

**COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
COMMITTEE REPORT**

1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20004

TO: All Councilmembers

FROM: Chairman Phil Mendelson
Committee of the Whole

DATE: September 19, 2023

SUBJECT: Report on PR 25-284, the “Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia Ken Grossinger Confirmation Resolution of 2023”

The Committee of the Whole, to which PR 25-284, the “Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia Ken Grossinger Confirmation Resolution of 2023” was referred, reports favorably thereon, and recommends approval by the Council.

CONTENTS

I.	Background and Need.....	1
II.	Legislative Chronology.....	5
III.	Position of the Executive.....	5
IV.	Comments of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions.....	5
V.	Summary of Testimony.....	5
VI.	Impact of Existing Law.....	6
VII.	Fiscal Impact.....	6
VIII.	Section-by-Section Analysis.....	6
IX.	Committee Action.....	6
X.	Attachments.....	7

I. BACKGROUND AND NEED

Proposed Resolution 25-284, the “Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia Ken Grossinger Confirmation Resolution of 2023,” was introduced by Chairman Mendelson at the request of the Mayor on June 15, 2023 and referred to the Committee of the Whole. The purpose of PR 25-284 is to confirm the Mayor’s nomination of Ken Grossinger for reappointment to the Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia (Board) for a five-year term to end May 15, 2028.

The University of the District of Columbia (UDC) is both a Historically Black College and University (HBCU) and an urban land-grant institution. Formed in 1975 from the merger of the District of Columbia Teachers’ College, the Washington Technical Institute, and Federal City College, UDC serves as the District’s only public university.¹ UDC’s mission is to provide an

¹ This college was formed from the merger of Miners Teacher College and Wilson Teachers College. See UDC’s History, University of the District of Columbia, <https://www.udc.edu/about/history-mission/>; D.C. Law 1-36 (effective Nov. 1, 1975).

affordable, post-secondary education to District residents and to “prepare students for immediate entry into the workforce, the next level of education, specialized employment opportunities or lifelong learning.”²

The Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia was established by the U.S. Congress as a body of the District of Columbia government in 1974.³ The Board has the authority to independently issue regulations governing the University, own and manage the property of the University, and represent the University in legal proceedings. The Board is also responsible for hiring the President of the University System.

Trustees are charged with establishing and ensuring accreditation of each component of the University System. This includes a liberal arts component, a vocational and technical component, and a school of law. The Trustees approve all programs and majors and set academic policies, such as degree requirements and tuition. In addition, Trustees are responsible for setting the University’s budget in conjunction with the Mayor and City Council.

The Board is comprised of fifteen members.⁴ Of the fifteen, eleven are appointed by the Mayor with the advice and consent of the Council, three are alumni from either the University or one of its predecessor institutions, and one is a full-time student elected by the UDC student body.⁵ Each Trustee, except for the student trustee, serves a five year term, and each non-student Trustee may serve two consecutive full terms.⁶ The following tables depict the current make-up of the UDC Board of Trustees:

Table A: Elected Alumni and Student Representative to the University of the District of Columbia Board of Trustees

Elected Trustee	Role	Commencement Date	Term End Date
Travis Henderson	Student	August 21, 2023	May 11, 2024
Dr. Mildred Musgrove	Alumni	May 15, 2020	May 15, 2025
Barrington Scott	Alumni	May 15, 2015	May 15, 2025
Anntoinette White-Richardson	Alumni	May 15, 2020	May 15, 2025

² UDC Mission, University of the District of Columbia, <https://www.udc.edu/about/history-mission/>.

³ Pub. L. 93-198, Dec. 24, 1973.

⁴ D.C. Official Code § 38-1202.05 (see a list of the duties of the UDC Trustees).

⁵ D.C. Official Code § 38-1202.01(c) (2001 ed.). Of the eleven appointed by the Mayor, seven must reside in the District at the time of their Council confirmation. *Id.* at 38-1202.01(c-1).

⁶ D.C. Official Code § 38-1202.01(f). After the completion of the member’s second consecutive term, he or she must wait five years from the end of his or her second term before being reappointed or reelected to the Board of Trustees. Legislation has recently been adopted by the Council to change this (see D.C. Act 23-326, the “Coronavirus Support Emergency Amendment Act of 2020,” and Bill 23-817, the “UDC Board of Trustees Term Limit Amendment Act of 2020.”) Going forward, Trustees may serve up to three consecutive terms but not more than 15 consecutive years.

Table B: Mayoral Appointments to the University of the District of Columbia Board of Trustees

Mayoral Appointee	Resolution Number	Date of Council Approval	Term End Date
Warner Session	PR 25-282	Pending	May 15, 2028
Dr. Carolyn Rudd	PR 25-283	Pending	May 15, 2028
<i>Ken Grossinger</i>	<i>PR 25-284</i>	<i>Pending</i>	<i>May 15, 2028</i>
Lamont Akins	PR 25-295	Pending	May 15, 2028
Christopher Bell	R. 23-554	October 20, 2020	May 15, 2025
Mignon Clyburn	R. 23-555	October 20, 2020	May 15, 2024
Dr. Esther Barazzone	R. 23-316	January 21, 2020	May 15, 2024
Jerome Shelton	R. 23-317	January 21, 2020	May 15, 2024
Vacant*			
Vacant*			
Vacant*			

*These three seats were last filled by Reginald Felton, whose term expired May 2019, Erol Schwartz, whose term expired May 2023, and Charlene Drew Jarvis, whose term expired May 2023.

Mr. Grossinger received his Bachelor of Science in Psychology and Philosophy from S.U.N.Y. Brockport and his Masters in Social Work from Columbia University. He is a Ward 1 resident. He is a principal at Democracy Partners (DP), a strategic consulting firm where he directs the Impact Philanthropy and Donor advising division. Mr. Grossinger works with institutional and individual donors and advocate organizations to maximize the strategic use of their resources to advance policy and program priorities. In addition to serving as a principal at DP, Mr. Grossinger is co-founder and Chair of the CrossCurrents Foundation and its sister affiliate in London, CrossCurrents-UK. The funding portfolios of both foundations focus on non-partisan civic engagement, civil liberties, human rights and the arts.

Mr. Grossinger is active and has served on several governing boards including the Alliance for Justice (Chair), Washington DC Housing Authority Board of Commissioners (formerly Vice Chair), the Environmental Grantmakers Association, and the Grantmakers in the Arts. He is also on the advisory board of the NY New School for Social Research Center for Art and Politics.

The University has made great strides over the last decade, despite the COVID-19 pandemic; however, more needs to be done. Moving forward, and during Mr. Grossinger’s time on the Board, the Committee will be paying particular attention to the two following issues.

Enrollment: Over the past decade, UDC has struggled to increase enrollment. The struggle was exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic when the University saw another decline in enrollment. A key to a successful education system in the District is a thriving public university, and instrumental to having a thriving public university is its enrollment. Thus, as the District’s only public institution of higher education, it is essential that UDC’s enrollment not only remain steady, but also grow. Given this, the Committee has monitored the University’s enrollment over

the years. A part of this monitoring involves not just watching UDC’s overall enrollment, but also looking at the enrollment of UDC’s four-year institution, Community College (UDC-CC), and law school. Since UDC-CC was formed in 2009, the Committee has focused on UDC’s enrollment data. However, the University has made increasing enrollment a priority. For example, the University now automatically re-enrolls all Community College students, the University has recently on boarded a new Vice President of Enrollment Management, and the University will begin the initial implantation of its Customer Relationship Management (CRM). This tool is a set of integrated, data-driven software solutions that help manage, track, and store information. This will be critical in better understanding and managing enrollment data. The table below shows UDC’s enrollment, broken down by undergraduate, graduate, law school, and community college, from academic year 2012-2013 through its most recent academic year, 2022-2023.

**Table GF-B: University of the District of Columbia;
 Enrollment Academic Years 2012-2022**

Students	Fall 2012	Fall 2013	Fall 2014	Fall 2015	Fall 2016	Fall 2017	Fall 2018	Fall 2019	Fall 2020	Fall 2021	Fall 2022
Undergraduate	2,019	2,026	1,959	2,124	2,051	2,009	1,957	1,938	1,791	1,603	1,440
Graduate	253	299	312	320	368	388	377	371	340	289	290
Law School	380	344	315	313	286	280	256	257	228	240	230
UDC-CC	2,838	2,686	2,532	2,361	1,899	1,850	1,910	1,890	1,594	1,344	1,617
Total	5,490	5,355	5,118	5,118	4,604	4,527	4,500	4,456	3,953	3,476	3,577

Source: UDC’s FY2022-2023 Performance Oversight Responses, Q. 37.

Private Fundraising: Beginning in fiscal year 2014, the Council has set aside funds for the University as part of a fundraising match. Originally as a means of supporting UDC’s accreditation efforts, the Council set aside a million dollars in matching funds.⁷ For every dollar UDC raised in private donations, the District matched those donations dollar for dollar up to a maximum of a million dollars. A District match has continued since 2014. Although the original impetus for the match was to provide additional support for UDC’s accreditation activities, secondary reasons for the match have been to incentivize the University to increase its private fundraising capability and to encourage the UDC Foundation to take a more active role in raising private funds. As discussed in Committee budget reports, UDC has to fight year after year for its subsidy, as well as for capital funds from the District government. The University should continue to increase its private fundraising, even though the Committee believes wholeheartedly that the District should support UDC financially.

Based on his commitment to the mission of the University, his educational leadership, and his dedication to improving equitable outcomes, the Committee recommends the appointment of Mr. Grossinger to the Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia. The Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of PR 25-284.

⁷ 5 See Title X, Sec. 10002 of D.C. Law 20-61, the Fiscal Year 2014 Budget Support Act of 2013.

II. LEGISLATIVE CHRONOLOGY

- June 15, 2023 PR 25-284, the “Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia Ken Grossinger Confirmation Resolution of 2023” is introduced by Chairman Mendelson at the request of the Mayor.
- June 20, 2023 PR 25-284 is “read” at a Legislative meeting; on this date the referral of the PR to the Committee of the Whole is official and the 45-day period for Council review begins. If the Council does not act by November 21, 2023, PR 25-284 will be deemed approved.
- June 22, 2023 Notice of the public hearing is in the Office of Secretary.
- June 23, 2023 Notice of Intent to Act on PR 25-284 is published in the *D.C. Register*.
- June 30, 2023 Notice of Roundtable Published in the District of Columbia Register.
- July 12, 2023 The Committee of the Whole convenes a public roundtable on PR 25-284.
- September 19, 2023 The Committee of the Whole marks up PR 25-284.

III. POSITION OF THE EXECUTIVE

Mr. Grossinger is the Mayor’s nominee for appointment to the Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia.

IV. COMMENTS OF ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONS

The Committee received no testimony or comments from any Advisory Neighborhood Commission on PR 25-284.

V. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY

The Committee of the Whole held a public roundtable on four Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia nominations, including PR 25-284, on Wednesday, July 12, 2023. The testimony summarized below is from that hearing, pertaining to Mr. Grossinger. Submitted copies of testimony are attached to this report.

Ken Grossinger, Appointee, testified and answered questions from Chairman Mendelson regarding his background and experience as it pertains to the Board and his interest in serving on the Board. Mr. Grossinger explained since joining the UDC board, he has worked in numerous roles to advance the University’s mission. Shortly after joining the board, he became Chair the Operations Committee, a role he served in for most of his first term. In this role, he instituted more

frequent reporting requirements in such areas as safety to better analyze and monitor performances and practices that are working or in need of change. He was also one of three Board members who served on the search committee to select the new President, Dr. Maurice Edington, who was unanimously approved by the Board. He looks forward to continuing in this work at the University.

VI. IMPACT OF EXISTING LAW

This confirmation is consistent with existing law. Pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 38-1202.01, the Board shall be comprised of fifteen members – of whom eleven members are appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the Council. Of the eleven members, seven must be District residents at the time of their confirmation. Additionally, each member, except for the student trustee, may serve three, five-year terms or a total of 15 consecutive years.⁸ Mr. Grossinger is a Mayoral appointee, is a resident of the District, and is nominated for his second term.

VII. FISCAL IMPACT

PR 25-284 will have no fiscal impact on the District of Columbia budget or financial plan. Pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 38-1202.04, trustees receive no compensation for their service on the Board.⁹ However, each trustee is entitled to be reimbursed up to \$4,000 annually for any “actual and necessary expenses incurred while actually engaged in service as a Trustee.”¹⁰ Such expenses are included as part of the University’s annual budget.

VIII. SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

<u>Section 1</u>	States the short title of PR 25-284.
<u>Section 2</u>	Confirms the appointment of Ken Grossinger to the Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia to serve a term of five years. ¹¹
<u>Section 3</u>	Requires that a copy of the resolution, upon adoption, be transmitted to the nominee and to the Mayor.
<u>Section 4</u>	Provides that PR 25-284 shall take effect immediately.

IX. COMMITTEE ACTION

⁸ § 38–1202.01.

⁹ § 38–1202.04.

¹⁰ *Id.*

¹¹ § 2–1599.03(b)(2)(B)(*citing* terms for the initial nongovernmental voting members shall begin on the date that a majority of the members are sworn in, which shall become the anniversary date for all subsequent appointments).

X. ATTACHMENTS

1. PR 25-284 as introduced.
2. Nominee's responses to Committee pre-hearing and post-hearing questions.
3. Written Testimony and Comments.
4. Legal Sufficiency Review.
5. Committee Print for PR 25-284.



MURIEL BOWSER
MAYOR

June 15, 2023

The Honorable Phil Mendelson
Chairman
Council of the District of Columbia
John A. Wilson Building
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 504
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Chairman Mendelson:

In accordance with section 2 of the Confirmation Act of 1978, effective March 3, 1979 (D.C. Law 2-142; D.C. Official Code § 1-523.01), and pursuant to section 201 of the District of Columbia Public Postsecondary Education Reorganization Act, approved October 26, 1974 (88 Stat. 1424; D.C. Official Code § 38-1202.01), I am pleased to nominate the following person:

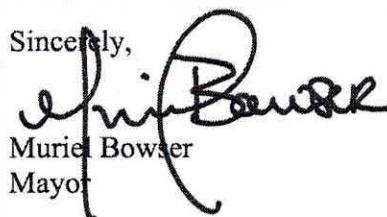
Mr. Ken Grossinger
N Street, NW
Washington, DC 20007
(Ward 2)

for reappointment as a member of the Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia, for a term to end May 15, 2028.

Enclosed you will find biographical information detailing the experience of the above-mentioned nominee, together with proposed resolution to assist the Council during the confirmation process.

I would appreciate the Council's earliest consideration of this nomination for confirmation. Please do not hesitate to contact me, or Steven Walker, Director, Mayor's Office of Talent and Appointments, should the Council require additional information.

Sincerely,


Muriel Bowser
Mayor



Chairman Phil Mendelson
at the request of the Mayor

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To confirm the reappointment of Mr. Ken Grossinger to the Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia Ken Grossinger Confirmation Resolution of 2023".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia confirms the reappointment of:

Mr. Ken Grossinger
N Street, NW
Washington, DC 20007
(Ward 2)

as a member of the Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia, pursuant to section 201 of the District of Columbia Public Postsecondary Education Reorganization Act, approved October 26, 1974 (88 Stat. 1424; D.C. Official Code § 38-1202.01), for a term to end May 15, 2028.

Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia shall transmit a copy of this resolution, upon its adoption, to the nominee and to the Office of the Mayor.

Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

KEN GROSSINGER

EXPERIENCE

- 2011 - Present **DEMOCRACY PARTNERS, Principal and Director, Impact Philanthropy Division** **Washington, DC**
- Senior strategic advisor to select group of non-profit advocacy, arts and philanthropic organizations
 - Hired for strategic planning, governance, board development and fundraising strategy
 - Sample Client listing: Women's Donor Network, New Israel Fund, Nat'l Committee for Responsive Philanthropy, Communications Workers of America (CWA), Telluride Arts District
- 2006 - Present **CROSSCURRENTS FOUNDATION – Co-Founder and Chairman** **Washington, DC**
Launched and led family foundation dedicated to promoting social and economic justice through non-partisan civic engagement and arts funding
- Developed mission, goals, strategy and funding guidelines
 - Built and managed all operations, including governance, legal, accounting, investments and distribution of 40-50 annual grants in DC and nationwide
 - Formed close personal alliances with other key funders to advance grant-making goals
 - Core DC grant recipients include DC Int'l Film and Jazz Festivals, Mosaic Theatre, AU Katzen Arts Ctr., Open Arms Housing, the Phillips Collection, Alliance for Justice
- 1997 - 2005 **AFL-CIO – Director of Legislative Field Operations** **Washington, DC**
- Managed field operations for all issue and legislative campaigns for America's largest labor federation
 - Organized wide-ranging coalitions to win policy victories at the national and state level
 - Provided strategic direction to 50 internal staff and scores of labor and non-profit allies
 - Led dozens of campaigns related to Social Security, healthcare, trade policy, labor law and more
- 1987 - 1996 **SEIU – Legislative Field Director** **Washington, DC and San Francisco, CA**
- Designed and organized legislative field operations for the fastest growing union in the country
 - Built strategic alliances with affiliates and community groups to advance legislative agenda
 - Liaison to the White House, Congress, national and community organizations. Appointed member, President Clinton's Health Care Task Force
- 1985 - 1986 **FUND FOR OPEN INFORMATION & ACCOUNTABILITY – Executive Director** **New York, NY**
- Led all aspects of advocacy organization working to strengthen public access laws
 - Managed programs, operations, Board development, fundraising
 - Trained over 200 labor, religious and community groups to use FOIA and Right to Know laws
- 1983 - 1984 **HUMAN SERVE FUND – Founding Staff and New York State Director** **New York, NY**
- Co-launched advocacy organization that paved the way for passage of the National Voter Registration Act ("Motor Voter")
 - Built low-income and minority voter registration coalitions in 15 cities throughout New York
 - Led prototyping of field and media strategy in New York, then rolled it out across the country
 - Supervised staff, field research for litigation against voter suppression, training programs

AFFILIATIONS

- Board of Trustees, **Hirshhorn Museum & Sculpture Garden, Smithsonian**
- Board of Trustees, **UDC**
- Board of Directors, **Skylight Pictures**
- Board of Directors, (Chair), **CrossCurrents Foundation**
- Board of Directors, **People's Action Institute**

EDUCATION

- 1980 - 1982 **COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK** **New York, NY**
- M.S.W., C.S.W.
- 1972 - 1976 **S.U.N.Y. Brockport** **Brockport, NY**
- B.S., Psychology and Philosophy



Executive Office of the Mayor - Office of Talent and Appointments
John A. Wilson Building | 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, Suite 600 | Washington, DC 20004

Ken Grossinger



Ken Grossinger is a principal at Democracy Partners (DP), a strategic consulting firm where he directs the Impact Philanthropy and Donor advising division. Mr. Grossinger works with institutional and individual donors and advocate organizations to maximize the strategic use of their resources to advance policy and program priorities.

In addition to serving as a principal at DP, Mr. Grossinger is co-founder and Chair of the CrossCurrents Foundation and its sister affiliate in London, CrossCurrents-UK. The funding portfolios of both foundations focus on non-partisan civic engagement, civil liberties, human rights and the arts. Prior to entering the world of philanthropy, for two decades Mr. Grossinger was one of the labor movement's leading strategists. He represented public and private sector workers at Service Employees International Union for ten years, and for the next decade he directed legislative field operations for the AFL-CIO. Formerly a community organizer, Mr. Grossinger co-launched the Human SERVE Fund, a national advocate organization that initiated and led the successful fight for passage of the National Voter Registration Act, commonly known as Motor Voter.

Mr. Grossinger is active or has served on several governing boards including the Alliance for Justice (Chair), Washington DC Housing Authority Board of Commissioners (formerly Vice-Chair), the Environmental Grantmakers Association, and the Grantmakers in the Arts. He is also on the advisory board of the NY New School for Social Research Center for Art and Politics.

A Ward 1 resident, Mr. Grossinger received his Bachelor of Science in Psychology and Philosophy from S.U.N.Y. Brockport and his Masters in Social Work from Columbia University.

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Executive Office of Mayor Muriel Bowser



Office of the General Counsel to the Mayor

To: Tommy Wells, Steve Walker
From: Betsy Cavendish
Date: March 30, 2023
Subject: Legal sufficiency review of Resolutions nominating Ken Grossinger, Dr. Carolyn Rudd, and Warner Session as members of the Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia

This is to Certify that this office has reviewed the above-referenced resolutions and found them to be legally unobjectionable. If you have any questions in this regard, please do not hesitate to call Vanessa Careiro, Deputy General Counsel, Executive Office of the Mayor, at 202-724-1303, or me at 202-724-7681.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Elizabeth A. Cavendish'. The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Elizabeth A. (Betsy) Cavendish



Executive Office of the Mayor – Mayor’s Office of Talent and Appointments
John A. Wilson Building | 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, Suite 600 | Washington, DC 20004

Ken Grossinger Council Questionnaire
Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia

1. Please provide a copy of the Financial Disclosure Statement you filed with the Office of Campaign Finance or the Board of Ethics and Government Accountability. If you have not filed a Financial Disclosure Statement, please provide answers to questions no. 2-8 in lieu of that statement.
 - a. See attached BEGA Financial Disclosure Statement
2. Please provide the name of each business entity transacting any business with the District Government in which you have a beneficial interest valued in excess of \$1,000, including publicly traded stock.
 - a.
3. Please provide the name of each business entity transacting any business (including consulting) with the District Government from which you or your immediate family have received (or are receiving) income for services rendered in excess of \$200 during the past two years.
 - a.
4. Please provide the name of each business entity transacting business with the District Government in which you or any member of your immediate family serves as an officer, director, partner, or agent. Also list the position(s) held, a brief description of the entity, and any other pertinent details.
 - a.
5. Please provide the name of any lender and the amount of liability for each outstanding liability borrowed by you or any member of your immediate family in excess of \$1,000. Do not include loans from a federal or state insured or regulated financial institution, or from any business enterprise regularly engaged in the business of providing revolving credit or installment accounts.
 - a.
6. Please list the location of all real property located in the District of Columbia in which you have an interest with a fair market value in excess of \$1,000.
 - a.
7. Please list all professional and occupational licenses held by you.
 - a.



8. Please list any professional organizations of which you are currently a member.
 - a.
9. Please list all boards and commissions connected with the District government on which you are or have been a member and include the term of service for each.
 - a. UDC Board of Trustees (2018 to present)
10. Please list any other boards (e.g., Board of Directors of a non-profit) on which you are currently a member.
 - a. Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Smithsonian, Director
CrossCurrents Foundation, Chair
Skylight Pictures, Director
People's Action Institute, Director
11. Do you have any outstanding liability for taxes, fees, or other payments to the District, federal, or other state or local governments, either contested or uncontested? If so, please provide documentation of attempts to pay the amount owed or to resolve the disputed claim.
 - a. None
12. Do you or any member of your immediate family have any interest, financial or otherwise, that may directly or indirectly pose a conflict of interest for you in performance of your duties as a member of the Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia?
 - a. None
13. Please describe any local political activity (i.e. the District of Columbia local elections or campaigns) that you have engaged in over the past five years, including all campaign contributions to a D.C. candidate or political committee.
 - a. None.
14. Are you registered with any local, state, or federal government to lobby? If so, list the jurisdiction(s) in which you are registered.
 - a. No
15. Why have you agreed to serve and how do you plan to help the Board fulfill its role and mission during your time on the Board?
 - a. I'm deeply committed to education as a pipeline to self-esteem, independence, and careers. I'll serve until my next term expires.



**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE
DISTRICT OF COULMBIA**



Public Roundtable on

**PR 25-0284, the “Board of Trustees of the University of the District of
Columbia Ken Grossinger Confirmation Resolution of 2023”**

Testimony of

Ken Grossinger

**Before the
Committee of the Whole
Council of the District of Columbia
The Honorable Phil Mendelson, Chairperson**

JULY 12, 2023

11:00 AM

**The John A. Wilson Building Room 412
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20004**

Chairman Mendelson, and members of the Committee, thank you for considering appointing me to a second term on the UDC Board of Trustees. Mayor Bowser, thank you for nominating me and giving me an opportunity to serve the District in such an important way.

Since joining the UDC board, I've worked in numerous roles to advance the University's mission. Shortly after joining the board, I became Chair the Operations Committee, a role I have served in for most of my first term. Along with carrying out other routine committee duties, I instituted more frequent reporting requirements in such areas as safety, so we can better analyze and monitor performances and practices that are working or in need of change. Like all universities and city agencies, I dove deeply into best protective practices to prevent the spread of Covid.

This past year, I gave up my role as Chair of the Operations committee to become the Chair of the Audit, Budget and Finance Committee, and a member of the board's Executive Committee. In addition, I was one of three UDC Board members who served on the search committee to select the new UDC president, Dr. Maurice Edington, who was unanimously approved by the Board.

I've also used my role on the Board of Trustees of the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden to create and facilitate a new internship program for our art students. I arranged meetings with the Hirshhorn Director, Melissa Chui, her staff, and with then-President Mason and his staff to explore the feasibility of creating a pilot program whereby a UDC art student could work at the Hirshhorn with a paid internship, in the hope that this would create as pipeline for UDC's art students into the art market. I'm proud to report that it worked well, and that the Hirshhorn offered the first student a part-time job! Together with the university, they've launched an annual internship program for UDC art students which I hope will expand to include other students.

With the addition of Dr. Edington to our campus, UDC is positioned to move to the next level, with greater fundraising, student retention and graduation rates, and more. These are some of the demonstrable skill sets Dr. Edington brings with him, and I am looking forward to supporting his work and that of the University.

It's been my delight to serve out my first term on the UDC board.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson for the opportunity to testify before the committee. I am happy to respond to your questions or those of other Councilmembers.



OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 4
Washington, DC 20004
(202) 724-8026

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairman Phil Mendelson

FROM: Nicole L. Streeter, General Counsel *NLS*

DATE: August 2, 2023

RE: Legal sufficiency determination for the Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia Ken Gossinger Confirmation Resolution of 2023, PR 25-284.

The measure is legally and technically sufficient for Council consideration.

The proposed resolution would confirm the reappointment of Mr. Ken Gossinger as a member of the Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia, established by section 201 of the District of Columbia Public Postsecondary Education Reorganization Act, approved October 26, 1974 (88 Stat. 1424; D.C. Official Code § 38-1202.01), for a second term to end on May 15, 2028.

I am available if you have any questions.

1 **COMMITTEE PRINT**
2 Committee of the Whole
3 September 19, 2023
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7 **A PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

8
9 25-284

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11 **IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**
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14
15

16 To confirm the reappointment of Mr. Ken Grossinger to the Board of Trustees of the University
17 of the District of Columbia.

18
19 **RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,** That this
20 resolution may be cited as the “Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia
21 Ken Grossinger Confirmation Resolution of 2023”.

22
23 **Sec. 2.** The Council of the District of Columbia confirms the reappointment of:

24
25 Mr. Ken Grossinger
26 N Street, NW
27 Washington, DC 20007
28 (Ward 2)
29

30 as a member of the Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia, established
31 by section 201 of the District of Columbia Public Postsecondary Education Reorganization Act,
32 approved October 26, 1974 (88 Stat. 1424; D.C. Official Code § 38-1202.01), for a second term
33 to end May 15, 2028.

34 **Sec. 3.** The Council shall transmit a copy of this resolution, upon its adoption, to the
35 nominee, the Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia, and the Office of
36 the Mayor.

37 **Sec. 4.** This resolution shall take effect immediately.