Former Albany State President and UDC Alumni to be Guest Speaker for Founders’ Day 2006

Dr. Portia Holmes Shields, former president of Albany State University in Albany, Georgia, has agreed to deliver the keynote address for the University of the District of Columbia’s Founders’ Day Convocation on Wednesday, February 15, 2006. The Convocation, which will in the University’s Auditorium, is scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m. Dr. Shields is a graduate from D.C. Teachers College, one of the predecessor institutions of the University of the District of Columbia.

Dr. Shields became the first female president of Albany State University when she assumed that post in July, 1996. As the seventh president of the 101-year-old university, Dr. Shields inherited a campus recovering from the destructive flood waters of the Flint River, which had consumed nearly two-thirds of the 204-acre campus in 1994. Dr. Shields’ leadership was critical to the university’s comeback, as she spearheaded a $153 million rebuilding program that revitalized the institution.

Dr. Shields received her primary, secondary and college education in her native home, Washington, D.C. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Education from the District of Columbia Teachers College, one of three institutions later merged to form the University of the District of Columbia. She earned a Master of Arts degree in Education from George Washington University, Washington, D.C., and the Doctor of Philosophy degree in Early Childhood and Elementary Education from the University of Maryland at College Park. Dr. Shields’ work experiences included serving as dean of the School of Education (1993 - 1996) and director of Medical and Biomedical Communications, College of Medicine (1989 - 1993) at Howard University in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Shields' work experiences included serving as dean of the School of Education (1993 - 1996) and director of Medical and Biomedical Communications, College of Medicine (1989 - 1993) at Howard University in Washington, D.C.

Mayor Anthony A. Williams, D.C. City Council Chairwoman Linda Cropp, and other members of the District Council, as well as Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton, have all been invited to share in the University’s commemoration.
The recognition of distinguished citizens is an important part of the growing tradition of Founders’ Day at the University of the District of Columbia. To ensure wide participation, the deadline for submission of nominations for awards has been extended to January 19. We will be celebrating its Annual Founders’ Day Convocation & Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, February 15, 2006. The University community—faculty, staff, students, and alumni—are invited to nominate those individuals whom they believe meet the established criteria for the special awards presented during this auspicious occasion. Founders Day Award Categories include:

* **The Distinguished Leadership Award**
  
  The Distinguished Leadership Award is presented annually at the University of the District of Columbia’s Founders’ Day Convocation and is awarded to that individual who has demonstrated outstanding leadership in his/her profession and whose work has contributed to the betterment of one’s community and its citizens on a local, national, or international level. *(The Distinguished Leadership Award is named for Washington Technical Institute president Cleveland L. Dennard)*

* **The Distinguished Service Award**
  
  The Distinguished Service Award is presented annually at the University of the District of Columbia’s Founders’ Day Convocation and is awarded to that individual who has demonstrated a long-term commitment of outstanding service to the University. *(The Distinguished Service Award is named the Honorable Ronald H. Brown)*

* **The Distinguished Educator’s Award**
  
  The Distinguished Educator’s Award is presented annually at the University of the District of Columbia’s Founders’ Day Convocation and is awarded to that individual whose laudable contributions as an educator have made a discernible difference in the city or nation’s schools, colleges, universities, or private institutions of learning. *(The Distinguished Educator’s Award is named for the Honorable Marjorie Holloman Parke.)*

* **The Paul Phillips Cooke Lifetime Achievement Award**
  
  The Paul Phillips Cooke Lifetime Achievement Award is presented annually to that University of the District of Columbia faculty or staff member who has consistently demonstrated exceptional loyalty and extraordinary commitment, dedication, and service to the advancement of the University and its goals and objectives. *(The Paul Phillips Cooke Lifetime Achievement Award is named in honor of the former D.C. Teachers College President)*

Nomination forms with more detailed criteria can be found on the University webpage (www.udc.edu). All Founders’ Day Award Nomination Forms should be submitted to the Office of the Vice President for Communications and University Relations, University of the District of Columbia, 4200 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Building 52, Room 506, Washington, D.C. 20008 no later than Thursday, January 19, 2006. *(Note: Nominations may also be e-mailed to baustin@udc.edu or jcatchings@udc.edu.)*
"Honoring the Legacy: Building the Dream"

Sunday, January 15, 2006
3:00 p.m. Reception
4:00 p.m. Program

University of the District of Columbia
4200 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Building 46
Washington, DC

Speaker:
Reverend Matthew L. Watley, Reid Temple AME Church
Founder of the Union Station AMC Movie Theater "Power Lunch"

Living the Dream Award recipients:
The Washington, DC Martin Luther King, Jr.
National Project Foundation, Inc.
and
Apostle Shirley Holloway Johnson, House of Help City of Hope

Featuring:
Eastern High School Choir
Special Trip Giveaway by Southwest Airlines and Marriott International

www.os.dc.gov
Free and Open to the Public
Labor Donated
Pride Week is Spirit Week!!

Mark your calendar for Pride Week from Monday, February 13 through Friday, February, 17, 2006. Pride Week is spearheaded by the USGA and the Division for Student Affairs, and this year co-sponsored with the Office for University Relations. This year marks the third anniversary of Pride Week at the University of the District of Columbia.

Highlights of planned activities include the grand opening of the new Counseling and Career Development Center in Building 39, Suite 120 and a Valentines Day dance. In addition, a film will be previewed featuring the Emmett Till lynching, accompanied with discussion. The week promises to be informative and festive. A complete schedule of events will be forthcoming.

Development Update - Gifts from the Office of University Relations and Communications Demonstrate Full Support of UDC

Under the leadership of Dr. Bobby Austin, the Office of University Relations and Communications had 100% participation in giving in 2005! The University Relations team takes their roles seriously as staff and donors at our great university. They know that every gift and every giver makes a difference for the UDC scholar. Bravo!!!

If you or someone you know would like to make a gift to the University, please contact The Office of Development at 202-274-5729 or email development@udc.edu.

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 regalia beginning Tuesday,
January 17, 2006 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
Students Represent University at National Black Student Leadership Development Conference

The 20th celebration of the National Black Student Leadership Development Conference (NBSLDC) was held at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City in Arlington VA from January 5, 2006 through January 8, 2006. Over a thousand students from all over the country attended. Six students represented the University of the District of Columbia (UDC), Crystal Parsley, Mah-Ki- Fox, David Gaston, Kay-Ann Willis, Francise Saenz and JoAnn Forbes plus a faculty member Mr. Clayton McLaughlin, who is the new Career Counselor here at UDC. The conference theme was “Here Am I! Send Me.” Keynote speakers, Dorothy Height and Dr. Randel D. Pinkett (winner of the Apprentice) shared their expertise and knowledge with the participants. In addition, the workshop sessions added to the students’ ability to identify academically, socially and personally what it is to become a leader. A good time was had by all. Students were able to network and establish relationships with other students and professionals in the leadership field. This was the first time that students from UDC have attended the NBSLDC. Nonetheless, arrangements have been made by UDC to play an active roll in sending students each year. Next year’s conference will be held in Florida.

UPCOMING EVENT - The 8th Annual Dr. Lonnie Mitchell National HBCU Substance Abuse & Mental Health Conference will be held April 5-8, 2006 here in Washington DC at the Grand Hyatt. For those students who are interested in attending please see or e-mail Mr. Clayton McLaughlin. (e-mail: cmclaughlin@udc.edu.) You may also visit the conference web site @ www.lemconf.com.

Director, Continuing Education Featured in Newsletter

Lucious Anderson, Director of Continuing Education was featured in the University Continuing Education Association In Focus Newsletter for November/December 2005 Vol. 10, Num. 10. Anderson is highlighted for his work representing the University’s Division of Continuing Education at the Mid-Atlantic Region Great Valley Regional Conference, which was hosted by Penn State Great Valley in Malvern, Pennsylvania in October 2005. He is shown here with other members of the awards. For more information on the organization and their activities, visit www.ucea.edu and click on Mid-Atlantic.
Low Income Taxpayer Clinic Open for Business

The University of the District of Columbia’s David A. Clarke School of Law is pleased to announce that the school’s first ever low income taxpayer clinic (LITC) is now open and accepting clients. Individuals interested in LITC representation must meet income requirements and may seek representation in both federal and state tax controversies. Incomes must fall within 250% of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) poverty guidelines. Current income limits are $23,925 for a single taxpayer, $32,075 for a family of two (2), up to $56,525 for a family of five (5) (an additional $8,150 is allowed for each family member in families with more than five (5) members).

Legal assistance is provided in Spanish and English and is free of charge. However, if a Tax Court petition must be filed, taxpayers are responsible for filing fees unless severe economic hardship exists, wherein a request will be made for waiver of associated fees.

Interested individuals may contact Prof. Lainez by telephone (202) 274-7300 or via email (jlainez@udc.edu), and may also contact paralegal Jacqueline Craig at (202) 274-5073 or jCraig@udc.edu.

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.