



dateline: UVI



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UVI Celebrates its 50th Anniversary

2012 is the year of UVI. As the University of the Virgin Islands celebrates its 50th Anniversary with activities and events from January to December, Virgin Islands Gov. John P. de Jongh Jr. has proclaimed 2012 as the “50th Anniversary Jubilee Year of the University of the Virgin Islands,” honoring the University’s half-century of academic excellence and community service. UVI kicked off the year of jubilation with receptions on St. Thomas, St. Croix and St. John. Past and present UVI students, faculty, staff, administrators, donors and friends were invited to attend.

“The word jubilee has a sacred connotation,” UVI President Dr. David Hall said at the Jan. 26 reception on St. Thomas. Jubilee represents a time for celebration and joy, but also a time for cleansing in preparation for enormous growth, he said. “This time in the life of UVI is sacred,” Dr. Hall said. He listed many of the accomplishments that UVI has to celebrate, including the many students and visionary leaders who have transformed the institution. He also said UVI must



Top: seated, UVI President Dr. David Hall; left to right former UVI President Dr. LaVerne E. Ragster, President Emeritus Dr. Orville E. Kean, Pamela Richards-Samuel representing her father the late President Emeritus Dr. Arthur A. Richards and Malcolm Kirwan representing President Emeritus Dr. Lawrence C. Wanlass at the reception on St. Thomas.

cleanse itself of doubts and fears, and move forward without disappointments.

“This University must be even more relevant in the future than it has been in the past,” Dr. Hall said. The best tribute that anyone can make to UVI, he said, is to make sure it continues to achieve greatness.

The receptions included remarks by all of UVI past presidents or their representatives – Dr. LaVerne E. Ragster, Dr. Orville E. Kean, Pamela Richards-Samuel representing her father the late Dr. Arthur A. Richards and Malcolm Kirwan representing Dr. Lawrence C. Wanlass.

Spiked with history and humor, Dr. Kean in his remarks asked everyone to redefine what UVI means. “If anyone asks you what the University is, it is the place where infinity begins,” the mathematician said. He suggested that UVI post a sign in

each room that says, “Infinity begins here.”

“The University has been the greatest game-changer

See Jubilee on next page

Events Calendar

Feb. 3	Brothers With a Cause Installation	STT
Feb. 3	“Distracted Driving” Presentation	STX
Feb. 3	Open Mic Event	STT
Feb. 7	Man Up Conference	STX
Feb. 7	HIV/AIDS Testing	STT
Feb. 8	Man Up Workshop	STX
Feb. 9	Man Up Conference	STT
Feb. 10	Man Up Workshop	STT
Feb. 10	Little Princess Tea Party	STX
Feb. 10-11	Lady Bucs Basketball Games	PR
Feb. 18-20	USVI Agrifest	STX

50 for 50 Challenge

UVI President Dr. David Hall has issued a challenge to all UVI alumni. Through the “50 for 50” campaign, Dr. Hall challenges alumni to raise the alumni giving rate to 50 percent in honor of UVI’s 50th anniversary. If alumni meet the challenge, UVI will make history as the first Historically Black College and University to have a 50 percent alumni giving rate, Dr. Hall said. Alumni may make donations on-line by visiting the “Support UVI, Donate Now” button on the home page of the UVI website www.uvi.edu. Donors have the option of making one-time or recurring gifts, and selecting how they would like their gifts to be used. For more information about making a donation or pledge, call UVI’s Director of Alumni Affairs and Annual Giving Linda Smith at (340) 692-4023. All donations made to UVI are tax-deductible.

Two Soccer Fields to be Built on St. Croix's Sheen Campus



Members of the UVI Soccer Team, UVI administrators and government officials "break ground" for the Albert A. Sheen Campus' soccer fields on St. Croix.

On Jan. 27, UVI broke ground for the construction of a competition level soccer field and a practice soccer field on the Albert A. Sheen Campus on St. Croix.

UVI President Dr. David Hall said the soccer fields, being constructed during UVI's 50th Anniversary year, are the products of a partnership between the Government of the U.S. Virgin Islands and the federal govern-

ment, utilizing stimulus funds.

"We deeply believe that having an athletic program is central to a university and the spirit of a university," Dr. Hall said in remarks at the event. He said having had no intercollegiate athletics on UVI's St. Croix campus was, "an unfortunate part of our past. It will not be part of our future."

Jubilee Continued

in the USVI," Dr. Kean said. "Without being presumptuous, it has been the biggest game-changer in a number of other Caribbean islands also."

Dr. Kean went on to show how UVI set trends throughout the territory, created an educated middle class and positively impacted the territory. "I myself have been surprised at what we have been able to achieve," he said.

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