

NOMMO

Power of the word Volume 8, 2011

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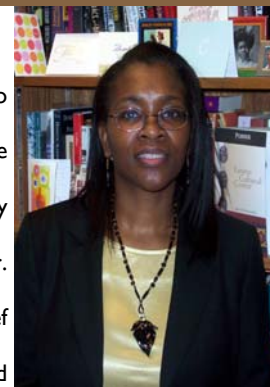
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From the Director

From the Director

Things have been moving for AASRC in recent months. Faculty have been making headway on our collaboration with American Studies to formally recognize African American Studies as an area of concentration. We have submitted two new courses to the Graduate School for approval: AAS 574: Research Methods in African American Studies and 575: Theories of African American Studies. The purpose of AAS 574 is to explore research methods used to investigate race, class, and gender from an African American perspective. With the completion of AAS 574, students will have some experience utilizing African American Studies research methods. The purpose of AAS 575 is to provide a history of the black intellectual tradition, which will then provide an important perspective for use in other course work. With the completion of AAS 575, students will have an understanding of the major theories and intellectual debates of African American Studies. These core courses form the basis of the concentration with additional courses being drawn from existing courses in various departments in CLA. We will keep you posted as we progress with this concentration.

We look forward to working on this new venture with our newest faculty member, Dr. Su'ad Khabeer. Please look inside for a brief bio on our jointly appointed faculty member in African American Studies and Anthropology. Next semester she will be teaching an honors course on "Blackness and Culture."



Venetria K. Patton

We have submitted two new courses to the Graduate School for approval: AAS 574: Research Methods in African American Studies and 575: Theories of African American Studies.

As you peruse the schedule of upcoming events, you will notice a theme of collaboration prevails. We have several exciting programs lined up that we are doing with other campus units. On October 4th, we will be co-sponsoring with the Diversity Resource Office and the Department of English the Experience Liberal Arts Lecture: "Generations of Privacy & Consent: Private Bodies, Public Texts—A Response to The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks" by Dr. Karla F. C. Holloway, James B. Duke Professor of English and Law at Duke University. This event will be followed later in the month by the Reading by Natasha Tretheway co-sponsored by Creative Writing and the Black Cultural Center. We hope to see you at these and other events through out the year.

Programs in Review

2010 Symposium—Race & Reality: Mediated Truths



Dr. Trudier Harris

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Trudier Harris

J. Carlyle Sitterson Professor Emerita at The University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Thursday, November 19, 2010
Stewart Center • Room 318

Program Review:

On Friday November 19th, 2010, the African American Studies and Research center held its 26th Annual Symposium on African American Culture and Philosophy, “Race and Reality: Mediated Truths.” The symposium contained three stimulating sessions, which invoked dynamic conversation among the panelists, attendees, and Symposium Scholar in Residence, Dr. Trudier Harris. Dr Harris is a literary scholar who has focused her academic study on writers such as Toni Morrison and James Baldwin. The Luncheon Plenary by Dr. Harris provided another thought provoking avenue to discuss the day’s theme. This lecture specifically focused on James Baldwin’s simultaneous fascination and repulsion of the U.S. South and his quest to wrestle with his emotions toward the U.S. South through his works of fiction. The Symposium’s three sessions consisted of one panel chair, two presenters, and one respondent, which provided the platform for rich discussion between the panelists and the audience.

Program Review: Book Signing & Discussion—Dr. Cornelius Bynum

On January 27, 2011, Dr. Cornelius Bynum discussed his first book *A. Philip Randolph and the Struggle for Civil Rights*. In his book, Bynum explored genuine social justice, mass action, race and class, and the maneuvering of blacks in American politics. He investigates Harlem radicals and their migration to the U.S. in the 1920s. In his work, he uses Frank Crosswaith and Richard Moore as counter to the Harold Cruse assumption of a dearth of organic black radicalism and power prior to the 1960s. Moore and Crosswaith, he argues, uniquely impacted the ferment of black militancy and political power in the 1920s. They linked black freedom movements in the African Diaspora and situated the freedom struggle as broader than the United States. Their activism precluded African Diaspora Studies. They organized groups, gave lectures, and critiques on Capitalism and racism, and they framed self-determination, independence, and nationalism as correctives to racism, Colonialism, Jim Crow, and Apartheid. Bynum concluded with a discussion of the African Blood Brotherhood as a distinctly radicalized Communist organization and defined black trans-nationalism as an international framework for black self-determination and freedom.

Program Review: WEB Du Bois Lecture Series—Dr. Jualynne Dodson

On February 8, 2011, the W. E. B. DuBois Lecture was presented by Dr. Jualynne Dodson. The lecture, titled “Religion, the Americas & African Descendants: What Do We Truly Know?” focused upon religion in Cuba. From the outset, Dr. Dodson maintained that understanding religion in Cuba is fundamental to understanding religion in the Americas. After paying homage to DuBois, Dr. Dodson defined the African Diaspora, and she explained that the islands of the Caribbean were the first to experience the “radical changes” that occurred throughout the Americas with respect to the exploitation and eradication of indigenous peoples. Dr. Dodson noted that Africans were substituted for the decimated Indian populations in Cuba. According to Dr. Dodson, “distinctly” Cuban religious traditions, such as Palo Monte/ Mayombe, Arara, Vodou, Espiritismo, and Ifa, were practiced on the island prior to the revolution; although, some traditions remain underground.

Program Review: Harriet A. Jacobs Series in the Humanities and the Arts—Dr. Jennifer D. Brody

On Thursday, March 31, the AASRC welcomed Duke University Professor in African and African American Studies Dr. Jennifer D. Brody to Purdue where she delivered this year’s Harriet Jacobs Lecture. Titled “Incidents Abroad: Edmonia Lewis and Figures of Freedom,” Dr. Brody’s lecture focused on the life and work of Edmonia Lewis, a woman of African American and Native American ancestry who gained international recognition and fame for her work as a sculptress. As much of Edmonia Lewis’s life remains unknown and under-discussed, Dr. Brody’s work seeks to both recuperate and to represent. One of the areas where scholarship on Lewis is weakest concerns her travels and life abroad, primarily her time living and working in Italy as an artist. With her background in theater and performance studies, Dr. Brody bases much of her research on Lewis’ life in Italy and the work she produced while there. In her presentation Dr. Brody encouraged the use of alternative and creative methods of “reading” when viewing sculpture, especially work that is produced by those on the margins of tradition and convention. Exploring topics of cultural dislocation and migration, art as political agent and the blurring of lines distinguishing artistic genres, Dr. Brody demonstrated the merits and possibilities of employing interdisciplinary approaches in research. As Dr. Brody continues to excavate the life of Edmonia Lewis and to understand her art in increasingly provocative manners, the challenge to interrogate silences and recover what has been lost is laid before all who claim membership in the community of scholars.

Fall 2011**October**

Co-Sponsored Event
Diversity Resource Office
Experience Liberal Arts
Karla Holloway
Stewart Center
Room 310
4:00 pm
10/4/11

Co-Sponsored Event
Creative Writing
Natasha Tretheway
Fowler Hall
7:30 pm
10/27/11

December

AASRC Symposium
December 1-3, 2011
Stewart Center 307

Spring 2012**February**

Black History Month
Harriet Jacobs Lecture Series
Marlo David
STEW 202
4:00 pm
2/28/12

March

AASRC Film Series
Tyler Perry's *Madea vs. Spike Lee* (joints)

Talkin' N Testifyin'
Ms. Casarae Gibson
T.B.A.

April

Talkin' N Testifyin'
Dr. Jennifer Freeman-Marshall
T.B.A.

Upcoming**Symposium Announcement**

**African American Studies and Research Center
Announces its 27th annual Symposium on
African American Culture and Philosophy
"Afro-Latin America: Rethinking, Identity, Politics & Culture"
December 1-3, 2011
Stewart Center**

Symposium Keynote Speaker—Dr. Kim Butler

Dr. Kim Butler is a historian specializing in African diaspora studies with a focus on Brazil and Latin America/Caribbean. Her first book *Freedoms Given, Freedoms Won: Afro-Brazilians in Post-Abolition São Paulo and Salvador*, won the American Historical Association's Wesley-Logan Prize and the Association of Black Women Historians' Letitia Woods Brown Prize. Dr. Butler received her Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins University and is currently an associate professor of history and Chair of the Africana Studies department at Rutgers University.

Course Offerings Spring 2012

AAS 27100 3 credits	Introduction to African American Studies	MWF 9:30—10:20	Ms. Elizabeth Canela
AAS 27100 3 credits	Introduction to African American Studies	MWF 20:30—1:20	Mr. Tony Perry
AAS 27100/ AAS 27100H 3 credits	Introduction to African American Studies	TTH 1:30—2:45	Dr. Joseph Dorsey
AAS 27700 3 credits	African American Popular Culture	MWF 10:30—11:20	Ms. Casarae Gibson
AAS 37100/ AAS 37000H 3 credits	Issues in African American Health	TTH 10:30—11:45	Dr. Titilayo Okoror
AAS 27700 3 credits	African American Popular Culture	TTH 3:00—4:15	Mr. Arthur Banton
AAS37100 3 credits	Issues in African American Studies: Blackness and Culture	TTH 9:00—10:15	Dr. Su'ad Khabeer
AAS37300 3 credits	The Harlem Renaissance	TTH 12:00—1:15	Dr. Venetria Patton
AAS57500 IDIS59100 3 credits	Theories of African American Studies	W 2:50—5:40	Dr. Niambi Carter

Please contact the center for more details and the class schedule. The class schedule can also be found online at: <http://www.cla.purdue.edu/african-american/courses/spring.cfm>

Congratulations Carolyn Johnson 25 years at Purdue

The AASRC would like to congratulate Dr. Carolyn Johnson for 25 years of service at Purdue. Before her appointment as the Director of the Diversity Resource Office (DRO), Dr. Johnson served as the Senior Research Associate for the AASRC. As the Director of the DRO, Dr. Johnson is responsible for creating, implementing, and assessing programming and activities at Purdue that promote diversity. Prior to joining the Purdue community, Dr. Johnson served as a public school teacher for Elkhart Community Schools in Elkhart, Indiana. Dr. Johnson earned her undergraduate and Master's degree in Elementary Education from Indiana University and a Ph.D. in Educational Administration from Purdue in 1985.

WELCOME

Welcome—Dr. Su'ad Khabeer

Su'ad Abdul Khabeer is an assistant professor of Anthropology and African American Studies at Purdue University. She received her PhD in Cultural Anthropology from Princeton University and her BSFS from Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service. In her research she uses ethnography and performance art to explore the intersection of race, religion and popular culture. Her most recent work explores the ways young Chicago Muslims negotiate their religious, racial and cultural identities through hip hop. Her future projects will look at the relationship between sound, blackness and Islam in America and the role of Muslim hip hop in US cultural diplomacy efforts. In addition to her academic writing and publications, her poetry was featured in the anthology *Living Islam Out Loud: American Muslim Women Speak*. She has a commitment to public scholarship and has written for *The Washington Post*, theRoot.com and blogs for the Huffington Post. She is also a Senior Project Advisor for the US Public Television award-winning documentary, *New Muslim Cool*.

Welcome—Heather Moore

The AASRC would like to welcome Heather Moore. Heather Cherie Moore is a 2nd year Ph.D. student in the American Studies program at Purdue University. While her major area of concentration is African American Studies, Heather's additional academic areas of focus include Educational Studies, black male youth studies, and contemporary popular culture.

Welcome—Casarae Gibson

Casarae Gibson is a native of Northern California. Currently, she is a Ph.D. student in English and a graduate teaching assistant. Her research includes twentieth-century African American Literature and because of her commitment to African American literary scholarship, she serves as the scholar-in-residence of the academic think tank group Black Thought Collective at Purdue University's Black Cultural Center. Casarae is actively involved in several organizations such as the Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program.

FAREWELL

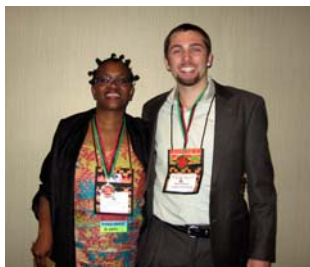
Goodbye—Jamal Ratchford

Best wishes to Jamal Ratchford from the faculty and staff in the AASRC. Jamal will be completed his Ph.D. in History this August. Congratulations, Dr. Jamal Ratchford! We will miss you.

Goodbye—Courtney L. Thompson

Best wishes to Dr. Courtney L. Thompson who defended her dissertation "Capturing Democracy: Black Women Activists and the Struggle for Equal Rights, 1920s-1970s" this past March. Courtney is now a visiting assistant professor at Dickinson College. Congratulations, Dr. Thompson!

NCBS 2011 Participant Perspectives



The 2011 National Council of Black Studies Annual Conference was very meaningful and fulfilling both as a student and as a person. I enjoyed meeting the numerous scholars, students, and professors, who shared in both the presentation and facilitation of research and ideas. The plethora of panels provided an excellent opportunity to hear from across the spectrum of what is Black Studies today and enabled me to broaden my understanding of the field. I also managed to network with colleagues, including new acquaintances, with whom I hope to foster and build academic relationships into the future. The highlight of this conference definitively was being inducted into the Ankh Maat Wedjau Honor Society. I am extremely thankful for all the support Dr. Patton, the AASRC community and the BCC have given me over the years. The positive educational environment they have provided, has allowed me to attain the levels of academic success I have reached thus far. I look forward to attending NCBS well into the future; it serves as a constant reminder and renewal of my dedication to education and the dissemination of articulate information in order for communal liberation.

—Nick Krebs, Undergraduate Student

NCBS 2011 was a fruitful experience. At the board meeting the goals and current accomplishments of the Student Committee were well received. I also learned valuable lessons about the professionalization process in regards to scholarly journals. As the organizer of 5 panels, I also was grateful for those that assisted my efforts and I was pleased with the results from each session. In particular, I will continue to work closely with Dr. James Stewart on ways to bridge the gap between the STEM fields and NCBS. I also will work with Dr. Stewart and President Cha-Jua on the future of the Summer Institute. In 2011, I was honored to chair the inaugural high school essay and on Friday afternoon I presented 3 awards and checks to our recipients. Perhaps the most encouraging session that I organized was the Steve Biko Student Summit and Graduate Fair. I was fortunate that Dr. Leslie Alexander used the crisis at Cornell as a framework to discuss ways students can get involved with Black Studies on their campuses. The session was incredibly passionate and 20 undergraduates and graduates stayed after to discuss student mobilization strategies after the conference. As Co-Chair of the Student Committee, I am pleased to announce that the Keto Fellows program will continue and more information will be provided soon. NCBS continues to remain central to my professional development and I look forward to serving in future years.

—Jamal Ratchford, Ph.D. Candidate in History

My experience at the 2011 National Council for Black Studies (NCBS) conference in Cincinnati was extremely rewarding in a number of ways. First, it was a great opportunity to connect and reconnect with other scholars with similar cultural backgrounds; secondly, this was undoubtedly one of the largest conferences I've ever attended which provided a sense of comfort to find others whom share the same passion in my field of interest as I; lastly, the city of Cincinnati was very hospitable and excellent host for NCBS especially when you consider its historical significance to the African American Experience.

Some of the conference panels that I've enjoyed aside from my own included: *Hip-Hop and the Academy II* which featured a very interesting presentation by Anthony James Ratcliff on the "The Crisis of the Hip-Hop Intellectual." Ratcliff gave his presentation standing up in protest to the academy in recognizing that Hip-Hop can be used as a legitimate pedagogical tool for instruction. Other panels I thoroughly enjoyed included: *Sidekicks, Sapphires, Sexualities: The Darker Side of Comedy* which featured papers on the representations of black women in cinema and *The Black Tax: The Price Students of Color Pay to Succeed in Academia* which featured papers by women from the Caribbean who are forced to negotiate their identity with their respective nation and blackness in order to successfully navigate through graduate school. The most intriguing session was a Thursday afternoon panel that examined the intersection of Sports, Race and politics, notable for not only its scholarship but also because at the start I was the only audience member in attendance. However, my interest and knowledge in the subject matter was able to keep the discussion going for more than half-an-hour!

Finally and personally it was a great opportunity to share the fellowship with other junior scholars, who respect your work and understand its larger significance beyond the academy. It was also a great opportunity to bond with fellow students (both graduate and undergraduates) during the commute to Cincinnati and at the conference. It was a great opportunity to meet other students (especially at Purdue) who are intelligent, passionate, and dedicated to their craft and the proliferation of black culture.

The NCBS conference clearly demonstrated why this organization is so important to the community of scholars and students and I certainly look forward to attending the conference next year and as often as I can in the future.

—Arthur Banton, Ph.D. Student in American Studies

Remmers Award Launches Students

This year's annual Remmers Award Program was held on April 27, 2011, from 2:00-3:30 p.m. The Remmers Award supports students pursuing social science research at both the masters and doctoral level. In the process of completing theses and dissertations, students are often faced with additional expenses related to printing surveys, transcribing interviews, and coding data; however, awards such as the Remmers Award provide additional funds to offset these expenses. Since the 1985-86 academic year, AASRC has coordinated the selection of Remmers Award recipients. We are pleased to have contributed to the success of many Purdue alumni.

Mr. Dwaine Jengolley
Ph.D. Award Winner



Political Science

Mr. Tyrell Connor
Masters Award Winner



Sociology

NCBS Call for Papers

NCBS is accepting abstracts for individual papers, poster, panel, session, roundtable discussion, workshop, town hall meeting that explore the black experience locally, nationally, and /or globally from a variety perspective. Of particular interest are presentations that comparatively explore these experiences, as well as those that examine the discipline of Africana/Black Studies using multi-layered frameworks and methodologies. Papers that incorporate various combinations of race/nationality, class, gender and sexuality, through the lens of but not limited to Afrocentric, cross and multicultural, diasporic, feminist, postcolonial, postmodernist or transnational interpretative schemes are welcomed. Send a 150-400 work abstract for a panel (one for the panel subject and one for each panelist), and/or individual paper and pster presentations. For roundtable discussion submit a 500 word abstract that explores the discussion topic. For town hall meeting submit a 500 word abstract specifying the roles of the facilitator(s) and recorder(s)

All conference presenters must pre-register for the conference.

Submission deadline OCTOBER 14, 2011

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