

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

UNIVERSITY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

UDC Resolution 2017-_____

SUBJECT: Conferral of Honorary Degree upon Jim Vance, TV News Anchorman, News 4

WHEREAS, pursuant to D.C. Code §38-1202.06(3), the Board of Trustees has authority to award degrees and to establish policy with respect to the award of degrees; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to 8B DCMR §315.2, the President, upon consultation with the Faculty Senate, has recommended that Jim Vance be awarded an honorary degree for his significant contributions and accomplishments over 40 years as a journalist and social commentator, blazing a trail for a new generation of minority journalists and providing a visible and positive role model for men of color through his prominence as a major TV network news anchor in the nation's capital; for his fearlessness in news coverage and commentary through a 40-years-plus career that has taken him around the U.S. and beyond, earning him numerous honors, including 17 Emmy Awards, induction into the National Association of Black Journalists' Hall of Fame (2007), the Ted Yates Award for outstanding community service, and selection as a "Washingtonian of the Year;" and for using his voice to champion a variety of causes, including but not limited to education, civil rights, civic responsibilities, and mental health; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to 8B DCMR §315.3, the Board of Trustees must approve the recommendation of Jim Vance by an affirmative vote of three-fourths (¾) of the members present at the meeting of the Board of Trustees following the meeting at which the recommendation was made;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby approves the recommendation of the awarding of the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters to Jim Vance, with all the honors, privileges, and duties pertaining thereto.

Submitted by the Academic & Student Affairs
Committee:

February 2, 2017

Approved by the Board of Trustees:

February 22, 2017

Dr. Elaine A. Crider
Chairperson of the Board



FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

TO: The Board of Trustees
FROM: Managing Director of Finance *David L. Franklin*
DATE: January 27, 2017
SUBJECT: Honorary Degree upon Jim Vance

Conclusion

It is concluded that there is no fiscal impact associated with the University of the District of Columbia (UDC) awarding an honorary degree upon Jim Vance.

Background

The President, upon consultation with the Faculty Senate, has recommended that Jim Vance be awarded an honorary degree for his significant contributions and accomplishments over 40 years as a journalist and social commentator.

Mr. Vance is cited for blazing a trail for a new generation of minority journalists and providing a visible and positive role model for men of color through his prominence as a major TV network news anchor in Washington, DC; for his fearlessness in news coverage and commentary that has taken him around the U.S. and other countries. He has earned a wide variety of awards and honors, including 17 Emmy Awards, induction into the National Association of Black Journalists' Hall of Fame in 2007, the Ted Yates Award for outstanding community service, and the being named a "Washingtonian of the Year."

Financial Impact

Based on the information provided, we do not anticipate any fiscal impact.

Proposed Recipient of Honorary Degree for
UDC's Spring Commencement, May 13, 2017

JIM VANCE
TV News Anchorman, News 4
Washington, DC

Mr. Vance is being recognized for his significant contributions and accomplishments over 40 years as a journalist and social commentator, blazing a trail for a new generation of minority journalists and providing a visible and positive role model for men of color through his prominence as a major TV network news anchor in the nation's capital; for his fearlessness in news coverage and commentary through a decades-long career that has taken him around the U.S. and beyond, earning him numerous honors. He has used his voice to fearlessly champion a variety of causes, including but not limited to education, civil rights, civic responsibilities, and mental health. Mr. Vance's journalistic skills, combined with his commitment to social and community causes, and his dedication to the Washington, DC, community that he covers serve as an outstanding example and source of inspiration for the University's diverse students. For representing UDC's values so well, we are proud to honor his achievements.

Jim Vance anchors "News4 at 6" with Doreen Gentzler, his broadcast partner for more than 25 years. Vance also files special reports for all NBC4 newscasts. He has been part of the News4 team since 1969. Vance started as a General Assignment reporter, then moved to the anchor desk in 1972. For more than 40 years, he anchored News4 at 11 before stepping down from that role in May 2015. Vance also provides special reports on a wide variety of issues. His reporting has taken him all over the United States and to several countries including El Salvador, South Africa and Vietnam.

Vance began his reporting career with *The Philadelphia Independent* newspaper and radio station WHAT-AM, all while teaching in the Philadelphia public school system. In 1968, he accepted a position as a reporter for WKBS-TV in Philadelphia.

Vance has earned numerous awards and honors. In 2007, the National Association of Black Journalists inducted Vance into its Hall of Fame. Other honors include: 17 Emmy Awards; induction into the Journalists Hall of Fame; and membership in the Silver Circle of the Washington Chapter of the National Association of Television Arts and Sciences. He also holds the Ted Yates Award for outstanding community service and has been honored as a "Washingtonian of the Year."

A native of Ardmore, Pennsylvania, Vance holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Secondary Education from Cheyney University in Cheyney, PA.

UDC VALUES

*Learning, discovery, and engagement * Academic excellence * High expectations * Student success
Innovation * Cross-cultural and international perspectives * Technological competencies
Collaboration among our internal and external partners * Public service*