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University of the District of Columbia

Research and Graduate Studies

May 6, 2010

TO: Academic Senate

FROM: Beverly K. Hartline

Dean of Graduate Studies on Behalf of Graduate Council

SUBJECT: Proposal to Establish the National Center for Urban Education at
the University
of the District of Columbia

The Graduate Council submits to you, moved and seconded, for approval the proposal to establish the National Center for Urban Education at the University of the District of Columbia. The Center, the academic disciplines involved, and the Center's potential impact transcend academic departments and span every Flagship School and College.

The proposal has been developed over the past year by a multidisciplinary team, consulting via both informal and formal discussions and meetings with numerous faculty and other stakeholders. It presents a vision for the Center, a justification for its establishment, a notional list of possible programs, curricula, research, and activities that might be added to or incorporated in the Center, and a notional time line for the development of such programs and activities. The development and initiation of possible future programs and activities would

require the proponents to follow the appropriate planning, documentation, deliberation, discussion, review, and approval process. For example, a research project would require a proposal, administrative approval for submission, sponsor decision to provide funding, and possibly Institutional Review Board approval, if human-subjects protocols are involved. A proposal for a new degree program would follow the new program development and review process documented in the Academic Policies and Procedures Manual, through the Academic Senate and ultimately to the Board. No program terminations are requested in this proposal. If warranted, such proposals would need to be initiated in the future, follow the specified process, and culminate in a decision by the Board.

Academic Senate action in favor of this request would be recommending to the Provost:

- (1) The establishment of the Center, including the newly revised M.A. in Early Childhood Education and the existing Early Childhood Leadership Institute;
- (2) The initiation of the proposed M.A.T. program in Fall 2010 to provide a streamlined pathway to teacher certification, emphasizing dual-language and special education needs common in urban classrooms, for career-changers and recent bachelor's graduates with content-area majors. This new degree program would open with certification options in each teaching specialty in which UDC already has NCATE and SPA approval.

Upon Senate approval, the team will proceed to work with the UDC Finance group to prepare the detailed financial analyses required for consideration by the Board.

