



dateline: UVI

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UVI is Formally Introduced to New President

While new UVI students were transitioning into college life, UVI was also transitioning into a new era of leadership. On the first day of orientation for new students, new UVI President Dr. David Hall was formally introduced to the UVI community in ceremonies on the St. Thomas and St. Croix campuses. Dr. Hall, UVI's fifth president, and his family, were formally introduced to the University on Aug. 10.

Dr. Hall said he was honored to be selected as president of UVI. "The greatest asset of an institution is its people, and I have been extremely impressed by the quality and authenticity of the people I have met at UVI," Dr. Hall said.



Dr. David Hall, UVI's fifth president, gives introductory remarks on the St. Croix campus.

Dr. Hall noted UVI's "special and worthy" mission in higher education, being the only institution of higher learning in the territory. It is important that UVI meet students' educational needs in an excellent manner, he said. "Excellence cannot be a luxury for us; it must be our unyielding mandate." But UVI can become more than excellent, it can become great, Dr. Hall added.

"Excellence means that we consistently achieve and maintain the highest standards of our profession. But greatness suggests that we have become the envy of other institutions throughout the world because of our 'distinctive impact,'" he said.

Orientation Activities Welcome Students to UVI

KaDesha Grant sat quietly at the last table at the back of the Sports and Fitness Center for the Orientation Opening Ceremony on the St. Thomas campus on Aug. 11. She listened intently to the presentations but interacted very little. "I'm nervous," the freshman said, citing the new environment and new people. "Hopefully I'll overcome it," Grant said, as she got up to play the "Getting Connected Student Bingo" offered by the Counseling and Placement Office.

The nervousness that Grant experienced is often referred to as freshman jitters and is one of the emotions that

new freshmen commonly experience. Orientation week activities on the St. Thomas and St. Croix campuses were designed to curb just that – as UVI officials welcomed students to the campuses, acquainted students with rules and regulations of the University, and allowed students to explore the campuses and network among themselves.

New UVI President Dr. David Hall welcomed students to the University. "I will forever have a special bond with each of you because we are starting this journey together," Dr. Hall said at the St. Thomas campus event. "I want to do whatever I can to make sure you and I are successful in this journey."

Dr. Hall spoke to the new students about leadership. "You are doing more today than just entering college," he said. He told the students they are entering into a covenant with their parents, the University and those around them to excel. Leaders, he said, are not born but are fashioned by the choices they make and the values they embrace – going against the grain and never settling for "good enough." "You can choose to become a college student," he said. "Or you can choose to become a leader. I need each of you to pledge this day to become a leader."

Dr. Hall told the 221 students at the event that he expects to see each of them again, in the same place, a

Events Calendar

Aug. 30	Pre-Labor Day Picnic	STX
Sept. 1	Student Leadership Training	STX
Sept. 1-2	Weight Management Workshop	STT
Sept. 2	Retirement Workshop	STT
Sept. 4-6	Volleyball Tournament	STT
Sept. 7	Labor Day - UVI Closed	
Sept. 8-9	Weight Management Workshop	STT
Sept. 9	Retirement Workshop	STX
Sept. 10	Clubs Awareness Day	STX
Sept 15-16	Weight Management Workshop	STT
Sept. 19	Coastal Clean Up	STT

See Orientation on next page

Alumni of Honor



Left to right: Donnie Dorsett, Jean Forde, Terence Thomas, Winston Smith and Dr. Henry Smith were honored at the Annual Alumni Recognition Breakfast hosted by the St. Thomas/St. John Chapter of the UVI Alumni Association on Aug. 8.

Orientation Continued

few years from now. “I want to have the honor of handing each of you your degree,” he said. “When I look into your eyes I see the future. You are the best investment we have if we want this world to change,” he said. Dr. Hall told the students he expects to see them in the days and years to come. “The place I really want to see you again is at your graduation.”

The day’s events began with a breakfast with the president and included remarks from Associate Campus Administrator Dr. Doris Battiste, St. Thomas campus Student Government Association President Jaedee Caines and Acting Campus Executive Administrator LilyMae Durante.

At the Official Welcome on the St. Croix campus on Aug. 10, speakers included Provost Dr. Al Hassan Musah, Acting Campus Executive Administrator Nereida Washington, Student Government President Jessica Taylor and Miss UVI Carice Glasgow. Professor Ricardo Caldwell was the session’s motivational speaker.

The St. Croix campus also hosted the “UVI Alum-

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Club Hopping

UVI students check out the Alpha Kapa Alpha Sorority table at the Mini Clubs and Organizations Fair on the UVI St. Croix campus.



ni Giveback,” a unique part of orientation where invited UVI alumni shared their experiences with incoming freshmen. Featured alumni were Col. Caroline Adams, Campbell Barnes, Sen. Louis Patrick Hill, Lydia Logie Moolenaar, Gary Moore, Carmelo Rivera, Sen. Samuel Sanes and Wendy Wheeler.

Rivera’s presentation included pictures of the historic visits of Shirley Chisholm and Thurgood Marshall to UVI in the 1960s and 1970s. Chisholm was the first African American woman elected to the US Congress and the first woman candidate for the democratic nomination for presidency of the United States. Marshall was the first African American Supreme Court Justice. He helped to end legal segregation in the United States.

According to UVI Director of Annual Giving and Alumni Affairs Linda Smith, the event, held on Aug. 13, was a resounding success. Classes on both campuses began on Aug. 17.

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