WHAT’S GOING ON? Fall Harvest

Let me first give glory to God, for providing this day and opportunity to get together as a community and a family. I also want to acknowledge and thank Chancellor Gillman and Vice Chancellor Parham for their participation and support. It is greatly appreciated.

To the new faculty and staff, I say welcome and we’re glad you’re here. I know it may seem strange to see so many of us in one place at the same time, but it does show we are a visible and viable presence here at UC Irvine.

To the students, new and returning, I say welcome and welcome back! Look around you and know what you see before and around you is a community of caring folks who are and can be extraordinary resources for you.

We as a community are only as strong as the members that support and remain actively engaged in our purpose. We have an opportunity, as we move forward, beginning this next 50 year period, to make more of a difference than you can possibly imagine. We as a community should and will become more visible and viable than ever before. It starts with each one of us making a commitment to be the best be we can be each and every day. For faculty, it is in scholarship and mentoring. For staff, it is being the best you can be in your position, and utilizing the resources available to you to make that happen. For students, it is understanding why you are here, and committing to the task at hand which is to graduate. I am a firm believer that if you can get in here, you can get out of here, successfully! It will not be without its challenges and obstacles, but know that none of us has to navigate this UC course alone. We are our best resource.

In a coming weeks, let me invite you to look for a piece of writing that expresses what I believe to be the essence of our existence as a community. I offer it as food for thought as we embark on what I hope and believe will be a remarkable year. I hope it will inspire us to think of ourselves as a family. In my experience, there is no substitute.

Hotep, (peace)!

G. Parham
I think it a fair assessment to say that in this day and age, it is critically important that we take care of ourselves. We all want to live long and happy lives, and that means taking care of yourself...your health! When I talk about health and fitness, I’m not just referring to your physical well being that gets additional attention each time we visit the Doctor. No, I’m talking about a holistic, more complete vision/version of Health and Wellness that takes into consideration your not only your physical health, but your emotional and intellectual health as well. If you are not at your best then you can’t possibly believe you are going to be doing or giving your best. You can imagine where this is going, so I’ll stop here lest we get depressed :) and simply say, in the words of the Godfather of Soul, James Brown; Please, please, please...take care of all of you! I know we all get busy and have found our routine(s) that we don’t want anyone messing with, however, we are fortunate to work on a campus that is very much into your health and wellness.

We’ve got a long year ahead of us, and I want each of us to feel and be at our best. For those that already have some sort of program that helps you manage your health and wellness, congratulations and keep up the good work. For those that don’t, you might want to think about getting involved with something. There are a number of opportunities right here on campus. Click the link below and open up a whole new look at the UC experience :)  

University of California - UC Living Well

Part of the responsibility that come with being our best means we take care of ourselves. Be the example you want to see change in. Gotta start somewhere :) Get out and walk, read a book outside, take advantage of where we live.
Hello Family! My name is Jade Turner and I am the new Student Development Coordinator in the Cross-Cultural Center. I am a UCI alumnus c/o 2009! I received my Bachelor of Arts in Criminology, Law & Society and my Master of Science in Counseling, Student Development in Higher Education from Cal State Long Beach. As a student at UCI, I worked with the Center for Educational Partnerships, the Legal Aid Society of Orange County, was a member of the Afrikan Student Union (now BSU), and was the Community Mentor Coordinator for the Criminology Outreach Program in the School of Social Ecology.

My professional career includes time in the nonprofit sector as a Program Monitor and Case Manager of a WorkSource Center with the Watts Labor Community Action Committee. I had an extensive caseload of college-aged clients including foster youth and ex-offenders. Recently before returning to UCI, I worked at CSULB’s University Outreach and School Relations. There I coordinated alternative admission programs and special events that connected diverse students and parents with the university. I also worked in their office of Student Life and Development, Student Transition and Retention Services, Student Orientation, Advising, and Registration, and was Co-Chair and Scholarship Coordinator of their Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Committee. In addition, I had the pleasure of being the CSULB contributor to the How to Get to College Blog and worked with the system-wide African-American Initiative both under the California State University, Chancellor’s Office.

In addition to my experience in nonprofit, the CSU, and UC, I have also worked at Cerritos College counseling and teaching diverse transfer students. While there I also helped their Counseling Services Division develop and propose their Umoja Program for African-American students. Another great institution I had the pleasure of working was Loyola Marymount University in Ethnic and Intercultural Services. I organized and participated in various intercultural and service-learning activities, advising, mentoring, and assessment and evaluation of their Intercultural Facilitator Program.

Since I am a firm believer in networking and professional development, I have presented at professional conferences facilitating sessions and workshops on first-generation students, transfer students, student veterans, and Millennial students. I am also a member of several professional associations including the: American Counseling Association and Association for Multicultural Counseling and Development and Counselors for Social Justice divisions; American and California College Personnel Associations; Western and National Associations for College Admission Counseling; and National Association of Student Personnel Administrators in the African-American and Women in Student Affairs Knowledge Communities.

I will wear several hats as the new Student Development Coordinator as I am in charge of developing and implementing programs within the Cultural Wellness and Personal Development programmatic area of the CCC. These programs will provide opportunities for students, particularly students of color, to explore their personal, social, cultural, academic, and career identities. The opportunities focus on the development of one’s identities, as well as the relationship between one’s personal development, the health of one’s community, and the health of one’s cultural group. I will also be assisting with the advisement of the 50+ student organizations that affiliate with the CCC. I hope to become better acquainted with fellow Black faculty and staff on campus, so feel free to reach out to me at 4x2002 or jmturner@uci.edu. If we haven’t met and you are ever near the CCC, please don’t hesitate to stop by and say hi! Much love!
October 2014

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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 links below or visit our Community resources page.

http://www.100bmoc.org/events/
http://www.meetup.com/Black-In-Orange-County/events/73879372/
Campus and Community Resources

Campus
Black Faculty and Staff Association: http://sites.uci.edu/bfsa
http://www.facebook.com/uci.bfsa?ref=tn_tnmn
Cross Cultural Center; http://www.ccc.uci.edu/
Employee Assistance: http://www.cascadecenters.com
Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity: http://www.oeod.uci.edu/
Ombudsman: http://www.ombuds.uci.edu/
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/
Black In OC http://www.blackinoc.com/Home_Page.php
The Black Market http://www.theblackmarket.com/index.htm
Educational Opportunities . http://www.MastersDegreeOnline.org/Scholarships/

BFSA - THE VOICE

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