



African American Studies & Research Center's 28th Annual Symposium on African American Culture & Philosophy



*“Celebrating Our Past and
Looking into Our Future”*

November 15—17, 2012
Purdue University
Stewart Center, 3rd Floor
West Lafayette, Indiana 47907

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*“Celebrating Our Past and Looking into Our Future
November 15—17, 2012*

**November 15, 2012
7:00 PM
Stewart Center, Room 310**

**Symposium Keynote
Dr. Houston Baker
Vanderbilt University**



Houston A. Baker was born in Louisville Kentucky. He received his BA from Howard University, and his M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of California at Los Angeles. He has taught at Yale, University of Virginia, University of Pennsylvania, and Duke. He is currently Distinguished University Professor and Professor of English at Vanderbilt University. His awards and honors include: Guggenheim and National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowships, resident fellowships at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences and the National Humanities Center, and honorary degrees from a number of US colleges and universities. He has served as President of the Modern Language Association of America, and is the author of articles, books, and essays devoted to African American Literary Criticism and Theory. His book *Betrayal: How Black Intellectuals Have Abandoned the Ideals of the Civil Rights Era* received an American Book Award for 2009.



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Friday November 16



Continental Breakfast 8:30 AM Room 313



**9:00—10:00
Concurrent Panels**

Racial Activism

Love That Kills: Racial Slaughter in M.S. Livingston’s ‘for Unborn Children’
Dr. Pat Young, Western Illinois University

A Half-Century of Artistry and Activism: Reflections on the Achievements
of Alice Walker
Ms. Suzanne Clemenz, Purdue University

Enlightenments and Origins

The Colonial Breast: Enlightenment Project and Revolutionary Symbol
Dr. Karol Weaver, Susquehanna University

Black Legal Studies and the Origins of the Constitution
Mr. Wylie Jason Donte Tidwell III, Walden University

Break 10:00—10:15 Room 313

**Friday 10:15—11:45
Concurrent Panels**

Octavia Butler’s writings explored

Born-to-Die: The Ogbanje Figure in Octavia Butler’s *Kindred*
Ms. Stella Setka, Purdue University

Afro-Futurism: The Kindred Parables of the Fledgling Future of *Lilith’s Brood*. Or the
Past is What we Can Make it
Dr. Billi Johnson, University of Cincinnati

Parable of the Economy: Mapping the Neo-Liberal, Economic Vision of Octavia
Butler’s *Parable of the Sower*
Dr. Rone Shavers, College of Saint Rose



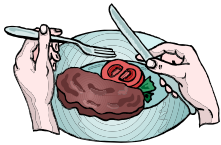
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***Emergent Voice of the Spiritual Past and the Worldly Present:
Black Women Speak***

Speak Right – Daughters of Zelophehad:
18th and 19th Century African American Female Clergy
Beverly Lewis-Burton, Indiana University

The African Diasporic Connection to 19th Century Black Women’s Sass
Regina Jones, Indiana University Northwest

Sappho’s Mixed Beliefs: The Americanization of Miscegenation
Anna Taylor, Indiana University Northwest



12:00—2:00



**Lunch plenary
Poetry and Spoken Word Presentation
Jolivette Anderson , Juanita Crider
PMU West Faculty Lounge**



Jolivette Anderson-Douning is a native of Shreveport, LA. She spent 10 years in Mississippi as an artist, community organizer and activist. Jolivette earned a B.A in Speech/Theater from Louisiana Tech University and a M.A in Humanities/Liberal Studies from Grambling State University. Jolivette designed and implemented a Cultural Identity Curriculum called the D. Ciphers Language Migration: Explorations in Reading, Writing & Critical Thinking in response to the needs of African American public school students.



A graduate of Ball State University with a B.S. degree in history, Juanita Crider is currently completing her Master's degree in the same subject with a special focus on college student volunteerism and the Mississippi Freedom Summer. She is also interested in African American images in post World War II popular culture.





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**Friday 2:15—3:45
Concurrent Panels**

African American Beginnings

The Centrality and Role of African-centered Historiography and Culture in the Empowerment
of African People

Dr. Reginald Hopkins, Virginia State University

Afro-American Civil Society

Mr. Roderick Anderson, Trinity College

Origin of Black Studies in the Thought of Frantz Fanon

Dr. Lou Turner, University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana

African Americanness and The Future of Disciplines

The American Connection in Derek Walcott and Aimé Césaire

Dr. Paul Breslin, Northwestern University

Cultural Mobility Studies: An Evolution of Diaspora Studies and an Illuminating
Framework for Literary Scholars?

Dr. Justine McConnell, Oxford University

African American Literature and the End of Black Studies?

Dr. Patrice Rankine, Purdue University

Religion & Spirituality

Afro-French Sorial Congregations in the Upper and Lower South: Comparisons of
Black Catholicism in Nineteenth-Century Baltimore and New Orleans

Dr. Joseph Dorsey, Purdue University

Their Voices Paved A Way to Our Present and From Them we Draw Strength to
Negotiate Our Future: Celebrating the African American Spirituals Legacy

Dr. Betty Dlamini, Indiana University

Black Spirituality and the Academy

Rev. Ronald Winley, Independent Scholar



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CONCURRENT PANELS 4:00-5:45

What is Blackness, Who Defines It, and Why?

Ghosts of Nat Turner and Charlotte Forten: Civil War Reenactment, Gender and the
Construction of African American Southern Identity
Patricia Davis, Georgia State University

Whom Does Uncle Ruckus represent?
Jerry Jenkins, Palomar College

Reading Radmilla: The Semiotics of Transgressing Racial Borders
Ricardo Guthrie, Northern Arizona University

How to Talk About Authentic Blackness Now
Martin Japtok, Palomar College

Canon in F: Afrofuturism-Its Place and Prospect in the Black Literary Tradition

An Afrofuturist Reading of Zora Neal Hurston’s *Their Eyes*
Isiah Lavender III, University of Central Arkansas

Adventures in Appropriation: Post-Reconstruction Race Utopias and the Emergence of
Postcolonial Science Fiction
Lysa Revera, Western Washington University

That Synching Feeling: Demonic Temporality in Black Diasporic Concurrence &
Nietzschean Recurrence
Darryl Smith, Pomona College

Crossroads Chronotopias: Afrofuturist Vertigo in Black Cultural Production
Valorie Thomas, Pomona College



RECEPTION

MEMORIAL UNION,
WEST FACULTY LOUNGE

6:00—8:00 PM

Social





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**Continental Breakfast
8:30 am
Room 313**



**Saturday 9:00—10:30
Concurrent Panels**

***Isms & Black Feminist Discourse What’s Ageism and sexism Got to Do with It Subverting
the (Isms) in Black Feminist Discourse***

Black Feminism and Ageing Black Female Sexuality: Stereotypes, Challenges and the
Importance of Inclusion
Ms. Juanita Crider, Purdue University

Against Shame, but Subverting Identity: Black Female Sexuality on Screen in Spike Lee’s
She’s Gotta Have it
Ms. Casarae Gibson, Purdue University

Our Words are not Without Meaning: The Venacular as Resistance in the Lives of Black
Women
Ms. Lisa Young, Purdue University

Theory and Practice

Bridging Our Feminisms: Africana Feminism in Perspective
Dr. Carolette Norwood, University of Cincinnati

The Transdisciplinary Applied Social Justice model: A new Theoretical Frontier for
African American Studies
Dr. Menah Pratt-Clarke, University of Illinois-Champaign

The Impact Black Studies has on the Identity Formation of Students Attending a
PWI vs. HBCU
Mr. Ramon Jenkins, Michigan State University

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SYMPOSIUM CO-SPONSORS

College of Liberal Arts § Krannert School of Management
Black Culture Center § The Graduate School
College of Education § The Honors College
Department of History § Department of Political Science
Department of Anthropology § Department of English

29TH AASRC SYMPOSIUM

“TITLE TO BE ANNOUNCED”

November 20—22, 2014

Beginning in 2014, we will be moving to a biannual schedule.
Please look for our symposium to be held in the even years.

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