It’s October and we are well into the academic year. I sincerely hope that this year is one that is everything you desire it to be. As I think about what that means for me, I ask you think about what that means to you. What do you want this year to be like? How will you make it different? What are you willing to do, to invest, (in yourself), to make it happen? Certainly there are things that impact our lives that we have no control over, so let’s not focus on that. Let’s turn our attentions to the things and areas of our lives that we do have control over. When is the last time you checked your attitude about your job or about your life? Are you happy with it? Are you doing all you can to be successful and have what you want or have you become somewhat complacent and comfortable and sort of fit into the routine you’ve established, perhaps settling for just getting by?

Perhaps you have a wonderful outlook on life and are doing everything you want to do, when and how you want to do it. That would be absolutely OUTSTANDING! I’d simply ask you to bottle some of that up and share it. I remain grateful and blessed, but believe we could all use a dose of that!

For myself, I am going to continue to work on my attitude focusing on the things I can control. One of those areas involves my community involvement. I believe the things I do not only make a difference in the lives of others, but realize that it makes a huge difference in mine. Attitude adjustments are an on-going process and sometimes feels like a lot of work. However, the end result, believing and understanding that it is an investment in you, is well worth it. After all, aren’t you worth your time? I know I value mine.

One of the other ways I intend to invest my time is to vote. To read and become as informed as I can about the issues. I believe we, (this country), need to continue to change. I believe my voting does impact the process and decisions that have an impact on my life and certainly my attitude. Whatever the case my be, the Presidential election, local city council or school board races, (and no, no one in my family is running for Irvine school board), or propositions and initiatives that impact our communities, voting is an investment in your future and I’d bet the results will have an impact on your attitude!

I am also going to continue to invest in this organization. I believe we make a difference in the lives of the students we serve and mentor, and in each other’s lives by being here. It feels much better knowing we are a presence here, than feeling like we’re alone. Much like I share with students, you are not alone, and there are resources here that can be and are beneficial for those that take advantage of them. As that goes, I encourage you to be active with this organization for your benefit and that of our students. There are several ways to do that, and we need your help. As you have heard me say often, we could not be as successful as we have been without your support. We need each of us to be actively engaged in some form or fashion. It is, after all, an opportunity to invest in ourselves. I’ll leave you with this thought which was a tag line at a former place of employment. “Attitudes are contagious, is yours worth catching?”

I look forward to seeing you throughout the year and wish each of you peace and prosperity.

Hotep, (peace)
Spotlight: Lesli Ferrell

I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible! Hi, my name is Lesli Ferrell. I’m the Associate Director responsible for Corporate Relations at the Paul Merage School of Business here on campus. That means I am responsible for establishing and strengthening relationships with companies who will hire MBA students and alumni. I have been at this job for about a year and a half which ironically means I have touched 3 classes of students, so it feels longer.

I am originally from Southern CA, I grew up in the View Park section of Los Angeles, completed my undergraduate studies at UCLA and received my MBA from Howard University. I spent a year at UCI during my undergraduate studies and this is actually where I pledged AKA. Little known fact I was on the largest line in the history of the chapter. There were 10 of us!

After leaving Howard I began my career in brand management working in Minneapolis for Pillsbury (General Mills) then on to Frito-Lay in Dallas and later for Coca-Cola, PepsiCo and 20th Century Fox all here in Southern California. I am a proud Air Force Mom, my son is training at Delaware AFB to be a Crew Chief and I am often at UCI even on weekends, watching my D1 recruit HS senior daughter play soccer.

Through it all I have been passionate about education and what it means for people’s lives. I am a life member of the National Black MBA Association and a former national board member. It is a joy to help students along their career paths and I have truly found my home here at UC Irvine.
Where are they now?

Did you know that UC Irvine has produced some phenomenal folks who have gone on to make a difference. If you don’t know, now you know...

Jackie Lacy, Class of ’79 is running for L.A. District Attorney

Jackie Lacy is Chief Deputy District Attorney of Los Angeles County and a 26-year veteran of the District Attorney’s office. As second-in-command to District Attorney Steve Cooley, she is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the nation’s largest local prosecutorial office with nearly 1,000 attorneys, approximately 300 peace officers and more than 800 support staff members.

As a longstanding member of the District Attorney’s executive management team, Jackie has reviewed almost every major case involving public corruption, police misconduct, organized crime, complex fraud and other crimes since 2004.

Jackie is an innovative and respected leader who has overseen the development of several groundbreaking crime-fighting initiatives within the Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office. These include the nation’s first Animal Cruelty Prosecution Program, the Graffiti Prosecution Program and the Project Safe Neighborhoods Gun Prosecution Program.

To address gang violence, Jackie developed an automated program to track gang crimes. She also assigned prosecutors under her supervision to handle felony gang cases from filing to sentencing. She also initiated separate sexual assault training for prosecutors of juvenile cases.

For her leadership in the office, Jackie was named one of the Top 100 Women Litigators by the Los Angeles and San Francisco Daily Journal in 2009.

Jackie won national attention for her successful prosecution of the county’s first race-motivated hate crime. In that case, People v. Rojas, Bryant and Colwell, three Neo-Nazi gang members beat an older African-American man to death behind an Antelope Valley convenience store to earn their gang tattoos. All three defendants were sentenced to lengthy prison terms. Jackie was recognized by the U.S. Department of Justice in May 2000 for prosecuting this case and for participating on the Law Enforcement Coordinating Committee.

Born and raised in Los Angeles, Jackie is the oldest daughter of Louis and Addie Phillips. Jackie attended public schools and graduated from Dorsey High School. Her father, a City of Los Angeles Lot Cleaning employee, and her mother, a garment factory worker, encouraged Jackie to become the first in her family to attend college and to pursue a career in public service. Jackie earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of California, Irvine (UCI) in 1979. She graduated from the University of Southern California (USC) Law School in 1982.

For more information, please visit www.JackieLacey.com.
### October 2012

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### Special Events:

For additional events or specific event information please click the link of the event or visit the calendar page on our website at [http://sites.uci.edu/bfsa/calendar/](http://sites.uci.edu/bfsa/calendar/). You can also find out more about what's happening around the OC community by clicking on the link below.

[http://www.meetup.com/Black-In-Orange-County/events/73879372/](http://www.meetup.com/Black-In-Orange-County/events/73879372/)
Campus and Community Resources

**Campus**


Employee Assistance: [http://www.cascadecenters.com](http://www.cascadecenters.com)

Teaching, Learning, Technology Center: [http://www.tltc.uci.edu/](http://www.tltc.uci.edu/)

Black Faculty and Staff Association: [http://sites.uci.edu/bfsa](http://sites.uci.edu/bfsa)


**Community**

NAACP: [http://naacp.org](http://naacp.org)

OC Black Chamber: [http://ocblackchamber.com](http://ocblackchamber.com)

100 Black Men of Orange County: [http://www.100bmoc.com](http://www.100bmoc.com)

THE Greenlining Institute: [www.greenlining.org/academy](http://www.greenlining.org/academy)

National Coalition of 100 Black Women of Orange County: [http://www.nc100bwoc.org](http://www.nc100bwoc.org)

