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**American University’s Public Relations Student Society of America Hosts 2020**

**"Icons of DC Awards” honoring outstanding organizations and their leaders for their work against Injustice and Discrimination as well as combating the COVID-19 Virus.”**

*Awardees include NAACP, AMA, ANA, and ACLU*

**WASHINGTON, DC September 23 –** The American University chapter of the Public Relations Student Society of America hosted their 3rd annual ***DC Icons’*** event, honoring outstanding organizations and their leaders for their work this year. The **Icons’** event honored Derrick Johnson, president of the NAACP, and Rebecca Edwards, Chief Communications Officer of the ACLU for their work in the Black Lives Matter movement; and Dr. Susan Bailey, President of the American Medical Association, and Dr. Ernest Grant, President of the American Nurses Association for their work combating COVID-19.

The ceremony was also joined by American University’s President, Sylvia Burwell. “While we recognize our ***Icons of DC*** for their service today, in the midst of the current crisis, these organizations are on the front line doing important work every day,” President Sylvia Burwell says. “These are critical to society’s dialogue on race relations, healthcare, and public safety. These issues, often intertwined, are also at the center of the challenges we face today.”

After the virtual awards ceremony concluded, there was an engaging question and answer panel, where students were encouraged to ask questions in the virtual chat. The panel discussed the details of the past, present, and future of their organizations while acknowledging their commitment and service to the community.

*American University’s (AU) Chapter of the Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) is a part of the School of Communication, and dedicated to bringing public relations, advertising, marketing, and communication students together professionally and socially to enhance members’ education, broaden their professional network, and launch their careers after graduation. As part of a national organization, our members are connected to a large network of professionals from around the world.*

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