

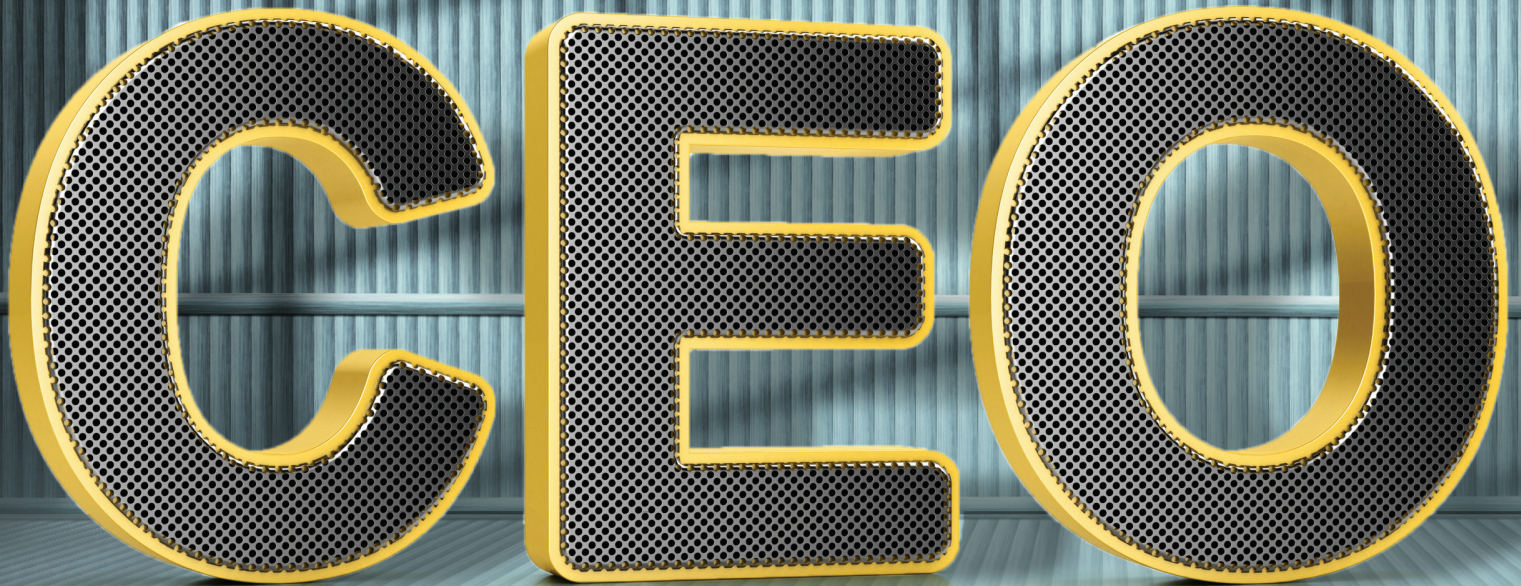
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can think of no better time for Dr. Blanchard to step into this critical administrative role to work strategically with Dr. Francis to ensure the University's continuing growth and competitiveness."

Over the past five years, Blanchard has been Xavier's chief academic officer after previously serving in similar posts at the University of Louisiana System in Baton Rouge, Louisiana and the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in New Orleans for nearly seven years.

### Duane Morris Names Ten Attorneys to Partnership

Duane Morris LLP announced that it has promoted ten associates and special counsel in five of the firm's practice groups to the firm partnership nationwide, including **Jessica Y. Singh** in New York of the Trial Practice Group; **Meagen E. Leary** in San Francisco of the Business Reorganization and Financial Restructuring Practice Group; **Joanna R. Varon** in New York of the Employment, Labor, Benefits and Immigration Practice Group; and **Laurie H. van Löben Sels** in San Francisco and Silicon Valley of the Intellectual Property Practice Group.



SINGH



LEARY



VARON



VAN LÖBEN SELS

### UC's African American Cultural and Resource Center Plans Grand Reopening



The University of Cincinnati's African American Cultural and Resource Center held its grand reopening celebration, Karamu, on January 15, at the center. A ribbon-cutting officially reopened the center that has undergone \$325,000 in renovations since last August.

The center supports the mission of the university by recruiting, retaining, and encouraging the success of students of color at the University of Cincinnati. The AACRC also hosts several large-scale traditional

programs that mark significant aspects of African American life at UC.

Renovations to the AACRC include new carpet, new furniture, and the addition of a new room for students called the Harambee Room. The word *harambee* is Swahili for "let's pull together." The new renovations will also include a history of significant contributions that black students have made to the university.

Funding for renovations was supported by the UC Division of Administration and Finance and the University Diversity Council. "This is the continuation of a promise," says Eric Abercrombie, director of the center and Ethnic Programs and Services at UC. "We have become one of the top student cultural centers in the country."

The AACRC first opened in September 1991 to create a welcoming environment for African American students as they adjust to college life.

The idea for the AACRC was first proposed by UC's United Black Association [now called the United Black Student Association] in 1968. The proposal was led by then-UC student Dwight Tillery, who later became Cincinnati's mayor and longtime city council member.

In 1990, a university-wide implementation committee of students, faculty, administrators, Board of Trustees members, and community representatives developed recommendations for the center's policies and programming, leading to the center's opening in 1991. **PDJ**



Photos are by Dottie Stover