



President/CEO

Ruthe C. Ashley, *Esq.*

Board Members

Maria del Pilar Avila
Palladium Equity Partners

Fred Buenrostro
CalPERS, *Retired*

Jay Ferguson
Kline Hawkes & Company

James Hsu
Sonnenschein Nath &
Rosenthal, LLP

Freada Kapur Klein
Level Playing Field Institute

Pat Fong Kushida
Sacramento Asian Pacific
Chamber of Commerce

Victor Miramontes
CityView

Douglas Scrivner
Accenture Legal Group

Torie Flournoy England
Twin Rivers Unified School District

James Lewis
Verizon *Retired*

Advisory Council

Henry Jones
California Public Employees
Retirement System

Joe Coto
California State Assembly

Morrison England
U.S. District Court - Eastern
District of California

Kamala Harris
San Francisco District
Attorney

Judy Johnson
State Bar of California

Patricia Lee
State Bar of California

Ted Lieu
California State Assembly

Jack O'Connell
California Department
of Education

Michael Peevey
California Public Utilities
Commission

Steve Poizner
California Department
of Insurance

Curren Price
California State Assembly

Timothy Simon
California Public Utilities
Commission

Darrell Steinberg
California State Senate

Peter Reinke
Head Royce School

**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**
April 13, 2009

Contact: Debra Paular Aban
(916) 930-3225
daban@calall.org

**CALIFORNIAALL LAUNCHES TASK FORCE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES
EDUCATIONAL DIVERSITY PIPELINE**

Sacramento, CA - CaliforniaALL, a statewide non-profit organization focused on closing the achievement gap from pre-school to the professions in law, financial services and technology, will launch the Financial Services Task Force (FSTF) on May 8, 2009. The FSTF is designed to convene powerful stakeholders in the financial and business professions to help define "best practices" in this arena.

The California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS), a founding partner of CaliforniaALL, will host the first meeting of the FSTF at CalPERS Headquarters in Sacramento. The event will feature approximately 100 financial services professionals from across the nation in a variety of business and finance oriented positions.

The FSTF will identify best practices and best practice programs specific to the area of financial and business services and will use the information collected to help other organizations create effective and sustainable educational pipeline programs. Educational pipeline programs are collaborative programs designed to increase the academic persistence and educational achievement of underrepresented youth and helps to link youth to professional and leadership positions.

The Task Force model was previously utilized by the California State Bar to find "best practices" in the legal profession through its Diversity Pipeline Task Force, of which CaliforniaALL President/CEO, Ruthe Ashley, served as Chair in 2005. The Diversity Pipeline Task Force led to the creation of the California State Bar's Council on Access and Fairness. States Ashley, "This unique model is designed for replication. CaliforniaALL is pleased to be able to introduce the Task Force format into the financial services field. More importantly, using the Task Force model is the most effective way to determine what programs work to reach more youth."

CaliforniaALL seeks to close the achievement gap and enhance the success of California's students from pre-school to the professions to ensure the education and diversity of the state's workforce and leadership. CaliforniaALL was founded by the California Public Utilities Commission, the California Public Employees Retirement System, the State Bar of California and the California Department of Insurance. In November 2008, the California State Teachers' Retirement System joined as a CaliforniaALL partner.

If you are interested in becoming a CaliforniaALL funder or would like to make a private donation, please visit the CaliforniaALL website at: www.calall.org, or call (916) 930.3222 for additional information.

###