public university in the nation's capital in February following seven years of service as the Director of Athletics, Intramurals, and Athletic Facilities at the College of Staten Island (CSI) in New York City.

Dr. Merritt is scheduled to assume leadership of the University's Department of Intercollegiate Athletics in February. He will replace Dr. Kelly J. Higgins, who has served as Interim Director since November of 2004. Dr. Merritt has a distinguished career in the management of athletics. Prior to his post at CSI, he served as Director/Assistant Director and Youth Sports Program Executive Director for the Department of Parks and Recreation for the City of Houston, Texas. He has also coached men's basketball on the intercollegiate level at Northern Arizona University, Morris Brown College, California State College –

Long Beach and University of New Orleans, holding the head coach position at Northern Arizona and Morris Brown.



Dr. Merritt's qualifications are extensive and impressive. While heading the sports program at CSI, Dr. Merritt built an impressive record of accomplishments. CSI Teams won 23 City University of New York Championships during his tenure while earning 13 East Coast Athletic Conference and six NCAA Tournament berths in a variety of sports. A native of Harlem, he spearheaded the development of the Men of Color Action Group at CSI, and has been an adjunct lecturer in History of the African American Athlete.

ATTENTION !!!!

University Community

The University of the District Of Columbia will hold the
Annual Founders' Day Program
Wednesday, February 15, 2006, 10:00 A.M.
in the University Auditorium.

Orders for rental of Regalia

The UDC Bookstore will be taking orders for rental of through
Tuesday, February 7, 2006.

Please place your orders early to avoid the rush or delay in receipt of your order.

for additional information, contact the bookstore in
Building 38, Level A

RIMI Project Collaborates in CDC Study to Document Black College Students' Risk Behaviors

The Department of Nursing and Allied Health, Research Infrastructure in Minority Institutions (**RIMI**) Project, announces its participation in a new initiative to gather quantitative data on risk behaviors of African American college students. The KAB (Knowledge, Attitudes and Behaviors) Study seeks to (1) examine and understand the sexual risk taking behaviors of HBCU students while assessing the HIV testing and counseling services available on campus and in the surrounding community.

A stunning outbreak of HIV among black male college students in North Carolina (2002) coupled with a precipitous increase in new HIV infections among African Americans—particularly under the age of 25—has intensified the need to study these risk behaviors so that appropriate interventions can be developed.

The University of the District of Columbia has been selected to pilot (test) the KAB Survey within the next couple of weeks, pending final approval by the University's IRB. The RIMI Project is recruiting 100, unmarried UDC students who self-identify as African Americans, between the ages of 18-25 years of

age, and are currently enrolled on a full-time basis. Students, who meet these criteria, are eligible to participate in the study regardless of gender, sexual orientation or socioeconomic status. Each student is required to complete an on-line consent form and an anonymous web-based survey instrument lasting approximately 25 minutes. Students will be able to access the survey from their personal computers. However, there will be several highly visible computer stations conveniently set-up on campus for students to use. Upon completion of the survey, students will print a receipt to submit to the RIMI Office in order to receive a \$20 stipend for their voluntary participation. The KAB Study is developed and managed by the United Negro College Fund Special Programs Corporation (**UNCFSP**) through funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (**CDC**).

This is an extraordinary opportunity for UDC to participate and contribute to national research which enhances understanding around race and population specific youth risk behaviors. The RIMI Project was funded in September 2005 to strengthen the integration of teaching and research at predominantly

minority-serving academic institutions, in an effort to advance the nation towards the elimination of racial and ethnic health disparities. Dr. Connie M. Webster is Project

Director. For more information on the KAB Survey or the RIMI Project, please contact the RIMI Office at (202) 274-6185.

UDC PRIDE WEEK ITINERARY - FEBRUARY 13-FEBRUARY 17, 2006	
<p>Monday, Feb 13th</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11:00am – 12:30pm - Ribbon cutting ceremony for Counseling and Development - Bldg 39 suite 120. <i>Reception following - Open to the Public.</i> • 10:00am – 6:00pm - Counseling and Development Center Open House. <i>All are welcomed.</i> 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. <p>Tuesday, Feb 14th</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • <i>All day event</i> - 1pm to 5 pm - USGA Open House. <i>All are welcomed.</i> • 4pm – 8pm - UDC Valentine’s Day Dance. Location: Firebird Inn. <i>No cover charge.</i> 	<p>Wednesday, Feb 15th</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. <i>All day event.</i> <p>Thursday, Feb 16th</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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?” <i>Reception following in the Firebird Inn.</i> • Game Room will be hosting a Pool Tournament. All participants have been enrolled. Students are welcomed to watch. <i>All day event.</i> <p>Friday, Feb 17th</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6pm - Emmitt Till film and speaker - Auditorium - Open to the public. • Club and Organizations showcase from 10am – 3pm in Bldg 38 B-level hallway.

UDC Jazztet in a Tribute to Calvin Jones

The UDC Jazztet will perform at *Jazz Night* at Westminster Presbyterian Church on Friday, January 27, 2006 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. The ensemble includes Allyn Johnson, piano; DeAndre Shaifer, trumpet; Lyle Link, saxophones; Leon Rawlings, trombone; Steve

Novosel, bass; and Howard Franklin, Jr., drums. Admission \$5 -- Children under 16 are FREE. Food and Beverages available 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. (202) 484-7700. Location: 401 I Street, SW. Directions can be found at: www.westminsterdc.org/locationnew.htm.

UDC's Allyn Johnson and Steve Novosel with jazz legend, David "Fathead" Newman

Premier pianist, Allyn Johnson and bassist Steve Novosel will once again perform with jazz legend David "Fathead" Newman on February 3 & 4 at TWINS JAZZ. Newman, who was with the famed Ray Charles Band for

12 years was headliner at the UDC Foundation Gala in April 2005. TWINS JAZZ is located at 1344 U Street NW. For information on shows, call (202)234-0072 or visit www.twinsjazz.com.



Tom Teasley, percussionist - 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.

Future Engineers to Compete On Campus

The University of the District of Columbia has been designated as Washington, DC Regional Center for the National Engineers Week FUTURE CITY Competition. This national competition is aimed at middle school students interested in science, math, engineering and technology subject areas. There are several centers throughout the nation and UDC is a regional center. There are 41 schools from DC region registered to compete in the regional competition this Saturday, January 28, 2006, which will give the University the opportunity to showcase its science and engineering programs while exposing youngsters and their parents to the University. The regional finalist



will participate in the National final coming up in Feb, 2006. You can visit the competition website at www.futurecity.org to get more information.

Melnick Featured in "Clinical Trials Administrator"

An interview with Dr. Vijaya L. Melnick, Director of the Office of Sponsored Research and Programs has appeared in the publication Clinical Trials Administrator, Nov 2005, Vol.3, No.11 pages 126-127. The interview titled 'FDP participation benefits smaller research programs' discussed the advantages

that Emerging Research Institutions, such as the University of the District of Columbia has in participating in the Federal Demonstration Partnership (FDP). The FDP has most of the federal agencies, and more than ninety of the major research universities and institutions, on its membership roster.

Acclaimed D.C. Writers Featured in University of the District of Columbia 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.

Time for some early spring cleaning

Now that classes are underway, the Information Technology Department reminds you to take a few minutes to do some early spring cleaning.

- Clean out old voicemail messages in your mailbox. Full mailboxes prevent others from leaving messages, and also delay delivery of voicemails for others by clogging up the voicemail system. This should be done everyday if possible.

- Delete old emails from your email account. Remember to empty your email folders containing "Deleted Items" and "Junk E-mails". Also look at your "Sent Items" folder and delete un-needed emails. Doing this weekly or every other week can help you find the important information quicker when needed.

Your attention and efforts will be appreciated.

Maya Angelou Challenges Students to Look Inside for Words of Wisdom

In conjunction with Black History Month, Alltel and Dr. Maya Angelou today announced the *Words of Wisdom Scholarship Program*, which asks students at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) across the country, "What words of wisdom will you pass on to those who come after you?"

"Young people have a fresh perspective and can express their insights in ways the next generation will appreciate and respond to," said Regina Woziwodzki, director of multicultural marketing for Alltel. "We are proud to provide them with a forum through the Alltel *Words of Wisdom Scholarship Program* as well as the once-in-a-lifetime experience of meeting Dr. Maya Angelou."

Ten Grand Prize winners will receive a \$4,000 scholarship to a participating HBCU institution of their choice and a trip to Little Rock to meet Dr. Angelou. Participants will be judged based on their ability to adhere to the theme as well as strike an emotional chord and exude passion through writing.

"I am pleased to be a part of a program that empowers young people to voice their opinions. Wisdom lives in all of us and the world will be wonderfully served if these students share what they have and know," said Dr. Angelou. "I am proud of this program and gladly support Alltel's commitment to African-American students across the country."

Alltel supports a number of annual sporting and multicultural events that make an impact within the African-American community, including: the HBCU Football Classics and several athletic departments at HBCU institutions; a Martin Luther King celebration in Cleveland and a MLK parade in Jackson, Miss., the largest in the United States; the Lynch Street Festival in Jackson, and the Jazz Series and Pride Awards in Charlotte, N.C.

An internationally respected poet, writer, civil rights activist and educator, Dr. Angelou has authored best-selling titles such as "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings," "Gather Together in My Name," "The Heart of a Woman" and the collection of poems "Just Give Me a Cool Drink of Water 'fore I Diiie," which was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize. The first black woman director in Hollywood, Dr. Angelou has written, produced, directed and starred in productions for stage, film and television.

Essay submission forms are available on-line or at any participating Alltel retail store. Contest rules and entry forms will be available beginning Jan. 27 at www.alltel.com/wordsofwisdom. Entries must be post-marked by March 3, 2006, and winners will be presented with their awards on March 28, 2006. Graduating high school seniors who will be attending HBCU institutions also are eligible to participate.

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 FLIERS – text paragraphs in Times Roman 12 (black) only.** We always welcome photos and appropriate clip art.

Items appearing in this publication are for the information of the readers, and as such are considered as internal working documents of the University of the District of Columbia. This newsletter is made available to members of the University Community, including faculty, staff, students, alumni and the Board of Trustees. A reminder to submit items to "the UDC Spark" is sent to its readership the Tuesday prior to publication of the newsletter. Please submit items for inclusion by e-mail to mandrews@udc.edu no later than 12:00 noon on the Thursday preceding publication.