African American Studies & Research Center and Latin American & Latino Studies
Present:
27th Annual Symposium on African American Culture & Philosophy

“Afro-Latin America: Rethinking Identity, Politics & Culture”

December 1—3, 2011
Purdue University
Stewart Center, 3rd Floor
West Lafayette, Indiana 47907
Thursday

1:00—2:30
Concurrent Panels

1. Broad Strokes: Introductions to Transnational Juxtapositions Room 322
Chair: Alexandra Gelbard, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

Elizabeth Canela, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
New Portrayals of Black Identity in the Dominican Republic and Haiti and Their Consequences for Collective International Activism

Arthur Banton, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

2. Immigration, Settlement, & the Dynamics of Trans-generational Identity in the United States Room 320
Chair: Reynaldo Ortiz Minaya, State University of New York, Binghamton

Monika Gosin, Duke University, Durham, NC
The Blackness of Invisibility: Afro-Cuban Immigrants Negotiating Race in the United States

Elias Ortega-Aponte, Drew University, Madison, NJ

David Irwin, University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, MN
Evolving Radical Thought: Politics, Culture, and Black Transnational Space in the Twentieth Century

Chair: Donald R. Culverson, Governor State University, Chicago, IL

Anthony Conley, Ivy Tech Community College, Indianapolis, IN
Booker T. Washington and U.S. Imperialism, 1898-1902

Heather Abdelnur, Augusta State University, Augusta, GA
Broken Glass to Beheading: Women and Crime in Spanish Louisiana
Thursday

2:45—4:15
Concurrent Panels

4. Racinations & Taxonomies in Early Colonial Mexico, Central America, Jamaica, and Brazil Room 322
   Chair: Joseph Dorsey, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
   Valérie Benoist, Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA
   The Life of a Black Nun in Colonial Mexico: Juana Esperanza de San Alberto
   Ann Marie Adams, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ
   The African Presence in Colonial Mexico: Linkages to Mestizos in Central America and Spanish Jamaica

5. Eclectic Bigotry in South Atlantic Societies: Racism, Hybridity, and Their Complexities over Time Room 320
   Chair: Corneilus Bynum, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
   Hélène Rompré, Université de Montréal, Montreal, Canada
   The Child in the Slave: Hidden Histories of Mulatto Children in Colonial Ecuador, 1790-1820
   Layla Brown, Duke University, Durham, NC
   Afro-Venezuelans: A Test Case for the Promise of the Bolivarian Revolution

6. History & the Arts: Audiovisual Economies of Blackness in South America and the Caribbean Room 318
   Chair: David Rollock, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
   Carving New Lives in Suriname: Design Motifs in the Maroon Arts
   Kimberly Cleveland, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA
   Pedro Figari: Painting African Influences in Nineteenth-Century Montevideo
December 1, 2011
7:00 PM
Stewart Center, Room 322

"Latinizing Race, Racializing Latinidad: The Shifting Terrains of Blackness"

Symposium Keynote & W.E.B. Du Bois Speaker
Dr. Kim D. Butler
Associate Professor, Rutgers University

Dr. Kim D. 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 PhD from Johns Hopkins University and is currently an Associate Professor of History in the Department of Africana Studies and the Director of the Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora (ASWAD).
Friday

Continental Breakfast  8:00 AM  Room 313

8:30—10:00
Concurrent Panels

7. History, Literature, and Gendered Essentialism as Praxis:
Afro-Latin American Women in Late Modernity  Room 320
Chair: Adrianna Lozano, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Michele Reid–Vázquez, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA
Guerrilleras Negras: Slave Women and Free Women of Color in Cuba’s Conspiración de La Escalera

Elias Ortega-Aponte, Drew University, Madison, NJ
Mayra Santos-Febrés and the Literary Performance of Blackness in the Spanish Caribbean

Kimberly Simmons, University of South Carolina, Columbia
Stirring the Sancocho and Seeing Africa: The Roles of Women and the Changing Significance of Blackness in the Dominican Republic

8. Late Colonialities and Early Republicanisms: Pluralities of Blackness in the Age of Abolition  Room 318
Chair: Crystal Eddins, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

T.J. Obi, Baruch College-CUNY, New York
Esgrima de Machete: An Afro-Colombian Resource

Mekala Audain, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ
Blackness in San Antonio: Fugitive Slaves & Free Blacks Before, During, and After the Texas Revolution

Erika Edwards, University of North Carolina, Charlotte
Human Property to Free Individuals: The Gradual Abolition of Slavery in Cordoba, Argentina

9. Enlightenment, Reform, and Trans-continental Revolution:
Background to the Aponte Rebellion of 1812  Room 322
Chair: Reynaldo Ortiz-Minaya, State University of New York, Binghampton

Bárbara Danzie, Archivo Nacional de Cuba, Havana
Gendering the Palenque: Rebel Slave Women in Liberationist Strongholds (Resistencia Femenina: Una Mirada de Género a la Historia de los Rebeldes)

Reynaldo Ortiz-Minaya, State University of New York, Binghampton
Deconding the Transition from Bhoio to Barracon: the Growth and Development of the Plantation Landscapes as Social Space and Disciplinary Discourse, 1759-1868

Isabel Hernández-Campos, Museo de la Ruta del Esclavo, Matanzas, Cuba
Cuba The Politics of Memory in Cuba: Slavery, Museum Cultures, and National Memory (Memorias Políticas: La Esclavitud, las Culturas del Museo y la Memoria Nacional)
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Break 10:00—10:15 Room 313

Friday 10:15—11:45
 Concurrent Panels

10. “A Luta Continua”: Ongoing Struggles for Racial Democracy in the Americas Room 320
Chair: Tony Perry, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Jessica Graham, Notre Dame University, Notre Dame, IN
Brazilian Anticommunism and the Question of Racial Democracy in the 1930s

Melissa Valle, Columbia University, New York, NY
La Lucha Afro: A Relational Approach to Afro-Colombian Social Movement Organizations

Devyn Spence Benson, Williams College, Williamstown, MA
“Everybody went to Miami . . .He went to New York”:
Race, Revolution, and the Afro-Cuban Diaspora, 1959-1963

11. Music, Letters, and Religion as Performance, Protest, and Protection in Colombia, and Cuba Room 318
Chair: Jualynne Dodson, Michigan State University, East Lansing

Michael Quintero, Bowdoin College, Brunswick, ME
Between Cosmopolitanism and Alterity: The Cultural Politics of Black Music in Western Colombia

Matthew Pettway, Bates College, Lewiston, ME
Scorning the Negation of Blackness in Burlesque Bodies:
A Portrait of Afro-Cuban Masculinities in Gabriel de la Concepción Valdés

Sonya Johnson, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
Spirits in the Formation of Religious Tradition in Cuba

12. The Impact of the Aponte Rebellion in Cuba and Elsewhere in the Spanish Caribbean Room 322
Chair: Harry Targ, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

María del Carmen Barcia, Universidad de la Habana
From Black Catholic Brotherhoods to Neo-African Ethics Systems
(De cabildo de Nación Africana a la Casa de Santo Afrocubano)

Aisha Finch, University of California, Los Angeles
Infrared Insurgencies: The Political Cultures of Cuban Slaves, 1843-44

Joseph Dorsey, Purdue University, West Lafayette IN
Freed People in Chains: Rebellious Activism among Liberated Africans in Cuba and Puerto Rico, 1835-1864

Jacqueline Kent, University of Miami, Miami, FL
Well Dressed After the French Mode: Free People of Color and Public Performance in Nineteenth-Century Cuba

Discussant: Reynaldo Ortiz-Minaya, State University of New York, Binghamton
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Dr. Gwendolyn Midlo Hall
"The Atlantic Slave Data Network: a Tool for Comparative Studies of the African Diaspora"

12:00—2:00PM
Plenary Luncheon
PMU West Faculty Lounge

Dr. Gwendolyn Midlo Hall is Professor of history at Michigan State University. Dr. Hall received numerous awards for *Africans in Colonial Louisiana: the Development of Afro-Creole Culture in the Eighteenth Century* (1992) including the John Hope Franklin Prize, the Elliott Rudwick Prize, the Willie Lee Rose Prize, and the Theodore Saloutos Memorial Book Award. She is also the author of *Slavery and African Ethnicities in the Americas: Restoring the Links* (2005); *Louisiana Slave Database and Louisiana Free Database 1819-1820, Compact Disk Publication* (2000); and *Social Control in Slave Plantation Societies: A Comparison of St. Domingue and Cuba* (1971). Dr. Hall is a John Simon Guggenheim Fellow (1996) and a recipient of the Distinguished Service Award from the Organization of American Historians (2004).

Friday 2:15—3:45
Concurrent Panels

13. Blackness in Motion: The Changing Politics of Racial Belonging in Brazil, Panama, the Caribbean, and the United States Room 320
Chair: Su’ad Abdul Khabeer, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Ariana Curtis, American University, Washington, DC
Zoning Panamanian Blackness

Arvenita Washington-Cherry, University of Maryland, Baltimore County
Challenging Social Constructs for Black and Latino/a Belonging and Authenticity in a Prince George’s County Public Middle School

Calenthia Dowdy, American University, Washington, DC
Circulations of Blackness: Hip-Hop and Brazil’s Black Movement

14. The Politics of Race, Representation, and the Public Sphere in Contemporary Brazil Room 318
Chair: Alphine Jefferson, Randolph-Macon College, Ashland, VA

Kia Lily Caldwell, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
Race and the Politics of Health in Contemporary Brazil

Reighan Gillam, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
Resistance Televised: TV da Gente and Racial Politics in Brazil

Lúcio Oliveira, University of California, Los Angeles
Living in the Racial Domain of Whites
15. La Guerrita de Doce: The Impact of the Race War of 1912 in Cuba and Elsewhere in the Spanish Caribbean Room 322
Chair: Omar Diaz, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Takkara Brunson, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY
The Partido Independiente de Color through the Lens of Gender

Frank Guridy, University of Texas, Austin
Hijos de Doce: Afro-Cubans & Diaspor-alizing in the Age of Empire

Melina Pappademos, University Connecticut, West Hartford
Rethinking Black Racial Politics in Cuba after the Partido Independiente de Color

Tomás Fernández Robaina, Biblioteca Nacional José Martí, Havana, Cuba
On the Problematic of Race in Cuba: What Yesterday’s Ideas Teach Us Today (Ideas del Ayer sobre la Problemática Racial en Cuba que Nos Enseñan que Hacer Hoy)

Discussant: Agustin Lao-Montes, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Friday 4:00—5:30
Concurrent Panels

16. Brazilian Confrontations with Race, Policy-making, and Globalization Room 320
Chair: Niambi Carter, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Tianna Paschel, University of California, Berkeley
Airing Dirty Laundry: The Impact of the Durban World Conference on Brazil’s Shift from Colorblindness to Affirmative Action

Gladys Mitchell, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD
Black-linked Fate, Prejudice, and Support for Brazilian Racial Policies

17. Hip-Hop and Black Youth in Latin American Cities: Discourses and Practices vis-à-vis Race, Class, and Gender in Brazil and Argentina Room 318
Chair: Paul Dixon, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Ana Lúcia Silva Souza, Universidade Federal da Bahia, Brazil
Literacies of Re-existence: Cultures and Identities in the Hip-Hop Movement

Janaina Damaceno Gomes, Universidade de São Paulo, Brazil
African and Latin American Diasporas in the Black Argentinian Movement

Jaqueline Lima, Universidade Estadual de São Paulo, Brazil
Perforated Passages from Quilombos to Other Peripheries: The New History of Hip-Hop Beats
In the post-emancipation period throughout the Americas, the expansion of agro-industrial capital forced the migration of thousands of people of African descent creating a second African Diaspora in which the Caribbean replaced the Atlantic as a carrier of cultures, ideas and resistance. It was a period that saw an increase in terror and violence unleashed against communities of African descent with new state projects for exploiting their labor and new, violent mechanisms of social control designed to inhibit their movements and instill terror within their communities. In response to the call for African Americans to enlist in World War I in order to “make the world safe for democracy”, the African American social activist, A. Philip Randolph, responded rather than fighting in a racist, class war for “democracy, “Negros, should not enlist in a war for which the prize was the acquisition of colonies in Asia and Africa. Instead, they should fight “to make Georgia safe for the Negro”. This presentation explores the ways in which in the post-emancipation period peoples of African descent in moving through the Diaspora came into contact, sometimes in conflict or concert, with peoples of African descent from the former, Spanish, French and English colonies, and became aware of the necessity for continuing their fight against attempts to marginalize or obliterate their presence and create spaces safe for Blackness.

Respondent #1: William Santiago-Valles, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo
Continental Breakfast
8:00 am
Room 313

Saturday 8:30—10:00
Concurrent Panels

20. ¿Qué Quiere Decir Negro? Ethnographic Explorations of Blackness in Latin America  Room 322
Chair: Ariel de la Fuente, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Giles Harrison-Conwill, Duke University, Durham, NC
The Work of Blackness: Race, National, and Musical Performance in Venezuela

Judith Anderson, University of Florida, Gainesville
Whom Are You Calling Negro? Peronism and Blackness in Argentina

21. Race and Social Movements in Latin America and the Caribbean  Room 320
Chair: Ronald Stephens, Ohio University, Athens

Meredith Main, University of Florida, Gainesville
Navigating the Challenges of Afro-Ecuadorian Activism in Quito

Amanda Concha-Holmes, University of Florida, Gainesville
Decolonizing Image-ing: An Afro-Cuban Cabildo and Grassroots Social Movements

William Santiago-Valles, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo
Methods to Dismantle Racialized Exploitation and State Violence through Transnational Networks: Four Latin American Cases

22. Performing Race Room 318
Chair: Patrice Rankine, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

José de Paiva dos Santos, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, Belo Horizonte, Brazil
Rethinking Brazil’s Foundation: Maria Firmina dos Reis and Conceição Evaristo

Dana Linda, University of California, Los Angeles
White Noise, Black Masks: Recapturing Race in Hispanic Caribbean Prison Narratives
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