

# The UDC Spark

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## Students, Faculty Honored at C.L.R. James Honors Convocation

Dr. Sandra Grady Yates, an outstanding University of the District of Columbia faculty member for more than 30 years, was honored with the Provost's Award for Outstanding service during last night's annual C.L.R. James Honors Convocation. The Provost's award was one of many presented during the academic community's annual recognition of distinguished members of the student body and faculty.

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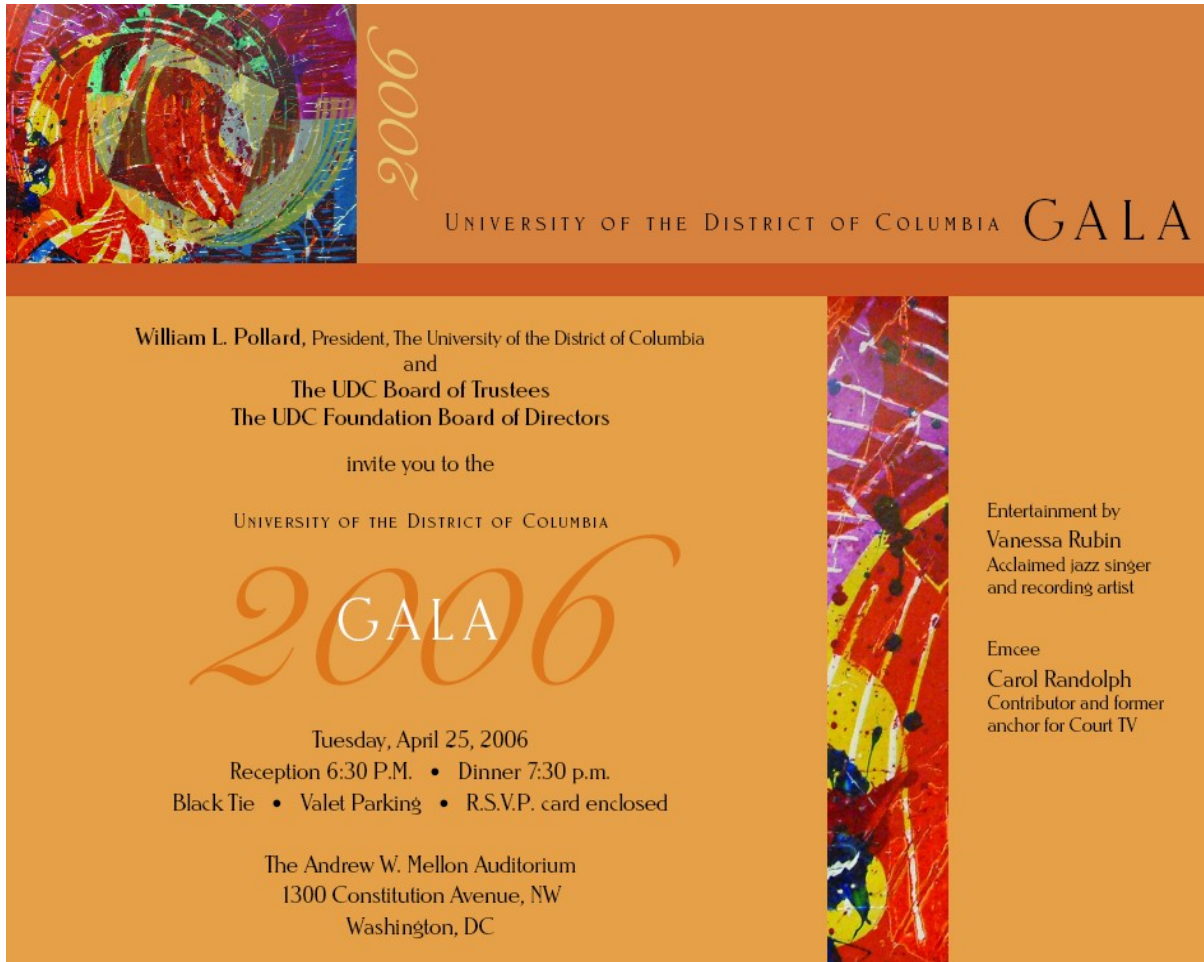
*...and more*

Named in honor of the former history professor C. L. R. James who served the University for ten years and was the recipient of the first honorary degree conferred by UDC, the Honors Convocation recognizes the stellar performances of students and faculty members. Dr. Selwyn H.H. Carrington, professor of history at Howard University and a former student of C.L.R. James, provided reflections on the legendary scholar.

Deans of the University's colleges and schools presented awards to top faculty members and students in each of their schools, and student leadership and service awards were presented by Dr. Clemmie Solomon, Vice President for Student Affairs.

In recognizing Yates, Provost Wilhelmina Reuben-Cooke paid tribute to a University alumna who has served with honor in University positions that include Interim Dean and Associate Dean of the School of Business and Public Management; Chairperson of the Department of Business Education and Office Administration; and for seven years, Chairperson of the Department of Education.

The College of Arts and Sciences presented awards to Dr. Gertrude Jackson (junior faculty), Dr. LaVerne Blagmon-Earl (senior faculty) and Professor Judith Korey (senior faculty). The School of Business and Public Administration honored Professor Julius Ndumbe (junior faculty) and Dr. Hany Makhoulf (senior faculty). Dr. Lily Liang (junior faculty) and Dr. Ahmet Zeytinci (senior faculty) were honored by the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, while Professor Matthew Fraiden (junior faculty) and Professor Alice Thomas (senior faculty) were presented awards from the University of the District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law. **Congratulations to all the honorees!**



## Women of Achievement to be Honored at Fifth Annual Gala

The University of the District of Columbia and the UDC Foundation will present the 2006 UDC Women of Achievement awards to five leading women at their Fifth Annual Gala, scheduled for Tuesday, April 25, 2006 at the Andrew W. Mellon Auditorium, 1300 Constitution Avenue, NW Washington, D.C. The gala is the Foundation's primary fund-raising event, with proceeds going to support the University of the District of Columbia, the only public institution of higher learning in the nation's capital.

The UDC Women of Achievement awards will be presented for the first time at this year's gala. President Pollard views this inaugural award in part as a tribute to the founder of one of the University's predecessor institutions, Myrtilla Miner. "Myrtilla Miner is without

question a woman of achievement," reflected Pollard. "We think it's appropriate to use our gala to honor women of distinction like her for their contributions in the building and uplifting of our community in general and the University of the District of Columbia specifically."

Honorees include:

- Michele V. Hagans, President of Fort Lincoln New Town Corp. and former Chairman of the University of the District of Columbia Board of Trustees
- Wilhelmina C. Holladay, founder of The National Museum of Women in the Arts
- Denise H. Lloyd, President & CEO of D.H. Lloyd & Associates, Inc., a District of Columbia minority certified insurance agency

- Barbara B. Lang, President of the District of Columbia Chamber of Commerce
- Barbara J. Krumsiek, President & CEO of the Calvert Group, a District of Columbia based asset management firm

In addition to these honors, gala guests will be entertained by Vanessa Rubin, acclaimed jazz singer and recording artist. Carol Randolph, gala contributor and former anchor for Court TV, will emcee the event. The University's chorale, jazztet, and student soloist will also perform. Business and political leaders, as well as academic and student representatives of the University are expected to attend.

This is the fifth year that the University of the District of Columbia Foundation has hosted their fund-raising gala, which is not only as a celebration of the University, but as a way for the corporate and other private citizens of the District to show their support for the good

work being done at the only public university in the nation's capital. The purpose of the Foundation is to solicit funds for student scholarships, and to advance and benefit the programs and mission of the University of the District of Columbia.

Michael C. Rogers, executive vice president of corporate services of MedStar Health Inc., is serving as the Foundation's Gala Chairman this year. Co-Chairs are Jeffrey Thompson of Thompson, Cobb, Bazilio & Associates and Kathleen Carr of Cardinal Bank/Washington. Tickets are available for this evening that combines outstanding entertainment and food with a program that supports the citizens of the District of Columbia in a unique manner. Festivities begin with a reception at 6:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 7:30 p.m. Valet parking will be provided. Tickets are \$250 and may be purchased by calling (202) 342-1988 or (202) 274-5312.

### **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](mailto:JazzAlive@udc.edu).



Pictured: President Pollard, Tamiko Bryant, Director EH&S and VP Robert Robinson at Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

## **UDC Continues to Strive towards Environmental Compliance Excellence**

On March 30, 2006, UDC officially opened for service its fully functional hazardous waste storage facility (as known as a containment building). This significant achievement is monumental in the history of the University of the District of Columbia.

The facility meets U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Fire Protection Association, Underwriter's Laboratory, National Electrical Codes and the District of Columbia requirements for classification as a containment building for the storage of hazardous material. The completely enclosed, self-supporting facility is designed and constructed of man-made material of sufficient strength and thickness to support the hazardous waste contents, and any personnel and heavy equipment required to operate within the facility.

The facility will be used by the University as a temporary storage site for hazardous waste generated from the College of Arts and Sciences and School of Engineering and Applied Science Programs. Its primary function is to protect stored hazardous waste from exposure to the elements and to assure its containment through the use of compartmentalization features such as below grade flooring to create containment barriers. The facility is also constructed of fire rated/retarded building materials. Some of the other features of this facility include: explosion proof HVAC, electrical wiring and illumination components, an automated climate control system, emergency eye wash/shower unit, and fire suppression system.

Once again the University of the District of Columbia continues to pursue excellence in academia and in regulatory compliance.

### **ATTENTION !!!!**

The University of the District of Columbia's Commencement Ceremonies will be held  
Saturday, May 13, 2006, 10:00 a.m.  
at the Verizon Center (formerly MCI Center)

Guest Speaker – Anthony A. (Tony) Lewis, President of Verizon Washington DC

#### **Orders for Purchasing Regalia**

Academic regalia purchases can be done through the UDC bookstore. If you desire to purchase your regalia, please secure the order form from Mrs. Josephine Whitehead, accounting clerk in the bookstore. These are time sensitive orders that require immediate action.

#### **Orders for Rental of Regalia**

The UDC bookstore will be taking orders for rental of regalia beginning Monday, April 3, 2006 through Friday, April 28, 2006.

Please place your orders early to avoid the rush or delay in receipt of your order.  
for more information, contact Mrs. Whitehead in the bookstore in Bldg 38, Level A or call 274-5110

### **Spring 2006 Co-Ed Intramurals Underway**

The UDC Department of Intercollegiate Athletics tipped off its spring 2006 season in April with co-ed basketball and volleyball teams made up of students and faculty/staff competing against each other. The basketball games consist of a double elimination tournament with the team having the most wins emerging as tournament champion. Nine teams are currently competing in some exciting contests. Games are played on

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday at 12:30 p.m. in the UDC Gymnasium.

Co-ed volleyball competition is held on Thursdays at 12:30 p.m. Teams are not organized, but are constituted from those who actually show up ready to play.

If you are interested in having fun while exercising your body, come to the gymnasium at any of these times to join in the fun.

### **International Affairs Update**

- ☉ Fifty students, faculty and staff will be attending the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) ninth special high-level meeting with the international financial and trade institutions on April 24<sup>th</sup> 2006.
- ☉ Twelve students, professors and staff will participate in the 14<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations Commission of Sustainable Development (CSD). The Session will deal with energy, climates change, industrial development and other environmental issues.
- ☉ The Assistant Secretary of the Organization of American States (OAS), Ambassador Albert R. Ramdin, visited on Thursday April 20<sup>th</sup> to discuss with UDC faculty and staff representatives the work of the OAS and explore a working relationship with UDC. The Ambassador was also interviewed on UDC Cable TV.
- ☉ The Department of University Relations has facilitated the participation of 32 students, professors and staff at the Special High Level Meeting of the Economic & Social Council, IMF, World Bank, WTO and UNCTAD at the United Nations Headquarters New York on April 24, 2006.

## University to Host “India-USA Economic Relations: A Two-Way Street”



Today in the streets of America, many citizens may hold the view that scores of their jobs are migrating to India where labor costs are cheap. This trend – be it true or false – is the focus of an upcoming discussion at the University. The only public university in the nation’s capital is hosting “India-USA Economic Relations: A Two-Way Street,” an Open Forum to examine economic relations between the United States and India. Additionally, panelists will explore the opportunities, both for Indians and Americans that may grow from the recent agreement President George W. Bush signed with Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh. The agreement covers trade, energy security, a clean environment, innovation, knowledge economy, global safety and security, deepening democracy and meeting international challenges for both world powers.

The overall growth rate of Indian immigrants to the United States from 1990-2000 was more than 105%. Thousands of Indian graduates from the Indian Technological Institutes migrated to America and have been contributing to the technological revolution

that has been occurring in America over the last two decades.

The University has assembled a prestigious group to spearhead these discussions. Panelists include His Excellency Ronen Sen, Ambassador of India, the Honorable Aneesh Paul Chopra, Secretary of Technology for the Commonwealth of Virginia, Raj Dwivedy, Chief Economist for Services with the U.S. Department of Commerce, and Gerald L. Gordon, President/CEO-Fairfax County Economic Development Authority. Other panelists include business executives and economists well-versed in economic relations between India and the United States. The panel discussion will be followed by a question and answer period, affording guests the opportunity to interact with the panelists.

The forum will be held on Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Windows Lounge, Building 38, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor. Individuals interested in attending or seeking additional information should contact Dr. Sandra Lawson at (202) 274-6272 or [slawson@udc.edu](mailto:slawson@udc.edu); Mr. Paul Tennessee at (202) 274-6277 or [ptennessee@udc.edu](mailto:ptennessee@udc.edu); or Ms. Perita Baxter at (202) 274-6246 or [pbaxter@udc.edu](mailto:pbaxter@udc.edu).

## **PATHS Assists District’s Income Maintenance Administration**

The Paving Access Trails for Higher Security (PATHS) program is providing technical assistance to the District's Income Maintenance Administration's Food Stamp Employment and Training (FSET) Program Third Annual Empowerment Conference to be held at the Galludet University on Friday, April 21, 2006. PATHS enters its fourth year of partnering with FSET to provide technical assistance to

the program and to provide career assessment, job skill training, job placement and linkages to continuing education and/or higher education at UDC. PATHS trains over two hundred FSET students annually. Dr. Antonia Nowell, PATHS Program Director reports that FSET program will be provide a mid-year increase in funding to PATHS.

## **Dessaso represents UDC at Sigma Tau Delta convention**

Deborah A. Dessaso, Director of The Writing Center in the English Department, represented the University at the annual convention of Sigma Tau Delta, the International English Honor Society. The convention was held March 29-April 2, 2006 in Portland, Oregon. Professor Dessaso served on a panel on

“Fantasy” and presented an essay titled, “The Last Word on Harry Potter.”

At the Awards Banquet, UDC’s chapter, Alpha Epsilon Rho, was among 20 to receive a 10-year commendation.

## **Head Start State Collaboration Training Begins April 25<sup>th</sup>**

The School of Business and Public Administration Institute for Human Service Delivery will host the third training of a six-part series for the Head Start State Collaboration Training of Trainer Series. The training will be held on April 25<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Chonda Walden heads a team from the Institute that was certified to

become a District of Columbia Certified Early Care and Education Trainers. Certified trainers are authorized to offer workshops, seminars or classes that can be included in the District of Columbia Professional Development Training Registry and recognized by the Early Childhood Leadership Institute.

## **Urban Affairs Professors Provide Papers for Public Administration Conference**

Part-time Professor Ray C. Oman, who worked for the Federal government more than 30 years, and Gina M. Allen, Assistant Professor of Hospitality, Management and Political Science, provided papers for the Session on Civil Service Reform at the National Conference of the American Society for Public Administration, Denver March 29 - April 4, 2006. The papers, “How to Strengthen the

Federal Government Civil Service” and “A Bibliography on the Administration’s Major Changes to Civil Service Affecting Employees in the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Defense,” were accepted as ASPA publications. More than 1,100 public administration professionals, faculty, and students attended the Conference.

## **Business Management/Procurement Senior Tapped for Scholarship**

The Delaware, District of Columbia & Maryland (DE-DC-MD) Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, have selected Kimberlee R. Brown as the 2006-2007 recipient of the DE-DC-MD Scholarship. Kimberlee is a UDC senior majoring in Business Management/Procurement.

The Office of Financial Aid (where Kimberlee is a Student Employee), would like to congratulate her as the District of Columbia winner of the scholarship.

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University of the District of Columbia  
**Alumni Class Reunions 2006  
Dinner/Reception & Program**

*Sustaining and Celebrating Our Legacy*

Thursday, May 11, 2006

6:30 P.M.

UDC Auditorium, Building 46 East  
4200 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20008

Cost: \$50.00 Per Person

RSVP the Office of Alumni Relations at (202) 274-5206 by May 1, 2006.



*On the occasion of UDC's 2006 Alumni Class Reunions, we will celebrate YOU!  
YOU— the graduates of Miner Normal School, Miner Teachers College,  
Wilson Normal School, Wilson Teachers College, D.C. Teachers College,  
Washington Technical Institute, Federal City College and the  
University of the District of Columbia!*

*Special Recognition will be given to the Jubilee Class of 1931 (75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary),  
Class of 1956 (50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary), Class of 1981 (25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary),  
& all who graduated in class years ending in 6 and 1, and all those  
who graduated before 1956.*

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## 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](mailto: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](mailto:mandrews@udc.edu) no later than 12:00 noon on the Thursday preceding publication.