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**From the Director**



**Marlo D. David**

**Dear Alumni, Friends, and Supporters of African American Studies:**

The past year has been one of tremendous change and new challenges. I am looking forward to a new year filled with exciting possibilities for growth.

First, let me introduce myself:

My name is Marlo D. David, and I am the new program director for the African American Studies and Research Center. I joined the Purdue faculty in the fall of 2009 in the English Department and the Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program. During that time, I served the AASRC as an affiliate faculty member, planning events and teaching courses related to my concentration in contemporary African American literature and culture. When I was invited to take on this new position as director, I was excited and honored to have the opportunity to lead this important program.

Our challenges include our consistent push for inclusion on campus and in our communities. Recent events around the country have highlighted how important it is for all of us to know the history and contributions of people of African descent nationally and globally.

**Our challenges include our consistent push for inclusion on campus and in our communities.**

For that reason, we are dedicating our annual symposium this year to the theme "50 Years of Black Studies: Intellectual Histories and Institutional Demands." We commemorate the establishment of the field of Black Studies in 1968 at San Francisco State University and the development of the field globally.

Purdue University has a special attachment to 1968, as well. That year, nearly 150 black students marched across campus to demand the Inclusion of Black experience in the university's curriculum, the integration of student organizations, and the hiring of more black faculty. Dr. Helen Bass Williams, the first Black faculty member at Purdue, also arrived in 1968.

With that history in mind, we must rise to our new global challenges with the same spirit of determination that spawned this field 50 years ago. I look forward to sharing our accomplishments, updates on our faculty, students, and alumni, and plans for our future in this edition of NOMMO.

Sincerely,

Marlo David  
Director

## Programs in Review

### “I Am a Black Woman”

#### “I am a Black Woman:” Celebrating the Life and Work of Poet Mari Evans

September 2017

Black Arts poet, playwright, and children’s book author, Mari Evans, who passed away on March 10, 2017 at the age of 97, was honored at an afternoon celebration of her life. Evans, a long-time resident of Indianapolis, was a visiting scholar at Purdue University from 1978 to 1980. She was known for her powerful writing detailing black cultural and political self-determination of the late 1960s and 70s.

## After Charlottesville: Confronting Racism in America

#### After Charlottesville: Confronting Racism in America -Teach-In Panel Discussion

October 2017

Purdue faculty provided mini-lessons on the events leading up to and following the white supremacist violence in Charlottesville, Virginia in August 2017. Dr. Ronald J. Stephens (AAS), Dr. David Atkinson (HIST), Dr. Caroline Janney (HIST), and Dr. Valeria Sinclair-Chapman (POL) each provided insight from their scholarly vantage points. The event also generated a special “Dialogues” section of essays in the journal *Politics, Groups, Identities*.

### “W.E.B. DuBois: Revolutionary Across the Color Line”

#### *From Black Lives Matter to World Revolution – W.E.B. DuBois Biennial Lecture*

October 2017

Dr. Bill V. Mullen, Professor of American Studies at Purdue, shared insights from his recent book on DuBois’s internationalism in his later life. Mullen is the author of *W.E.B. DuBois: Revolutionary Across the Color Line*, *Un-American: W.E.B. DuBois and the Century of World Revolution*, *Afro-Orientalism*, and *Popular Fronts: Chicago and African American Cultural Politics 1935-1946*.

## Talkin’ and Testifyin

#### Talkin’ and Testifyin’ Works in Progress Series

November 2017

American Studies graduate student Keturah Nix delivered a lecture entitled “Immortal Hustler: “The Commemorative Legacy of Booker T. Washington in America.” Nix, who is also an award-winning teaching assistant in the African American Studies program, shared a chapter of her dissertation, which seeks to revise commonly held beliefs about Washington’s intellectual contributions and legacy.

## Harriet Jacobs Annual Lecture

#### *Set the World on Fire – Harriet Jacobs Annual Lecture*

March 2018

Dr. Keisha Blain, assistant professor of history at the University of Pittsburgh, presented the annual Jacobs lecture on her new book *Set the World on Fire: Black Nationalist Women and the Global Struggle for Freedom*. Dr. Blain is president of the African American Intellectual History Society, Senior Editor of the journal *Black Perspectives*, and a contributing writer and editor for a host of publications, including the *Washington Post*, *Newsweek*, and *Salon*.

## Policing in Public—Town Hall Discussion

September 2018

Dozens of students, faculty, staff, and community members attended the town hall event to discuss the ways that Black people are policed in public, entitled “Why are You Calling the PoPo: A Conversation on Permit Patty and BBQ Becky. In response to the increase in video documentation of white people calling the police on Black people while doing everyday tasks, the participants were asked to share their experiences, identify the historic and contemporary factors leading to this problem, and discuss solutions.

## AASRC 2018 Calendar of Events

### Fall 2018

#### AUGUST

African American Studies  
Student Call out

#### SEPTEMBER

*Policing in Public*  
Town Hall Discussion  
Co-Sponsored with the  
Black Cultural Center  
4:30 pm, Black Cultural Center

*A Conversation with Tarana Burke:  
Founder of #MeToo*  
Co-Sponsored with the LGBTQ Center  
6:30 pm, Loeb Theatre

September 21-30  
"By the Way, Meet Vera Stark" a play  
by Lynn Nottage  
Co-sponsored with the  
Department of Theatre  
Mallett Theatre Pao Hall of  
Performing Arts

#### OCTOBER

October 3-7  
*Purdue African American Studies &  
Research Center Film Festival*  
103<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference for the  
Association for the Study of African  
American Life and History  
Indianapolis Marriott Downtown

#### NOVEMBER

"50 Years of Black Studies 1968-2018:  
Intellectual Histories and Institutional  
Demands"  
31st Biennial Symposium on African  
American Culture & Philosophy  
Thurs.-Sat., Nov. 29– Dec. 1  
8:30 AM,  
Stewart Center

## Upcoming Events– Spring 2019

**Harriet Jacobs Lecture**  
**Black History Month**  
**Sankofa Summer Abroad: Culture and History in Ghana**  
Maymester 2019

**For more information contact: African American Studies & Research Center**  
Beering Hall of Liberal Arts and Education, Room 6182 100 N. University Street  
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2098 Phone: 765-494-5680 Fax: 496-1581  
Website:<http://www.cla.purdue.edu/african-american/>

## Course Offerings Spring 2019

AAS27100	Intro. to African American Studies	MWF 12:30 — 1:20	Dr. Ronald Stephens
AAS27100	Intro. To African American Studies	TTH 10:30 — 11:45	Ms. Ariel Smith
AAS37100	Black Women in Politics	TTH 1:30 —2:45	Dr. Nadia Brown
AAS37300	History of Injustice	MW 4:30—5:45	Dr. Ronald Stephens
AAS37600	The Black Male	MWF 1:30—2:20	Dr. Joseph Dorsey
AAS47300	Blacks in Hollywood Film	MF Lec. 3:30—4:20	Dr. Joseph Dorsey
		W Lab. 4:00—5:50	Ms. Megan Williams
AAS49100/ HIST 41100	Africa in the 20th Century	TTH 10:30— 11:45	Dr. Kim Gallon
AAS57400/ AAS47400	Research Methods AfAm Studies	TTH 4:30— 5:45	Dr. Nadia Brown
AAS57500/ AMST 65000/ CMPL65000/ LC65900A/	Theories in African American Studies	TTH 12:00— 1:15	Dr. Dawn Stinchcomb



AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES  
AND RESEARCH CENTER

*Building an Intellectual Community for the 21st Century*

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>

## WELCOME

### Welcome—Ariel Smith

Ms. Ariel Smith is our newest Graduate Assistant in African American Studies. She will assist Dr. Nadia Brown with our AAS27100 Introduction to African American Studies course. Welcome aboard Ms. Smith.

### Welcome—Dr. Marlo David

Dr. Marlo David is the new director of the African American Studies and Research Center. She brings new ideas and innovative skills to the department. Welcome aboard Dr. David.

## FAREWELL

### Goodbye—Keturah Nix

Congratulations on your success: you will be missed!

### Goodbye—Suad Abdul Khabeer

Congratulations on your success: you will be missed!

## THANK YOU

Thank you Dr. Stephens for the excellent work you did as director of African American Studies and Research Center for the past years.

## CONGRATULATIONS

### Congratulations—Jean Beaman

Congratulations on your new book, *Citizen Outsider: Children of North African Immigrants in France* with the University of California Press in 2017.

### Congratulations—Dr. Jennifer Freeman Marshall

Dr. Freeman Marshall is the new Director of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies in the College of Liberal Arts and the School of Interdisciplinary Studies. Welcome aboard Dr. Freeman Marshall.

## ALUMNI CORNER

### ReChard Peel



As a 2014 Graduate of The African American Studies program at Purdue, I gained a great deal of knowledge and experience that has truly transformed my career and personal foundations. Since graduating from Purdue I have been focused on providing access, resources, and knowledge for Black college students throughout the country, by working as a student affairs professional. The African American Studies program taught me about equity, justice, and pride in one's own culture and background, and now I seek to create more equitable environments and instill pride and a sense of belonging in other Black college students.

I have worked at several institutions of higher education over the last four years including, the University of Notre Dame, Grand Valley State University, and (currently) Vanderbilt University. In 2017, I received a master's degree in higher education and student affairs. I won the "Outstanding Masters Thesis Award" for my thesis entitled "Racial Ideology" and Black Students' Leadership Experiences at a Historically White Institution. I also received the "Graduate Deans Award" for Excellence in Promoting Diversity and Inclusion at Grand Valley State University". I have presented at several national conferences about issues related to the Black experience. I currently serve as Program Coordinator for Inclusion Initiatives at Vanderbilt University, where I teach an eight week non-credit social justice seminar discussing issues of power, privilege, and racism. I also advise the African Student Union. I hope to continue to use the tools I learned at Purdue to continue to advocate for Black people and for college students through my work. I am looking to enroll in a PhD program that will allow me to research and use a critical lens to resolve barriers to access and belonging for Black college students.

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## MSNBC LIVE AT PURDUE UNIVERSITY

Students and staff from across the political spectrum came out to view the taping of "MSNBC Live with Katy Tur" on Purdue's campus on the Wednesday afternoon of October 10, 2018 in the Purdue Memorial Union. The hour-long news segment is currently touring college campuses, including University of California, Los Angeles; Clark Atlanta University; and the University of Nevada, Reno. Some students who attended are taking an Introduction to African American Studies course taught by Dr. Nadia Brown, an Associate Professor of Political Science and African American Studies.





## Remmers

### Remmers Award Launches Students

Our Annual Remmers Award Program was held on April 2, 2018, from 3:00-4:00 pm. 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.

#### Our winners this year are:

Courtney Griffin-Oliver, Doctoral Student, Psychological Sciences, Cognitive Psychology  
 Jasmine C. Jackson, Doctoral Student, Political Science, American Politics  
 Ariel D. Smith, Doctoral Student, American Studies, Black Entrepreneurship

## Purdue University at NCBS, Charlotte, NC 2019



The National Council of Black Studies conference provides an opportunity for undergraduate students to interact with established scholars. Year after year, students participate in this conference and come back with a better appreciation for their classroom experience and often a desire to pursue graduate studies. The conference has also become a place where Purdue alumni reconnect over the years. We hope to see several of you in Charlotte in March 2019.

## African American Studies at ASALH

AASRC proudly co-sponsored the 103<sup>rd</sup> annual conference of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) in October in Indianapolis, Indiana. The theme of the ASALH conference, "African Americans in Times of War," commemorated the centennial of the end of the First World War in 1918, exploring complex meanings and implications of this international struggle and its aftermath. AASRC sponsored the annual conference film festival. A number of AASRC core and affiliate faculty and graduate students shared their research in the annual meeting.

The film festival was held October 4-6, 2018 at the Indianapolis Marriott Downtown. It featured several films on each day, each followed by a 30 minute discussion led by a scholar.

## Faculty, Staff and Affiliates Listing

### Director

#### Marlo D. David

Associate Professor, English/ WGSS  
**Office: HEAV 204E**  
**Phone: 765-494-4177**  
[mdavid@purdue.edu](mailto:mdavid@purdue.edu)



### Faculty

#### Nadia Brown

Associate Professor, Political Science & AAS  
**Office: BRNG 2249**  
**Phone: 765-494-0460**  
[brown957@purdue.edu](mailto:brown957@purdue.edu)



#### Joseph Dorsey

Associate Professor, AAS  
**Office: BRNG 6172**  
**Phone: 765-494-5680**  
[jdorsey@purdue.edu](mailto:jdorsey@purdue.edu)



#### Venetria K. Patton

Professor, English/AAS  
**Office BRNG 6176**  
**Phone: 765-496-2797**  
[vpattson@purdue.edu](mailto:vpattson@purdue.edu)



#### Ronald J. Stephens

Professor, AAS  
**Office: BRNG 6174**  
**Phone: 765-494-2151**  
[stephe@purdue.edu](mailto:stephe@purdue.edu)



### Staff—Administrative

#### Matilda Stokes

Administrative Assistant  
**Office: BRNG 6182**  
**Phone: 765-494-5680**  
[mstokes@purdue.edu](mailto:mstokes@purdue.edu)



### Affiliates

#### Jean Beaman

Assistant Professor, Sociology  
**Office: STON 347**  
[beamanj@purdue.edu](mailto:beamanj@purdue.edu)



#### T.J. Boisseau

Associate Professor, WGSS  
**Office: BRNG 6162**  
**Phone: 765-494-1494**  
[tjboisseau@purdue.edu](mailto:tjboisseau@purdue.edu)



#### Cornelius Bynum

Associate Professor, History  
**Office: UNIV 024**  
[bynum@purdue.edu](mailto:bynum@purdue.edu)



#### Jennifer Freeman Marshall

Associate Professor, English/ WGSS  
**Office: BRNG 6156**  
**Phone: 765-496-2810**  
[jlfreem@purdue.edu](mailto:jlfreem@purdue.edu)



#### Kim Gallon

Assistant Professor, History  
**Office: UNIV 122**  
[kgallon@purdue.edu](mailto:kgallon@purdue.edu)



#### Leonard Harris

Professor, Philosophy  
**Office: BRNG 7121**  
**Phone: 765-496-3860**  
[lharris@purdue.edu](mailto:lharris@purdue.edu)



#### Carolyn Johnson

Director, Diversity Resource Office  
**Office: MSEE 386**  
**Phone: 765-494-7307**  
[cjohnson1@purdue.edu](mailto:cjohnson1@purdue.edu)



#### Chrystal Johnson

Associate Professor, Education  
**Office: BRNG 4172**  
**Phone: 765-494-2365**  
[johnsocs@purdue.edu](mailto:johnsocs@purdue.edu)



#### David Reingold

Justin S. Morrill Dean of Liberal Arts  
**Office: BRNG 1290L**  
**Phone: 765-494-3664**  
[reingold@purdue.edu](mailto:reingold@purdue.edu)



#### David Rollock

Professor, Psychology  
**Office: PSYC 1130B**  
**Phone: 765-494-4141**  
[rollock@psych.purdue.edu](mailto:rollock@psych.purdue.edu)



#### Kevin Stainback

Associate Professor, Sociology  
**Office: STON 345**  
**Phone: 765 49-40938**  
[stainback@purdue.edu](mailto:stainback@purdue.edu)



#### Valeria Sinclair-Chapman

Associate Professor, Political Science  
**Office: BRNG 2221**  
[vsc@purdue.edu](mailto:vsc@purdue.edu)



#### Dawn F. Stinchcomb

Associate Professor, Spanish  
**Office: SC 209**  
**Phone: 765-494-3877**  
[stinchcomb@purdue.edu](mailto:stinchcomb@purdue.edu)



#### Germina N. Veldwachter

Associate Professor, French  
**Office: SC292**  
**Phone: 765-496-3254**  
[nveldwac@purdue.edu](mailto:nveldwac@purdue.edu)



# PURDUE

UNIVERSITY

African American Studies &  
Research Center  
School of Liberal Arts  
Purdue University  
6182 Beering Hall  
100 N. University Street  
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2098

Phone: 765-494-5680  
Fax: 765-496-1581  
Email: [aasrc@purdue.edu](mailto:aasrc@purdue.edu)  
Twitter: @PurdueAASRC

<http://www.cla.purdue.edu/african-american>

## Credits

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Dr. Marlo D. David

## Assistant Editor:

Ms. Matilda B. Stokes

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Please contact me, I have other thoughts to share with AASRC.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:

African American Studies & Research Center  
College of Liberal Arts  
Purdue University  
6182 Beering Hall  
100 N. University Street  
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2098

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## AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES AND RESEARCH CENTER

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