



AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES AND RESEARCH CENTER

Building an Intellectual Community for the 21st Century



The Purdue African American Studies & Research Center's
31st Symposium on
African American Culture & Philosophy

50 Years of Black Studies: Intellectual Histories and Institutional Demands

November 29– December 1, 2018
Purdue University
West Lafayette, Indiana 47907

PURDUE
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College of Liberal Arts

Symposium Schedule
**50 Years of Black Studies:
Intellectual Histories and Institutional Demands**

Thursday, November 29

3 pm – 4:45 pm

Registration & Welcome Mixer
Black Cultural Center

5 pm - 7 pm

Keynote Address – Greg Carr, Professor and Chair of Africana Studies at Howard University
STEW 218 ABCD
Black Spaces, Black Institutions and Black Studies: Narrating
“The Nation”

Welcome: Dr. Marlo D. David, Director of African American Studies
Greetings: Dr. Al Lopez, Interim Head of the School of Interdisciplinary Studies
Introduction of Keynote: Dr. Ronald J. Stephens, Professor of African American Studies



Dr. Greg Carr

Dr. 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

8-8:45 am

Registration & Continental Breakfast
STEW 204



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*
STEW 218 A

Moderator: Mr. Guillermo Caballero, Purdue University

“Heterogeneity, Afro-Colombian Identity and the Biblioteca de Literatura Afrocolombiana”

Gabriel Gary-Comargo, Purdue University

“Puerto Rican Bomba: Drumming a Space in Popular Music”

Jorge Pérez de Jesús, Purdue University

“Uplifting the Cuban Nation: The Re-education of the cubano negro”

Dr. Dawn F. Stinchcomb, Purdue University

Panel 1.2 – *Intellectual Histories: The House that Black Studies Built*
STEW 218 D

Moderator: Dr. Valeria Sinclair-Chapman, Purdue University

“The Creation of Black Studies”

Dr. Abdul Alkalimat, University of Illinois

“Diaspora Studies Rise from a 1965 International Congress: ‘Emerging Themes of African History’ ”

Dr. 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
STEW 204

10:45 am - 12:15 pm

Panel Group 2

Panel 2.1 – *Cravings: The Hunger for a Food Analytic in Black Studies*
STEW 218A

Moderator: Dr. David Rollock, Purdue University

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

“Out Kasseroles: Understanding Blackness and Food Activism through Food Trucks”
Ariel Smith, Purdue University

Panel 2.2 – *Race, Gender, and Political Theory*
STEW 218D

Moderator: Dr. Nadia Brown, Purdue University

“The Limits of Our Politics: Black Political Thought and the Challenges of Our Time”
Dr. 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 – Dr. Dawn-Elissa Fischer, Chair and Associate Professor of Africana Studies at San Francisco State University
PMU West Faculty Lounge**

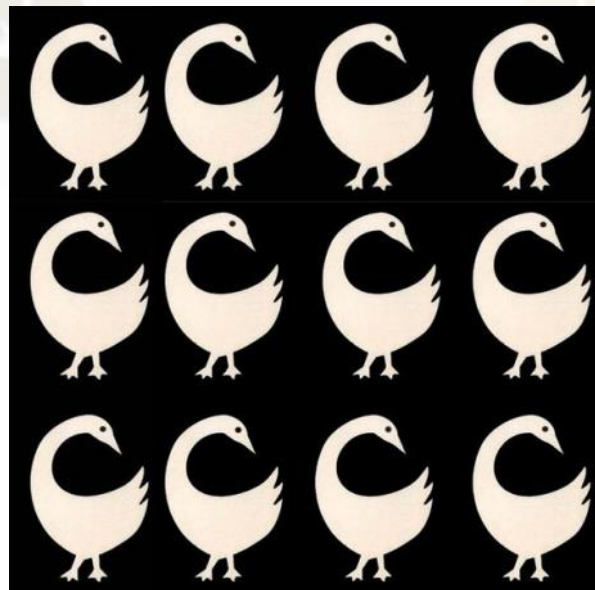
“Looking Back to Move Forward: Movements for Black Studies -- 50 Years Later”

Introduction of Plenary Speaker: Dr. Nadia Brown, Purdue 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 Hip-hop* and *Methods to Floss, Theories to Flow: Hip-hop 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*.

Dr. Dawn-Elissa Fischer



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*
STEW 218 A

Moderator: Dr. Fannie T. Rushing, Benedictine University
Commentator: Dr. Alphine Jefferson, Randolph-Macon College

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

“Rare Topics in Black Studies and African Diaspora Studies: Free People of Color in Nineteenth-Century Cuba”
Dr. 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”
Dr. Daniel Morales-Armstrong, University of Pennsylvania

Panel 3.2 – *Comparative Temporality and the Claiming of Black Spaces*
STEW 218 D

Moderator: Dr. Jean Beaman, Purdue University

“Radical Black feminist spatial imaginaries, healing, and urban renewal in Oakland”
Ree Botts, University of California - 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
STEW 204

4:30 pm – 6 pm

Panel Group 4

Panel 4.1 – *Institutional Challenges: Case Studies from the Frontlines*
STEW 218 A

Moderator: Dr. Cornelius L. Bynum, Purdue University

“On Teaching Black Psychology in a Predominantly White Undergraduate Institution”

Dr. 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

Dr. Maryan Soliman, The Claremont Colleges

“Black Studies at the Crossroads: A History of Intersectional Politics at Denison University”

Dr. John L. Jackson, Denison University

Dr. Toni C. King, Denison University

Panel 4.2 – *Critical Images, Critical Frames: Cultural Studies in the African Diaspora*
STEW 218 D

Moderator: Dr. Marlo D. David, Purdue University

“The Zombie as Critic: Misinterpreting Fela’s ‘Zombie’”

Dr. 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 – Dr. Valerie Grim, Professor and Director of Undergraduate Studies, African American and African Diaspora Studies at Indiana University
PMU West Faculty Lounge**

"Black Studies Then and Now: What Do Strategic Hiring, Diversity, Collaborations, and Morphed Curricular Intersections Offer for the Internal Security and Longevity of Black Studies Within the Twenty-First Century Academy"

Introduction of Speaker: Dr. Joseph C. Dorsey, Purdue University

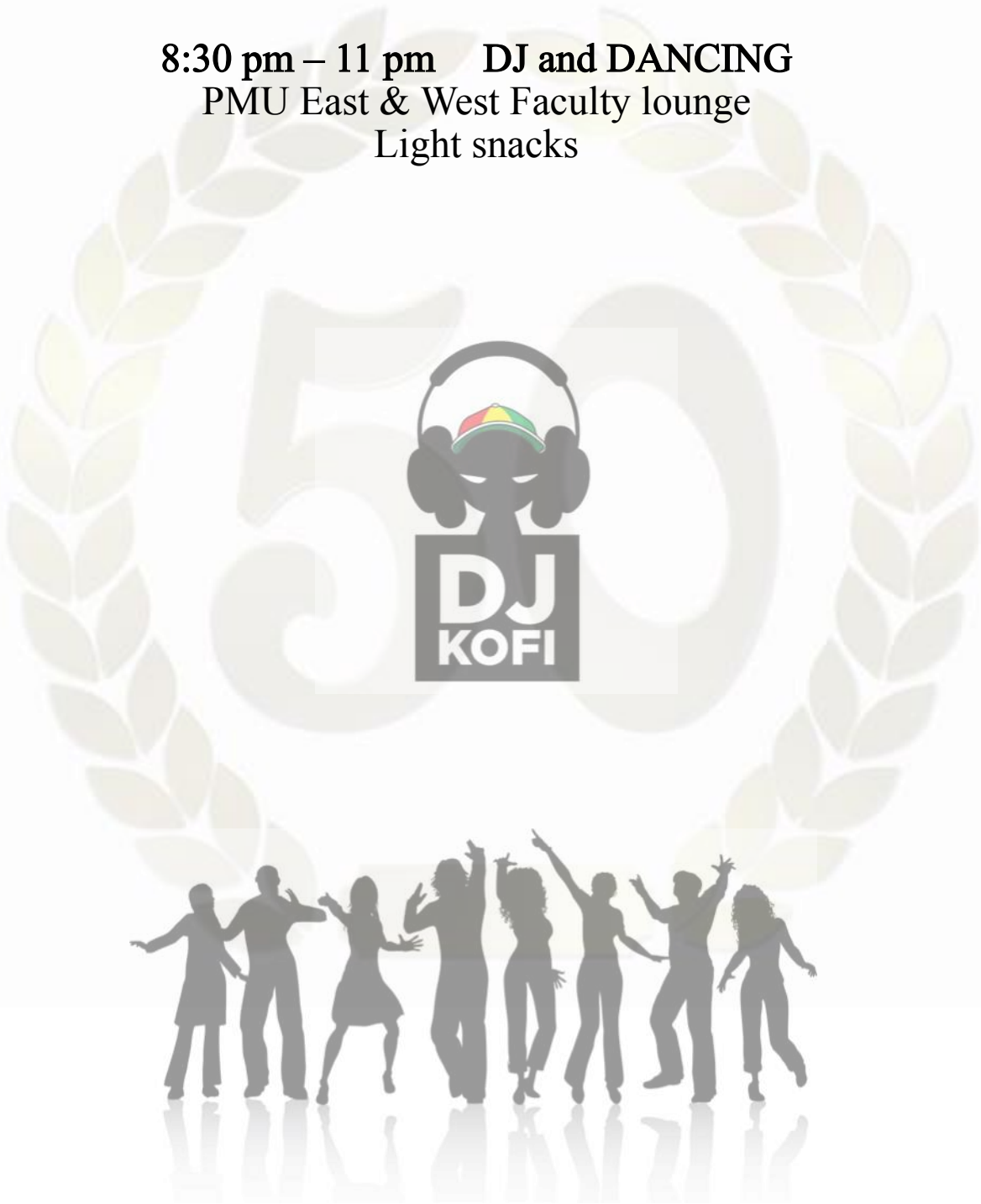


Dr. Valerie Grim

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 20th - and 21st - century 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
PMU East & West Faculty lounge
Light snacks



Saturday, December 1

8-8:45 am

Continental Breakfast
STEW 204



9 am-10:30 am

Panel Group 5

Panel 5.1 – *Don't Call Me Out My Name: Black Studies and the Struggle for Self-Definition*
STEW 218 A

Moderator: Dr. Ronald J. Stephens

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

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

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

Panel 5.2 – *The Students are Our Future: An Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Student Roundtable*
STEW 218 D

Moderator: Dr. Jennifer Freeman Marshall, Purdue University

Priscilla Obu-Darko, Purdue University
Amarri Smallwood, Grand Valley State University
Kambriana Gates, Grand Valley State University
Jada Franklin, Purdue University
Jeremiah Johnson, Purdue University

10:30-10:45 am

Break–STEW 204



10

Kassandra Agee-Chandler, Purdue's first African-American Homecoming Queen

10:45 am - 12:15 pm

**Closing Roundtable: “50 Years of Black Studies and Beyond”
Dr. Greg Carr, Dr. Dawn-Elissa Fischer, Dr. Valerie Grim
STEW 218 AB**

Moderator: Dr. Marlo D. David, Purdue University



Dr. Greg Carr



Dr. Dawn-Elissa Fischer



Dr. Valerie Grim





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Symposium Co-organizers:

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