Symposium Schedule

50 Years of Black Studies:
Intellectual Histories and Institutional Demands

Thursday, November 29 (DAY 1)

3 pm – 4:45 pm  Registration & Welcome Mixer

5 pm - 7 pm  Keynote Address – Greg Carr, Professor and Chair of Africana Studies at Howard University

Welcome: Marlo D. David, Director of African American Studies
Greetings: Al Lopez, Interim Head of SIS
Introduction of Keynote: Nadia Brown

Greg Carr is Associate Professor of Africana Studies and Chair of the Department of Afro-American Studies at Howard University and Adjunct Faculty at the Howard School of Law. He is a co-founder of the Philadelphia Freedom Schools Movement, a community-based academic initiative that has involved over 13,000 elementary, high school and college students. His publications have appeared in, among other places, *The African American Studies Reader, Socialism and Democracy, Africana Studies, Publications of the Modern Language Association of America, The National Urban League’s 2012 State of Black America* and *Malcolm X: A Historical Reader.*
Friday, November 30 (DAY 2)

8-8:45 am  Registration & Continental Breakfast

9 am-10:30 am  Panel Group 1

**Panel 1.1 -- Perspectives on an Afro-Identity Affirmation in Latin America: How Black Latin Americans Resist, Re-Appropriate, and Redefine Blackness in the 21st Century**

Moderator: TBA

“Heterogeneity, Afro-Colombian Identity and the Biblioteca de Literatura Afrocобильiana”
Gabriel Gary-Comargo M.A. student, Dept of Spanish & Portuguese, Purdue

“Puerto Rican Bomba: Drumming a Space in Popular Music”
Jorge Pérez de Jesús Ph. D. student, Dept of Spanish & Portuguese, SLC Purdue

“Uplifting the Cuban Nation: The Re-Education of the cubano negro”
Dawn F. Stinchcomb, Associate Professor of Latin American Literature and Culture Purdue University

**Panel 1.2 – Claiming our Field**

Moderator: TBA

“The Creation of Black Studies”
Abdul Alkalimat, University of Illinois

Lessie B. Tate, Prairie View A&M University

“Has Black Studies outlived its usefulness?”
Hailey Sonn, Florida International University

10:30-10:45 am  Break

10:45 am - 12:15 pm  Panel Group 2

**Panel 2.1 – Cravings: The Hunger for a Food Analytic in Black Studies**

Moderator: TBA

“Dinah’s Kitchen: The Conceptualization of Black (Food) Studies”
Megan Williams, PhD student, American Studies, Purdue

“Out Kasseroles: Understanding Blackness and Food Activism through Food Trucks”
Ariel Smith, Ph.D. Student, American Studies, Purdue
Panel 2.2 – Political Theory
Moderator: TBA

“The Limits of Our Politics: Black Political Thought and the Challenges of Our Time”
Stephen Graves, University of Missouri

“In Order to Form a More Perfect Union: Black Women and socialist(s) Thought(s)”
Daaiyah Heard, Independent Scholar

12:30 pm – 2:30 pm Luncheon – Plenary – Dawn-Elissa Fischer, Chair and Associate Professor of Africana Studies at San Francisco State University

Dawn-Elissa Fischer is Chair of the Africana Studies Department at San Francisco State University. She teaches courses on international Black popular culture, information technology and visual ethnography. Thanks to the support of the Woodrow Wilson National Foundation Career Enhancement Fellowship, she is completing two manuscripts entitled Blackness, Race and Gender Politics in Japanese Hiphop and Methods to Floss, Theories to Flow: Hiphop Research, Aesthetics and Activism. Her work has been published in Doing Race: 21 Essays for the 21st Century, Journal of Popular Music Studies, Transforming Anthropology, FIRE!!! The Multimedia Journal of Black Studies and The Western Journal of Black Studies.

2:45 pm – 4:15 pm Panel Group 3

Panel 3.1 – Nomenclature in Theory and Practice: Cuba in Black Studies, African American Studies, and African Diaspora Studies
Moderator: Fannie T. Rushing, Benedictine University
Commentator, Alphine Jefferson, Randolph-Macon College

“Geo-Bifurcated Spaces among Slave Convicts in the Caribbean: Jurisprudence in Cuba; Penal Exile in Puerto Rico, 1820-1886”
Reynaldo Ortiz-Minaya, Brooklyn College-CUNY

“Rare Topics in Black Studies and African Diaspora Studies: Free People of Color in Nineteenth-Century Cuba”
Joseph C. Dorsey, Purdue University

“Teaching Black Studies in Secondary Schools: Comparative Dimensions of Afro-Cuban History and Afro-Puerto Rican History in the Classroom”
Daniel Morales-Armstrong, Africana Studies Department, University of Pennsylvania

Panel 3.2 – Claiming Black Spaces
Moderator: TBA

“A New Millennium DuBoisian Mode of Inquiry: Kings of Mississippi and Transdisciplinary Research”
Sandra L. Barnes, Vanderbilt University

“Radical Black feminist spatial imaginaries, healing, and urban renewal in Oakland”
Ree Botts, UC Berkeley

“The ‘Twin Sister’ of Slavery: Nineteenth-Century African American Colonization Projects”
Anthony L. Conley, Ivy Tech Community College

4:15 pm – 4:30 pm  Break

4:30 pm – 6 pm  Panel Group 4

Panel 4.1 – Institutional Challenges
Moderator: TBA

“On Teaching Black Psychology in a Predominantly White Undergraduate Institution”
Sandra Gonsalves-Domond, Ramapo College of New Jersey

“Mining History for Our Future: The Black Studies Project at the Claremont Colleges”
Dray Denson, The Claremont Colleges
Maryan Soliman, The Claremont Colleges

“Black Studies at the Crossroads: A History of Intersectional Politics at Denison University”
John L. Jackson, Denison University
Toni C. King, Denison University

Panel 4.2 – Cultural Studies
Moderator: TBA

“The Zombie as Critic: Misinterpreting Fela’s ‘Zombie’”
Philip Effiong, Michigan State University

‘...Like Writing History with Lightning’: The Psychology of Birth of a Nation and the Re-Imaging White Supremacy”
Chris Newman, The Ohio State University

“A Womanist Reading: Reframing Age through the Lens of Afrofuturism”
Juanita Crider, Purdue University

6:15 pm – 8:15 pm  Dinner – Plenary – Valerie Grim, Professor and Director of Undergraduate Studies, African American and African Diaspora Studies at Indiana University

Valerie Grim is a Professor of African American and African Diaspora Studies at Indiana University-Bloomington. She chaired the Department of African American and African Diaspora Studies from
2004-2016. As a scholar, Grim researches and publishes in the area of twentieth and twenty-first centuries African American rural history. Currently, she has completed *Between Paternalism and Self-Determination: Rural African American Life in a Yazoo-Mississippi Delta Community, 1910-1970*.

8:30 pm – 11 pm                         DJ and DANCING
Saturday, December 1 (DAY 3)

8-8:45 am  **Continental Breakfast**

9 am-10:30 am  **Panel Group 5**

**Panel 5.1 – Defining our Field**
Moderator: TBA

“Black Studies: Self Definition”
James Alexander Robinson, University of Iowa

“Atheism, Blackness, and African American Studies”
Jerry Rafiki Jenkins, Palomar College

“Nomenclature: Black Studies, African American Studies, and African Diaspora Studies”
Joseph C. Dorsey, Purdue University

**Panel 5.2 – Undergraduate Student Panel**
Moderator: TBA

10:30-10:45 am  **Break**

10:45 am - 12:15 pm  **Closing Roundtable – Carr, Fischer, and Grim**
Moderator: Marlo D. David