June 30, 2015

Howard University Community,

In the Fall 2014 semester, the University announced plans to temporarily relocate the School of Divinity (HUSD) from Mays Hall to the West Campus, where it will share space with the School of Law. After thorough assessment of the facility, it was determined that this move was necessary not only to ensure the safety of students, faculty, staff and visitors of the school, but to also preserve the beloved historical architecture and hallowed grounds of Mays Hall and to complement those elements with necessary and appropriate modernization for the enhancement of the learning environment for our students.

Relocation will begin in late July and is expected to be completed by August 1, 2015. This summer, Mays Hall will remain in limited use to house HUSD summer school classes and for other administrative activities. Once vacated, the building and grounds will be secured to protect the health and safety of the community.

We understand the importance of Mays Hall to the Howard community and its neighbors. With that in mind, we are actively engaging the HUSD community and incorporating input and collaboration from the wider community, the District and key stakeholders on the renovation plans. We appreciate the unique nature of the building and will take the necessary steps to ensure its character is respected and enhanced. Our plan is for the School of Divinity to return to the East Campus once the renovation is complete.

Given the significance of the move and the renovation, I apologize for the, albeit necessary, inconvenience. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we undertake this major initiative to maintain our academic operations and complete renovations of our historic facilities.

In Truth and Service,

Wayne A. I. Frederick, M.D., MBA
President