



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

September 4, 2020

Dear Firebirds,

Welcome back students, faculty and staff of Team UDC! I hope you feel like me. It is good to be back, even if virtually.

The Fall 2020 semester will be unlike any other that we have experienced. Many of your colleagues from across campus have worked since the spring planning for this fall. Faculty are certified in online instruction so students will experience engaging remote learning. Staff is prepared to support the effort through a telework modality. Essential employees and others who must be on the campuses from time to time are assured of a low health risk environment. Students are registered and anxious to get to work. I am confident that UDC is well prepared to meet the unprecedented challenges of this new academic season.

Our main goal is to keep our community safe and healthy. COVID-19 spreads primarily through person-to-person contact, so we have adjusted accordingly. Our facilities are closed with few exceptions. Our Talent Management Procedures and Code of Student Conduct contain rules that we will enforce for those who must be on campus for any reason. The rules are also explained on the [RISE](#) site. Please visit RISE to learn how to safeguard your health and the health and wellbeing of others.

The history of the University of the District of Columbia is one filled with challenges. However, true to the nature of the Firebird, we have always risen to the occasion. I expect no less today as we navigate through these uncertain times. We need each other now more than ever if we are to achieve our goal of being a model of urban student success.

I look forward to a great semester! It is an honor to serve with you.

Sincerely,

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