HAPPY NEW YEAR!!! I would like to welcome everyone back and hope that the spirit of the holidays carries with each of you throughout the year. I’d like to say thank you to all of those folks who have supported the organization through the first 1/2 of the year via their dues, attendance at events and meetings, lending of time and talents to host or actively participate in the affairs of the organization. It is clearly through your efforts that we will continue with our mission of becoming a visible and viable organization both on and to this campus.

With that said, let me encourage those of you who have not quite yet become as active as you know you can be... to step up now to help us... help you. Understanding that time is a key factor in how folks decide what they are willing to do and how they either can or can’t be involved. Whatever time you have, we, (you), can make it work. Let me assure you there are several ways to get involved. We are in need of folks to help on each of the current committees, including Membership, Programs, Communications, Archival and Development. Often, much of what needs to be done can be done from your office or from home. It can be as simple as making a few phone calls to starting your own committee. For example, one of our newest family members, Tamara Story likes to read. She has since started a book club in an effort to share her interest in reading with others who have the same like. The intent of who we are and what we do is to get folk actively engaged in our collective survival here at UC Irvine. I realize the perception is that we are few and recognize that we are spread out. However, we are more than you know. We can be the valuable resource to one another that we know we are. We can be the example of Mentoring to our students, if we just take a moment to share the blessing that each of us is, with someone new.

There are those of us who have been here a while, and have figured out or developed our own strategy for navigating this environment. There are also those who have just arrived and are seeking some connection to help manage the oft feeling of being alone or just being in a new and different place. I humbly ask that you start the New Year off by making it a point to become more actively involved in this BSFA family. To quote from a writing, “Standing In The River” used by the young men in the Passport to the Future education program sponsored by the 100 Black Men of Orange County. “… singularly we are halted by it’s torrid banks. United, we can know the many rivers to cross.”

I wish you all a very fulfilling and prosperous year and look forward to serving the organization and campus with you.

Hotep,
Gerald
Hello, my name is Catherine Albertine Cobb. I was born on June 29, on a beautiful sunny Tuesday, morning in Alameda California. I lost my parents at the age of eight. I’m a twin and the youngest of three children. I don’t have a nick name but people have called me; Cat, Kathy (which I detest) Kathleen, Karen & Kristin. I have a son Sean Pierre Cobb for whom I very proud of. I have two beautiful cats, Jazz and Duchess. I have a B.A. degree in Speech Communication, with an emphasis in Communicative Disorders from California State University Fullerton. I’ve worked as Pharmaceutical Representative for the house of Bristol Myers Squibb. I was a teacher at Anaheim Unified School district for their Special Education classes as well as mainstreaming students. I worked as a Home Health Aide, and am certified in Standard First aid and CPR-Adult.

I’ve worked for UCI for almost eleven years. I stared my career at UCI, February 2, 2001 as a temp for Physical Medicine and Respiration. I was hired as a career three weeks later on February 26, 2001. I continued working in PM&R for five years. On December 5, 2006, I left the medical center with some deprivation because PM&R was my home for five years. I journeyed to the Campus side of UCI. My journey ventured me into a new horizon, housing. Currently I work in Campus Village Apartments working with upper class undergraduate and transfer students.

My passion is painting ceramics, reading, and singing, I’m a Soprano in my church choir. I’m really excited and honored to have the opportunity to be a part of the Ambassador program with Student Housing and to mentor fellow colleagues.
The Cross-Cultural Center at the University of California, Irvine Presents the
29th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Symposium

THE STRUGGLE FOR JUSTICE AND LIBERATION

January 16-19, 2012
ccc.uco.edu/mlk/

THE 29TH MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. SYMPOSIUM focuses on "The Struggle for Justice and Liberation". We celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and his legacy of justice and liberation. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. gave us an example of dedication to the struggle for justice and liberation. This week we will focus on how we have the responsibility to create a world that he and others imagined to be possible. We will explore, learn and celebrate throughout the week how Dr. Martin Luther King’s Jr. legacy contributes to our society today.

Monday, January 16, 2012
MLK JR. DAY OF SERVICE:
"MAKE IT A DAY ON, NOT A DAY OFF"
9:00-11:00 AM and 2:00PM-4:00PM
UCF will be assembling boxes to package food for the hungry in remembrance of Dr. Martin Luther
King, Jr. at the OC Food Bank. This will help meet the needs of the local community. Anteater Express will provide transportation. To participate in this service project sign-up on the CCC MLK website or for more opportunities on the MLK holiday contact the CCC.

Tuesday, January 17, 2012
JASON RUSSELL
“STOP AT NOTHING”
7PM @ PACIFIC BALLROOM, STUDENT CENTER
Jason Russell is one of the co-founders of the
media-based nonprofit organization, Invisible
Children, Inc; a San Diego based nonprofit focused
on providing resources and education for those who
have been affected by the criminal acts of the Lords
Resistance Army (LRA) in northern Uganda, Sudan,
and the Democratic Republic of Congo. In the spring
of 2003 Russell (24), Bobby Bailey (21) and Lauren
Poole (19) traveled to Africa in search of a story.
What started out as a filmmaking adventure trans-
formed into the discovery of a tragedy that disgusted
and inspired them, a tragedy where children are both
the weapons and the victims. After returning to the
United States, the three created a documentary
"Invisible Children: Rough Cut", a film that exposes
the tragic realities of northern Uganda’s night
commuters and child soldiers, and from the
popularity of the film, Invisible Children, Inc. was born.

Wednesday, January 18, 2012
RALLY & DIALOGUE
12PM @ FLAGPOLE, MEETING ROOM, CCC
Join us for the annual Rally as we remember Dr. Martin
Luther King, Jr. The event will begin at the flagpoles and
will be followed by a dialogue in the Ring Room. Students
will have an opportunity to talk about how MLK has had
an impact on their lives. Lunch will be provided.
Be sure to RSVP on the CCC MLK website.

Thursday, January 19, 2012
MLK JR. VOLUNTEER FAIR:
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & ADVOCACY
11:00AM-2:00PM @ EMERALD RAY, STUDENT CENTER
Come join us in our effort of making a stronger more
positive community on and off-campus. This FREE
event is your opportunity to get connected to commu-
nity non-profits, campus organizations, departments,
and advocacy groups offering short and long-term vol-
unteer and internship options.

THE DR. JOSEPH L. WHITE LECTURE:
FORMER MAYOR WILLIE BROWN
6PM @ CRYSTAL COVE AUD, STUDENT CENTER
Former Speaker of the California Assembly and San
Francisco Mayor Willie Brown is one of America’s most
prominent African-American politicians. Brown will
give a lecture relating to his 40 years of public service
and speak, from a civil rights/social justice perspec-
tive, on the current state of our nation and California,
the economy, and what he believes MLK might say
during a time that our nation is so divided. Free tickets
available on the Top Floor of the CCC starting Jan. 4
### January 2012

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**Special Events:**

- Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday - 1/16 - A Day of Service
- MLK Jr., Symposium - Cross Cultural Center 1/17-1/19
- An Evening of Spirituals - 1/14. 8pm. Claire Trevor School of the Arts

For additional events/event information please visit the calendar page on our website at
Where are they now?

As a high school freshman, Keith Curry had a stunningly solid "D" average and few real ambitions. Today, he is the Interim Chief Executive Officer of Compton Community College District. In this position, he is responsible for overseeing all departments and functions of the college and serves as secretary to the board of trustees. Before this appointment, he served for five years as the youngest dean of student services in California, at El Camino Community College – Compton Center.

"I am doing things today that I never imagined," states Curry. “It’s challenging and creative, with opportunities for growth. I’m working with students and creating ways to serve them better. I’m very ambitious and I want to make things happen for myself, for my community and for the students who are going to be our future leaders."

Early in his career Curry adopted the slogan, “Every student is a success story.” He believes every student can be successful with the right academic and student support services. And Curry knows all too well about how far one can go with a little support from community members and professionals who care. As a high school student, he was sought out by the Early Academic Outreach Program (EAOP), an academic preparation program aimed at helping students to become eligible for higher education. Through the guidance and support from EAOP, Curry was admitted to UC Santa Cruz, where he earned his bachelor’s degree in American Studies in 1999. Dr. Curry states, “I have more appreciation for college and for issues about college access because of my EAOP experiences.” His firm belief in EAOP and expanding college access to all, especially those from his hometown of Compton, pushed him to work for UC Irvine EAOP in 1999 as a program coordinator. It was evident that this talented young man was on the fast track to success. In a matter of a few years he became the director of EAOP, and two years later dean of students services at El Camino Community College – Compton Center.

Today, in addition to his CEO responsibilities, Dr. Curry is an active member of several organizations, such as the African-American Male Education Network Development (A²MEND), and the Foundation for Compton Community College District. He regularly presents at conferences, workshops, and symposia. His areas of expertise include preparing students for higher education, bridging the digital divide, establishing partnerships among postsecondary institutions, and ensuring access for all students.

Dr. Curry earned his Ed.D. in Educational Administration from the Universities of California, Irvine and Los Angeles. His dissertation is titled “The Deaccreditation of Compton Community College: An Interpretation Through the Kubler-Ross Grief Construct.”

Now a proud father of a two-year-old son, Kamilo, Dr. Curry reflects on all the experiences that have led him to where he is today, "If I were to give a student advice about how to succeed in college, I would say: Don't give up. Take advantage of every single opportunity. Believe in yourself. If you really want something, you can make it happen, you can do it. Just don't stop believing in your future success."

And we will never stop believing in you, Dr. Curry.
Campus and Community Resources

Campus
Ombudsman: http://www.ombuds.uci.edu/
Employee Assistance: http://www.cascadecenters.com
Teaching, Learning, Technology Center: http://www.tltc.uci.edu/

Community
NAACP: http://naacp.org
OC Black Chamber: http://ocblackchamber.com
100 Black Men of Orange County: http://www.100bmoc.com
THE Greenlining Institute www.greenlining.org/academy
National Coalition of 100 Black Women of Orange County http://www.nc100bwoc.org
Christ Our Redeemer http://www.corchurch.org/