



Celebrating 160 Years of Scholarship and Achievement -2011

Dear Friends:

Your state university has accomplished some marvelous things in the last year, and it is my privilege to bring you some great news from the University of the District of Columbia.

First, our Community College is thriving. We recognized our city was missing a vital educational link for our residents. So, we created CCDC within a year to fill a very specific purpose. After its first year of operation, CCDC has moved its central location to a brand new, state-of-the-art facility at 801 North Capitol Street, Northeast, just two blocks from Union Station. CCDC has also expanded operations in the former Bertie Backus Middle School Site on South Dakota Avenue, Northeast, where our renowned and expanding nursing program will reside. We plan to develop the Backus site as a School of Allied Health serving both the University and the community college.

The University of the District of Columbia continues to grow with a new College of Agriculture Urban Sustainability and Environmental Sciences (CAUSES) on our Van Ness Campus. CAUSES will soon become the national leader in educating students on issues of urban sustainability and in conducting research in water quality management and 'green' initiatives. People are noticing the new energy that is UDC. From the far reaches of our region to Capitol Hill and across the globe, the **new UDC** carries promise for our new urban environment.

Our Van Ness campus is undergoing a significant and historic renovation. We are transforming this university from the ground up. We are creating an atmosphere that invites our community to be a part of the new UDC. From 'green' roofs to appealing 'green' campus spaces with energy efficient, recycled water falls, we want you to be a part of this transformation.

We are bringing the University students the best possible college experience. That means having the opportunity to live on campus. Just this year, we partnered with a local firm that manages an apartment building across the street from the University's main campus. This has resulted in nearly 100 students being able to live near the University for the current semester, and we are exploring ways to expand those opportunities. We plan to build residence halls directly on the Van Ness campus with an expected completion date of 2013.

In the area of sports, look for the Firebirds to continue their climb upward and for the University to continue offering a great experience that will benefit our student athletes. We are upgrading all of our facilities, and we are bringing the best talent to our efforts. We look forward to great performances by our existing teams this season with much more to come in the future as we proceed with the development of, among others, Lacrosse, women's crew and men's football programs.

The Firebird is rising here at the University of the District of Columbia. As the only public university in the District, and the only urban land-grant university in America, we have a unique mission and a unique responsibility. Please visit our website: www.udc.edu to discover everything we're doing and ways in which you can participate in America's Urban Land Grant University.

Sincerely,

Allen L. Sessoms, President
University System of the District of Columbia