Song Richardson, Dean & Professor of Law
University of California, Irvine School of Law, Irvine

Song Richardson is a shining example of someone who has shattered the glass ceiling, both as a woman and a person of color. She is the second dean in University of California, Irvine School of Law’s history, and the only woman of color to currently serve as dean of a top-25 law school, as ranked by U.S. News & World Report. An award-winning teacher and scholar, Richardson has been a professor at UCI Law since 2014, and from 2016-17, served as the school’s senior associate dean for Academic Affairs. Her expertise and scholarship is in criminal procedure, criminal law, law and social science. In the first year since Richardson assumed the deanship, UCI Law skyrocketed to its highest U.S. News & World Report ranking of all-time; the school now ranks No. 21 in the nation, up seven spots from last year. This past fall, Richardson’s first as dean, UCI Law welcomed its largest first-year class of all time – 159 students.