

# THE COMMUNITY SPARK

UNIVERSITY OF THE  
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

FACULTY/STAFF  
NEWSLETTER



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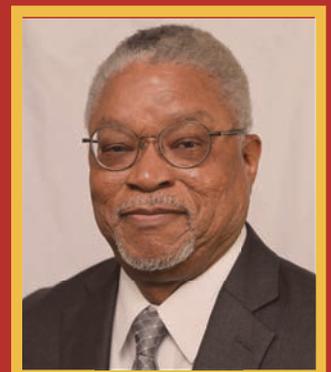
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HOLSTON AT [PAUL.HOLSTON@UDC.EDU](mailto:PAUL.HOLSTON@UDC.EDU)

## A Brief Word From The CCCO

BY DR. TONY SUMMERS  
CHIEF COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
OFFICER



As we get closer to completing the 2019-2020 academic year, I want to share with you all how grateful I am to serve as your Chief Community College Officer of the University of the District of Columbia - Community College. Our core values here at the Community College are Excellence, Collaboration, Sustainability, Innovation, and Integrity. Each value is essential in our success as servant leaders of students here at UDC.

Each of us plays an important role in the success of our students and UDC. It is our roles as team members that support and drive the UDC Equity Imperative. Our ultimate goal is to serve our community stakeholders. It is imperative that we continue to motivate and inspire our students to become lifelong learners and leaders of tomorrow.



Ronald Mason, Jr., J.D.  
*President*

Dear Students, Faculty, and Staff:

The University is monitoring the worldwide spread of the respiratory illness novel coronavirus (COVID-19). Currently, there are no known cases of COVID-19 at our University or in the District. Our highest priority is the safety of our students, faculty, and staff, as we address this rapidly changing situation.

**The immediate risk at UDC remains low. We have established a Campus Task Force that is working closely with District agencies to coordinate our response, and to develop operational contingency plans based on various scenarios.**

As of February 28, cases had been reported in at least 50 countries, including the United States. We have established a web page at <https://www.udc.edu/covid-19/> with the most current information from various sources. We are working with the [DC Health Department](#) to monitor this evolving situation, and the [UDC Office of Health Services](#) is available to answer questions at 202.274.6036 during normal hours of operation.

If you're making travel plans for spring break, or for any purpose—work or vacation—please check for travel updates regularly. Travel restrictions change as the virus continues to evolve rapidly. Government agencies and transportation authorities may enact additional restrictions with little or no advance notice.

**Unless otherwise notified, UDC will no longer support any faculty, staff, or student travel to China through the summer.** The CDC has issued a Warning Level 3 Travel Notice for China, South Korea, Iran, and Italy, indicating the necessity to "Avoid All Non-Essential Travel." Those destinations should be avoided until further notice. It is likely other destinations may be added as the coronavirus spreads, and the same no-travel policy will apply. Individuals who choose to travel to those locations without UDC support may be subject to U.S. restrictions, including quarantine or isolation. Please be sure to obtain proper approval for any UDC-supported (financial or academic support) travel for all international trips.

As a reminder, to help prevent the spread of illness, including the flu and common cold:

- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water, or use hand sanitizer.
- Cover your cough, and cough into a tissue or your sleeve, not your hand.
- Avoid sharing drinks, food, cigarettes, and vaping products.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Avoid close contact with sick people.
- If sick, limit contact with others as much as possible.

During this time of uncertainty, caring for ourselves and for others is our top priority. We will continue to monitor the coronavirus and provide updates as developments occur.

Thank you for your cooperation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ronald Mason, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Ronald Mason, Jr.

**ASPIRE. ACCOMPLISH. TAKE ON THE WORLD.**

4200 Connecticut Avenue, NW — Washington, District of Columbia 20008  
Phone: 202.274.6016 • [www.udc.edu](http://www.udc.edu) • Facsimile: 202.274.5304

# **UDC-CC Appoints Mashonda Smith as Dean of Workforce Development and Lifelong Learning**

**Dr. Mashonda Smith serves as the new Dean of Workforce Development and Lifelong Learning for the University of the District of Columbia – Community College effective January 2, 2020. As a native Washingtonian, she possesses a diverse range of professional knowledge and experience as a public servant that spans over 15 years. In her role, key aspects of Dr. Smith’s responsibilities include providing strategic organizational leadership and building productive community-based partnerships that address local workforce and labor market needs through programmatic implementation of cost-effective and student-centered programs.**

**Prior to her appointment, Dr. Smith served as an American Job Center Operator. Smith’s primary research area focuses on the development, implementation, evaluation, and monitoring of evidence-based (and/or -informed) public workforce development systems, organizational processes, and programs. Dr. Smith’s professional career has involved working in federal government for approximately 10 years as a Program, Management, and Budget Analyst, and as a Senior Contracting Officer. She has developed and implemented evidence-based youth programs and curricula at numerous venues, and served as a licensed counselor for justice-involved populations in urban and rural communities. Dr. Smith’s most recent career experiences included serving as a senior career counselor at Washington State University’s Academic Success and Career Center; a lead postsecondary Instructor for career development, life skills, work preparedness/readiness courses within college and community settings; a Principle Investigator on a national, multi-state youth development pilot study focusing on positively impacting childhood obesity and adult-youth partnerships; and coauthor of a research article on the development of self-image among transgender emerging adults.**

**Dr. Smith’s educational background includes earning a bachelor’s degree in Environmental Science and Policy from the University of South Florida; a Master’s Degree from American University in Public Administration, with a specialization in public program development and management; a Master’s Degree from Johns Hopkins University in Clinical Community Counseling, with a specialization in the development of therapeutic programs; and a Master’s Degree in Prevention Science from Washington State University. Dr. Smith is currently completing her doctorate degree in Prevention Science.**

# OVERVIEW: "Equity Imperative: Pathways to Possible" Town Hall Meeting

## What to Expect from UDC By 2022

### UDC WILL BE A PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION MODEL OF URBAN STUDENT SUCCESS BY:

- Offering effective and affordable academic and workforce programs
- Launching nationally recognized urban research and scholarship
- Strengthening links to government and community stakeholders

### UDC WILL AWARD MORE DEGREES AND WORKFORCE CREDENTIALS BY:

- Charting seamless pathways between training, education, and employment
- Ensuring students succeed by providing coaching, tutoring, and financial aid
- Creating environments conducive to learning

### UDC WILL GRADUATE PASSIONATE LEARNERS AND LEADERS WHO WILL TRANSFORM OUR LIVES AND URBAN SPACES AS WE:

- Encourage multicultural engagement
- Enrich our curriculum with experiential learning
- Equip students with self-awareness tools and senses of empowerment

## Outcomes

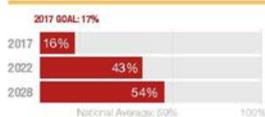
### DEGREE ENROLLMENT



### DEGREE COMPLETIONS



### GRADUATION RATE



### RETENTION RATE



### WORKFORCE ENROLLMENT



### INDUSTRY CERTIFICATIONS



University of the District of Columbia President Ronald Mason gave an extensive overview of the updated "Equity Imperative" Strategic Plan on Wednesday, January 29th in the Student Center Ballroom, on the Van Ness campus.

President Mason answered numerous questions from faculty, staff, and students, on topics ranging from students' quality of life, adjunct professor pay, food services, as well as how UDC would be moving forward University-wide.

## UDC Ideals

- VISION** All students will achieve their highest levels of human potential.
- MISSION** Embracing its essence as a public historically black urban-focused land-grant university in the nation's capital, UDC is dedicated to serving the needs of the community of the District of Columbia, and producing lifelong learners who are transformative leaders in the workforce, government, nonprofit sectors and beyond.
- MOTTO** Aspire. Accomplish. Take on the World.
- PILLARS** Quality • Location • Affordability • Diversity • Community Focus
- CORE VALUES** Excellence • Innovation • Integrity • Sustainability • Collaboration

## Overarching Strategy

As the pinnacle of the District of Columbia's public system of education, the University of the District of Columbia will support the District in its continuing effort to be the model of a sustainable, resilient, and equitable community. The University will create solutions to urban challenges, train and support an exemplary workforce at all levels and in all sectors, and develop transformative, ethical leaders, thus improving access to economic opportunity for all.

## Academic Structure

UDC awards undergraduate, graduate, and professional degrees at four colleges (Arts & Sciences; Business & Public Administration; Agriculture, Urban Sustainability & Environmental Sciences; and Engineering & Applied Sciences) and a School of Law located at its flagship Van Ness campus. It also specializes in developmental learning and early college instruction, and confers workforce credentials, professional certifications, and associate's degrees at a branch campus which is a Community College.



To find the complete presentation of "The Equity Imperative - Strategic Plan 2022," go to [www.udc.edu/strategic-plan/](http://www.udc.edu/strategic-plan/)



## UDC - COMMUNITY COLLEGE ACCOMPLISHMENTS - FEB/MAR 2020

*Photo Courtesy of udc.edu*

Please find below a summary of accomplishments and achievements at the University of the District of Columbia Community College from the February 5, 2020 Board of Trustee meeting:

■ [WDLL] The new Old Congress Heights campus for UDC-CC officially opened in October 2019, becoming its newest Workforce Development and Lifelong Learning site on the grounds of the former Democracy Prep Public Charter School in Congress Heights.

■ [AA] Guardian Life has reached out to UDC-CC to participate in their Innovation Challenge that is taking place currently in spring semester. The winners of the Innovation Challenge will receive scholarships and monetary awards. This challenge will enhance Guardian Life's partnership with the Community College.

■ [AA] Aviation Maintenance technology Program featured on Voice of America.

LINK: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=JYLqI41tsjA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JYLqI41tsjA)

■ [AA] UDC-CC and Guardian Life Insurance's Center for Financial Empowerment, Innovation, and Sustainability (C-4) at the community college. The mission of the Center is to serve an innovative learning hub for students, faculty, and community members to engage in learning strategies related to financial literacy, business management, and financial stability.

■ [AA] In partnership with OSSE, DCPS, and Public Charters, UDC-CC is hosting a yearlong Career and Technical Education Speaker Series. The second installment in the series was held in the multipurpose room on January 30, 2020. The event hosted a panel of eight career experts from diverse disciplines representing information technology, education, general business, accounting, architecture, nursing, and fashion. 135 participants attended the event.

■ [AA] The Division of Nursing, Allied Health, Life, and Physical Sciences were awarded a \$400 grant by the League of Innovation in Community Colleges to conduct a 1-day "Careers in Health" Fair. The event is scheduled to take place on April 8, 2020, at the Community College.

■ [Cont. Ed] Continuing Education is in the process of developing an agreement with Unity Health Care of Washington, D.C. The partnership will offer English as a Second Language instruction onsite for up to 112 Unity Health Care employees.

■ [WDLL] Workforce Development and Lifelong Learning successfully completed its initial Amazon Web Services (AWS) Cloud Computing Course. Fifteen students entered the program in October 2019. Eleven of the students successfully completed the course and are currently awaiting to take the certification examination. The spring semester AWS course has 24 students enrolled with a waiting list.

■ [WDLL] Workforce Development and Lifelong Learning launched a GED program on February 10, 2020 at Congress Heights (Ward 8). The initial cohort has 10 students enrolled. The offices of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) has provided tremendous support during the startup process.



## UDC-CC Aviation Maintenance Technology Program Awarded Pratt & Whitney JT8D-15AQM Engine From FedEx

The University of the District of Columbia Community College's Aviation Maintenance Technology program was awarded a Pratt & Whitney JT8D-15AQM turbofan engine from FedEx in January 2020 through the Women in Aviation International (WAI) scholarship program. The engine is over 12 feet long, four feet in diameter, weighs nearly 5,000 pounds, and is capable of producing nearly 22,000 pounds of thrust. FedEx plans to deliver the engine before the end of the Spring 2020 semester.

"The support and encouragement from industry partners like FedEx allow us to innovate and to find creative solutions which help UDC-CC to provide the highest quality and most effective educational experience for our students," said UDC-CC Aviation Program Director William Russo. "We are extremely fortunate and thankful to receive this donation."

The engine will be ready for use with students immediately upon arrival at the UDC-CC airport hangar. UDC-CC will see use directly in the turbine engine systems, turbine engine maintenance, and engine inspection classes. It will also enhance the curriculum of the aircraft systems, and aircraft inspections classes.

"I am grateful to FedEx for the gift of the engine," said Dr. Marilyn Hamilton, UDC-CC Dean of Academic Affairs. "It will help us to provide our students with real world experiences that will enhance their knowledge, skills and abilities, and make them more marketable."

Russo will formally accept the donation from FedEx on March 6th at the WAI conference in Orlando, FL.



# RECAP: Spring 2020 New Student Orientation

Staff members from the University of District of Columbia - Community College held the Spring 2020 New Student Orientation at the 801 North Capitol campus. Students were introduced by a number of UDC-CC resource offices, including registration, financial aid, and student wellness, as well as getting familiar with the Community College.

(Photos by Paul Holston, UDC-CC Communications Specialist)

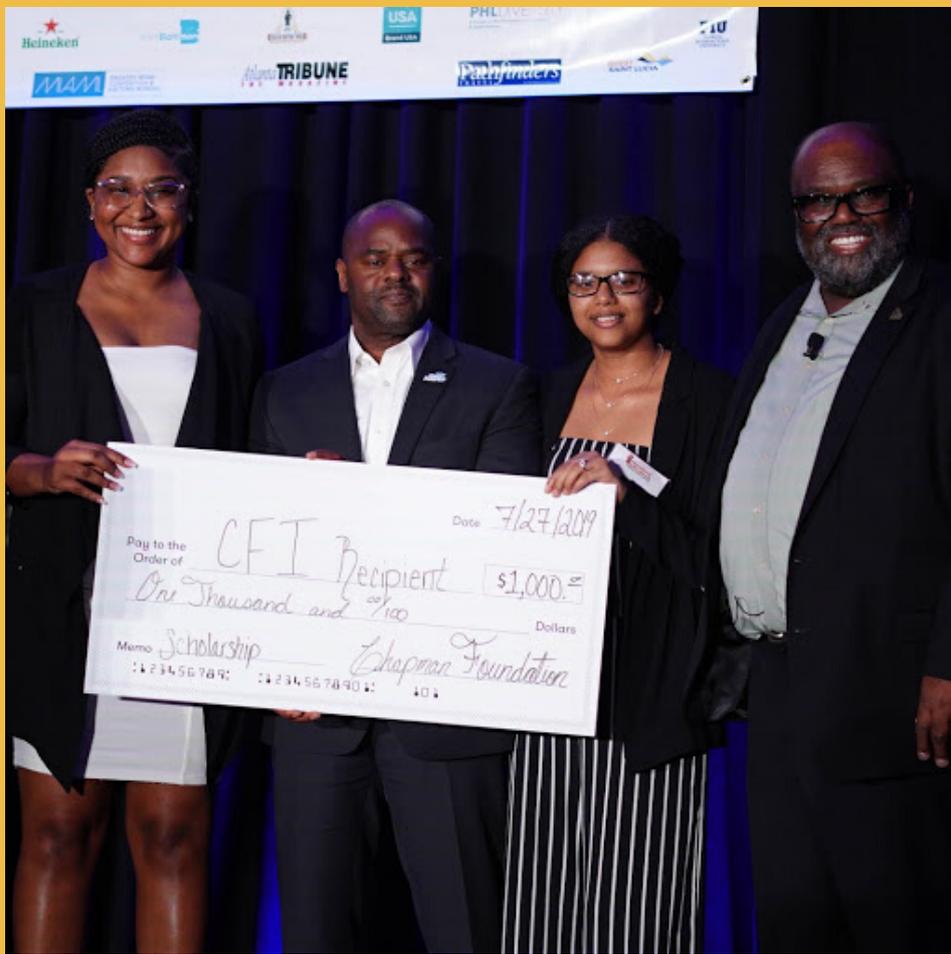


# A LOOK BACK -- UDC-CC Coding + Robotics Summer Camp



From July 15-26, 2019, UDC-CC hosted a Coding + Robotics Summer camp at UDC-CC's 801 North Capitol Street Northeast campus. The course taught ninth grade students how to code in the Swift Playground, build a LEGO Robot, and develop an app that solves a problem in their lives. The winning app prototypes were featured at the new Apple store at Carnegie Library in Washington, D.C.





**A LOOK BACK -- UDC-CC  
HOSPITALITY AND  
TOURISM  
MANAGEMENT STUDENT  
WINS NATIONAL  
ASSOCIATION OF BLACK  
HOTEL OWNERS,  
OPERATORS AND  
DEVELOPERS' 2019  
SHEEN  
MAGAZINE/CHAPMAN  
FOUNDATION'S 1ST  
PLACE 'BEST ESSAY  
AWARD.'**

*By Henry G. Iroegbu, M.B.A., Ph.D.  
Associate Professor*

Congratulations to Mr. Alex Simmons, a UDC-CC Hospitality Management and Tourism student for winning the 'National Association of Black Hotel Owners, Operators and Developers' (NABHOOD) - 2019 SHEEN MAGAZINE/CHAPMAN FOUNDATION'S 1ST PLACE 'BEST ESSAY AWARD.'

The event was held at the 23rd Annual International African American Hotel Ownership and Investment Summit and Trade Show, from July 24th to July 28th in Miami, Florida. The first-place award allotted a \$1,000 scholarship ward. I am delighted to report that our Hospitality and Tourism Management Program's student was once again able to compete and outshine other contestants from longer-established Universities' hospitality and tourism management programs.

Special accolades to all our UDC-CC Hospitality and Tourism Management students who participated in the various workshops at the summit, namely: Alex Simmons (team leader), Jeanviele Smalls, and Yasmeen Mohammed. Dr. Henry Iroegbu, the Hospitality and Tourism Management Club's advisor, guided them through the challenging process.



*Courtesy Photo*



*Courtesy Photo*

# A LOOK BACK -- FACULTY HIGHLIGHT: Transformative Reshaping at the 17th Annual JVC International Conference on Men of Color

UDC-CC Professors Albert Pearsall and Lawrence Covington presented at the 17th Annual JVC International Conference on Men of Color, October 7-9, 2019 hosted by Virginia Union University, Richmond, Virginia. Both professors took two students from the Community College, Payton McFadden and Brian Graham, and the students were able to address the assembled body about their experiences at the University of the District of Columbia - Community College. Professor Pearsall was also presented the Distinguished Leadership Award.



# ANNOUNCEMENTS



**CONGRATULATIONS** to the UDC-CC Staff and Faculty members awarded during the 2019 Outstanding Faculty/Staff Awards Ceremony, a part of the League for Innovation in the Community College's League Excellence Awards, held on December 6, 2019 at 801 North Capitol Street NE. The awardees are as followed:

**Administrator:** *Joanna Ellsberry*

**Full-Time Faculty:** *Christian Aguiar*

**Adjunct Faculty:** *Tanya Claggett*

**Staff:** *Giana Hendrick*

(Photo by Paul Holston, Communications Specialist)

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## **UDC-Community College Reproduction Center 2019-2020**

**Location:** Room 621

**Hours:** 8:30 am - 4:00 pm Tuesdays and Thursdays

**Closed:** 12:00 – 1:00 pm for Lunch

**Phone Number:** 202-274-5195

**Email:** [creproduction@udc.edu](mailto:creproduction@udc.edu)

**Email Submissions to:** [ccreproduction@udc.edu](mailto:ccreproduction@udc.edu)

**Service Levels:**

-1 to 3 business days for all request < 200 (except booklets)

-3 to 5 business days for all request > 200 after cabinet approval (except booklets)

-Booklets will be based on job complexity

**Staff:** Office of Auxiliary Enterprises (OAE) Staff/Contractor

**Leayette Patrice Buchanan**

Manager of Facilities Operations Management

UDC-CC Reproduction Center Manager

Phone Number: 202-274-6134 (Van Ness Office)

Email: [buchanan@udc.edu](mailto:buchanan@udc.edu)

**Community College Reproduction Center Point of Contact:**

**Stephanie Gilmore**

Interim Flex Entry Program Coordinator

UDC-CC Reproduction Center Student Supervisor Office: Suite 313

Phone Number: 202-274-6937 Email: [stephanie.gilmore@udc.edu](mailto:stephanie.gilmore@udc.edu)

**OFFICIAL WEBSITE: [www.udc.edu/cc/](http://www.udc.edu/cc/)**