Agenda for the Future
Presented by
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to the
Council of the District of Columbia

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The University of the District of Columbia is an urban land-grant institution of higher education with an open admissions policy. It is a comprehensive public institution offering affordable post-secondary education to District of Columbia residents at the certificate, baccalaureate and graduate levels. These programs will prepare students for immediate entry into the workforce, for the next level of education, for specialized employment opportunities and life long learning.

*Taken from the UDC 2005 Middle States Commission self-study*
Vision

The University of the District of Columbia will be a diverse, selective, teaching, research, and service university in the land-grant tradition, serving the people of the city of Washington and the Nation.
Goals

✓ Create and nurture a premier Community College that will have an open admissions policy, be a major vehicle for workforce development and serve as a gateway to a 4-year college education.

✓ Become an outstanding institution for undergraduate education with a global focus.

✓ Offer exceptional, research driven graduate and professional programs of importance to the District and the Nation.

✓ Provide an important economic engine for the District of Columbia and the region.
Growing Pains— the reconstruction process

- Facilities
- Finances
- Morale
- Academics
- Enrollment
- Image and Impact
What UDC Needs Most to Meet these Goals

Autonomy with Accountability and Transparency.

(Another term for “autonomy” might be “functional independence.”)
Middle States Commission, 2005

• “The University of the District of Columbia is highly regulated by the District. The University has significantly less administrative flexibility than most public institutions."

• “The Board of Trustees and the UDC administration should consider working with the city government to achieve greater administrative flexibility consistent with mutual needs.”
This is the Norm and Best Practice for Public Universities

- California State University, the University of California, the University of Delaware, the University of Michigan, etc. have constitutional autonomy

- University of Virginia, University of Maryland, George Mason University, Delaware State University, University of Indiana, Purdue University, etc. have statutory autonomy
ATTRIBUTES OF AUTONOMY
(or functional independence)

- Exclusive control over use and disbursement of all UDC funds and property.
- Authority to set own budget and allocation of funds within the budget.
- Contract negotiations governed by District law, but implementation carried out by UDC and not the Office of Contracting and Procurement.
- Subject to annual audit by District for District funds, with other audits for other funding sources.
- Personnel rules suitable for a university to be established, with appropriate protections for all employees and the right to bargain collectively retained.
- Authority to issue bonds.
- Transparent and accountable budget and spending process.
- Board of Trustees that is broadly based and independent, with the range of experiences needed to assist UDC in carrying out its educational mission, and whose members have demonstrated a willingness to devote substantial effort to the job of being a Trustee. (Note: Most states, such as Virginia, have commissions that screen university board appointments.)
Accountability and Transparency

- National accreditation certifying Academic Integrity and Independent Governance
- Annual Oversight hearings by the Council of the District of Columbia and the Mayor
- Independently Audited Financial Statements
- Independent Bond Rating
- Transparent, merit based governance through the Board of Trustees and the President
- Transparent, merit based personnel practices and procedures
- Annually established goals, with performance metrics, and annual performance evaluations for all employees
Current Academic Offerings

- Non-academic Certificates 35
- Certificates 15
- Associates 22
- Bachelors 46
- Masters 11
- Law (J.D.) 1
University Accreditations

- Middle States Commission on Higher Education
- Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET)
- American Bar Association
- American Board of Funeral Service Education
- American Chemical Society
- Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP)
- Commission of Accreditation for Dietetics Education (CADE)
- Committee for Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC)
- Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech Language Pathology (CAA)
- Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)
- Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT)
- National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE)
- National League for Nursing Accreditation Commission (NLNAC)
Immediate Hiring Requirements

• Provost and VP for Academic Affairs
• Campus Director for the Community College
• VP for Student Affairs
• Chief Information Officer
• Director of Enrollment Management
• Director of Admissions
• Director of Intercollegiate Athletics
• Maintenance Workers
  (Carpenters, Plumbers, Electricians, etc.)
Other Immediate Personnel Requirements

• Increase salaries for some deans
• Increase salaries for some chairs
• Increase salaries for some faculty
Immediate Facilities Needs

- Community College Building
- Student Center
- Main Campus Renovation
- Law School Building
Long Term Vision for UDC

- A University of National Distinction
- An Exemplar of the Connected Urban Land-grant Tradition
- Comparison institutions:
  - The University of Louisville
  - The University of Cincinnati
  - The University of Illinois at Chicago
University of the District of Columbia
America’s Urban Land-Grant University

- The Community College
- School of Law
- College of Arts And Sciences
- School of Engineering and Applied Sciences
- School of Business and Economics
- College of Agriculture And Environmental Sciences
- School of Public Health
- College of Education
- School of Government
The greatest this generation can do is lay a few stepping stones for the next generation.

Charles Kettering