

**“The State of Black Studies:  
Methodology, Pedagogy,  
and Research”**

*February 6, 7, 8, 2003*



Sponsored by:

The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture

The Program in African-American Studies at Princeton University

The CUNY Institute for Research on the African Diaspora  
in the Americas and the Caribbean (IRADAC)

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## PROGRAM

*Thursday, February 6, 2003*

### **Registration**

**4:00-8:00 pm**

**Location: Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture,  
515 Malcolm X Boulevard, New York City**

**6:45-7:00 pm**

**Schomburg Center**

*Opening Remarks:*

Howard Dodson, Chief, Schomburg Center

Valerie Smith, Director, Program in African-American Studies,  
Princeton University

James de Jongh, Director, The CUNY Institute for Research on the  
African Diaspora in the Americas and the Caribbean (IRADAC)

Charles Baron, 42nd District, Chairman, Education Committee, City  
Council of NYC

**7:00-8:30 pm**

**Schomburg Center Auditorium**

**PANEL 1—Plenary Session**

**BLACK STUDIES: THE LONG ROAD SINCE THE 1960s**

*Moderator:* Howard Dodson, Schomburg Center

*Panelists:* Carole Boyce-Davies, Florida International University  
Maulana Karenga, California State University, Long Beach  
William Strickland, University of Massachusetts, Amherst  
James Turner, Cornell University  
Sylvia Wynter, Stanford University

*Comment:* The Audience

*Location:* Schomburg Center

**8:30-10:00 pm**

**Schomburg Center Lobby**

**Reception**

Hosted by **PROQUEST** Information and Learning Company

*Friday, February 7, 2003*

**Registration**

**8:00 am-4:00 pm**

**Location: CUNY Graduate School, 365 Fifth Avenue, New York City**

**9:00-10:30 am**

**(All Sessions to be held at the CUNY Graduate School)**

**PANEL 2**

**THE SOCIAL SCIENCES AND THE METHODOLOGY OF BLACK STUDIES**

**Room C-201**

**Chair:** Carlton Wilson, North Carolina Central University

**Papers:** Depoliticizing Black Studies: The Pitfalls of New Teaching Technologies

Ingrid Banks

University of California, Santa Barbara

Political Institutions and their Impact on New Stakeholders

Sonya Winton

Yale University

What we think we know (and actually don't) about black voting behavior?

Andra Gillespie

Yale University

**Comment:** The Audience

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*Friday, February 7, 2003*

**9:00-10:30 am**

**PANEL 3**

**BLACK IDENTITIES, CULTURE, AND CIVIL RIGHTS**

**Room C-202**

*Chair:* George Priestley, Queens College, CUNY

*Papers:* Diversity in Black Identity  
Kenneth Foster, The Graduate Center, CUNY  
William Cross, The Graduate Center, CUNY

Africana Studies: Research Methods and Theory Development  
James Conyers  
University of Houston

Ironies of the Post Civil-Rights Era: the U. S. Multiracial  
Movement  
Kim M. Williams  
Harvard University

*Comment:* The Audience

**PANEL 4**

**THE INTERNATIONALIZATION OF BLACK STUDIES**

**Room C-203**

*Chair:* Kenneth Bilby, University of Maryland, College Park

*Papers:* African American Women Internationalists: Implications for Black  
Studies  
Michelle Rief  
Temple University

Developments in African History and the African Diaspora in the  
Caribbean  
Fitzroy Baptiste  
University of the West Indies

The Long Journey: Black Studies in the Anglophone Caribbean  
Jerome Teelucksingh  
University of the West Indies

*Comment:* The Audience

*Friday, February 7, 2003*

**9:00-10:30 am**

**PANEL 5**

**CONSTRUCTING AND CRITIQUING A DISCIPLINE:  
BLACK STUDIES**

**Room C204**

**Chair:** Demetrius Eudell, Wesleyan University

**Papers:** Africana Studies as a Discipline

Greg E. Carr  
Howard University

An Afrocentric Approach to Reconceptualizing African American  
Language

Adisa A. Alkebulan  
San Diego State University

Dialectical Materialism and the Sociology of Knowledge:  
The Case of African American Studies

John McClendon III  
Bates College

**Comment:** The Audience

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*Friday, February 7, 2003*

*11:00 am- 12:30 pm*

**PANEL 6**

**BLACK STUDIES' QUEER FUTURE**

**Room C-201**

*Chair:* Bruce Hare, Syracuse University

*Papers:* Black Deviance  
Cathy Cohen  
University of Chicago

Straight Black Studies  
Dwight McBride  
Northwestern University

Representable Bodies: Man, Masculinity, and Labor  
Darrell Moore  
De Paul University

Considerations of Violence in African American Studies  
Beth Ritchie  
De Paul University

*Comment:* The Audience

**PANEL 7**

**RESEARCHING BLACK STUDIES: THE CHALLENGE OF FIELD WORK**

**Room C-202**

*Chair:* Percy Hintzen, University of California, Berkeley

*Papers:* "True" Stories from the field  
Maggie Morehouse  
Hamilton College

Researching the Contemporary African Diaspora: Globalization,  
Deterritorialization and Fieldwork in Ireland  
Elisa Joy White  
University of California, Berkeley

Reworking the Black Historical Image through Research  
Daud Malik Watts  
Temple University

*Comment:* The Audience

*Friday, February 7, 2003*

*11:00 am- 12:30 pm*

**PANEL 8**

**CONVERGENCES AND DIVERGENCES:  
DIASPORA TRANSNATIONALISM, AND THE WRITING OF  
AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY IN THE 20TH CENTURY  
Room C-203**

*Chair:* Mia Bay, Rutgers University

*Papers:* Afro-Cuban/African American Information Networks and the  
Writing of African Diaspora History

Frank Guridy  
University of South Florida

The Sixties: Transnational Imperatives and The Implications for  
Pedagogy and Research on the African Diaspora

Fanon Che Wilkins  
University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana

Expanding the Playing Field: The Latins from Manhattan,  
"Diaspora and Jim Crow Baseball"

Adrian Burgos, Jr.  
University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana

*Comment:* The Audience

**PANEL 9**

**RESHAPING AFRICAN AMERICAN ART HISTORY:  
FROM PERFORMANCE STUDIES TO VISUAL CULTURE  
Room C-204**

*Moderator:* Deborah Willis, New York University

*Panelists:* Leslie King Hammond, Maryland Institute: College of Art

Nicole Fleetwood, Vassar College

Cheryl Finley, Wellesley College

*Comment:* The Audience



*Friday, February 7, 2003*

*12:30pm-2:pm*

**LUNCH**

(List of Restaurants will be available)

*2:00 – 3:30 p.m.*

**PANEL 10: LITERATURE AND PEDAGOGICAL STRATEGIES**

**Room C-201**

*Chair:* Frank Guridy, University of South Florida

*Papers:* African Aesthetics and American Literature

Nzinghu Gaffin  
Temple University

Educating Black Children: Culturally Congruent Strategies

Gwendolyn Webb-Johnson  
University of Texas, Austin

Pedagogy and Strategies for Teaching African-American Studies

Nathaniel Norment Jr.  
Temple University

*Comment:* The Audience

*Friday, February 7, 2003*

*2:00 – 3:30 p.m.*

**PANEL 11**

**CONCEPTUALIZING, RESEARCHING, AND TEACHING BLACK STUDIES**

**Room C-202**

*Chair:* Jane Rhodes, University of California, San Diego

*Papers:* Paradise by the Blackboard Light: The Politics and Perils of Teaching Undergraduate Students about Lynching

Linda Tucker  
New York University

Fugitive Slave Advertisements and the Future of Black Cultural History

Douglas Chambers  
University of Southern Mississippi

Howard Thurman and the Development of Black Studies

Frederick Knight  
The University of Memphis

*Comment:* The Audience

**PANEL 12**

**BLACK STUDIES: THE HISTORICAL EXPERIENCE**

**Room C-203**

*Chair:* Lydia Lindsey, North Carolina Central University

*Papers:* The Methodological and Research Challenges of Writing on Black Women Communists from the 1930s–1950s

Erik S. McDuffie  
New York University

Taking Stock: Black Scholars on the Future of Research on the African American Experience

Regine Ostine Jackson, Harvard University  
Alford Young, Jr., University of Michigan

*Comment:* The Audience

*Friday, February 7, 2003*

**2:00 – 3:30 p.m.**

**PANEL 13**

**AFRICAN AMERICANS AND AFRICAN DIASPORIC LINKAGES  
Room C-205**

**Chair:** Michael Gomez, New York University

**Papers:** Committed to Principle: Afro Puerto Ricans and The Construction  
of a Racial Identity in Puerto Rico

David Stark  
Grand Valley State University

Louis Farrakhan, the Nation of Islam, and the Response to  
Terrorism

Maboula Soumahoro  
Universite Francois Rabelais de Tours

Organizing the African Diaspora: Guyana's Dr. Claude A.H.  
Denbow, Howard University, and the League of Coloured People

Barbara Josiah  
John Jay College, CUNY

**Comment:** The Audience

*Friday, February 7, 2003*

**4 :00-5 :30 pm**

**PANEL 14**

**LOCAL KNOWLEDGE AND AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES IN AN AGE OF GLOBALIZATION**

**Room C-202**

**Chair:** Reginald D. Butler, University of Virginia

**Papers:** Africa on Park Street: Interrogating the Boundaries of Race, Gender, and Place in the Jim Crow South  
Reginald D. Butler  
University of Virginia

“Old Nat’s War”: Violence and Local Knowledge in Southampton County, Virginia  
Scot A. French  
University of Virginia

The Limits of the Temporal Organic Body: Interpreting the Health of Black Folks  
Wende Marshall  
University of Virginia

Rethinking Race, Gender, and Nation: A Theory of Knowledge and the African-American Experience  
Corey D. B. Walker  
University of Virginia

**Comment:** The Audience

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*Friday, February 7, 2003*

*4 :00-5 :30 pm*

**PANEL 15**

**THE BLACK LITERARY AND HISTORICAL TRADITIONS**

**Room C-203**

*Chair:* James de Jongh, The City College and The Graduate Center, CUNY

*Papers:* Interpreting Voguing: Why Judith Butler's "Performativity" Did Not Help Me.

Jonathan Jackson  
Goucher College

Echoes of a Life of Resistance: A Historiographical Examination of Moses Dickson's Knights of Liberty Narrative

Samuel Livingston  
Morris Brown College

Sacred Healing and Divine Power in the Fiction of Black Women in America Since the 1970s

Jiton Davidson  
Howard University

*Comment:* The Audience

*Friday, February 7, 2003*

*4:00-5:30 pm*

**PANEL 16**

**PUBLIC HISTORY AND THE MISSION OF BLACK STUDIES**

**Room C-204**

*Chair:* Kristopher Burrell, The Graduate Center, CUNY

*Papers:* Black Studies and Public History: Interpreting Slavery in the  
Colonial North at Philipsburg Manor, Upper Mills

Michael Lord  
Historic Hudson Valley

The Mission of Black Studies in the Twenty First Century

Judson Jeffries  
Purdue University

Researching Black Studies: The Sources and Challenges

Walter Hill  
National Archives

*Comment:* The Audience

**PANEL 17**

**TEACHING BLACK STUDIES**

**Room C-201**

*Chair:* Jeffery Kerr Ritchie, Schomburg Center

*Papers:* [Re]Thinking How We Approach, Understand, and Teach Black  
Music in the United States.

Emmett Price, III  
Northeastern University

Black Studies and the Beleaguered Status of Race:

[Re]Considerations for Handling Race and the Study of Black Life

Grace Livingston  
The University of Wisconsin, Madison

Focusing Our New Lens: African Diaspora Studies and the Tradi-  
tional Black Studies Curriculum

Kim D. Butler  
Rutgers University

*Comment:* The Audience

*Saturday, February 8, 2003*

**Registration**

**8:00 am-12:00 pm**

**Location: CUNY Graduate School, 365 Fifth Avenue, New York City**

**9:00-10:30 am**

**(All Sessions at be held at the CUNY Graduate School)**

**PANEL 18 – Plenary Session**

**BLACK STUDIES AND THE GLOBAL CONDITION: POLITICS,  
RESEARCH, AND PEDAGOGY**

**Proshansky Auditorium**

*Moderator:* John Roberts, Ohio State University

*Panelists:* John Bracey, University of Massachusetts at Amherst  
Gerald Horne, University of North Carolina  
Ronald Bailey, Northeastern University  
Catherine Clinton, Yale University

*Comment:* The Audience

**11:00am- 12:30 pm**

**PANEL 19**

**COLONIALISM, ETHNICITY, AND ISSUES OF  
SOCIAL BONDING IN THE DIASPORA**

**Room C-202**

*Chair:* Chad Williams, Princeton University

*Papers:* Rethinking Concepts of “Tribe” and “Ethnicity” through an  
Examination of Cuban Abakuá Chants

Ivor Miller  
DePaul University

The Development of Social Bonds Among African American  
College Women

Stacey A. Peterson  
Kean University

“*In the Light of Local Circumstances:*” Colonialism and Film  
Censorship in Kenya, 1926-1945

Tammy Brown  
Princeton University

*Comment:* The Audience

*Saturday, February 8, 2003*

*11:00am- 12:30 pm*

**PANEL 20**

**IMAGINING THE DIASPORA: IDEOLOGY, LITERATURE, AND POLITICS**

**Room C-203**

*Chair:* Saje Mathieu, Princeton University

*Papers:* Reading for the Tragic and the Comic in Black Narrative; or, Reflections on Richard Wright's Change of Heart from *Lawd Today!* to *Native Son*

Gillian Johns  
SUNY Stony Brook

From Western to African Feminism: The Plight of Poor Women in Modernity and Tradition in Tess Onwueme's *Tell It To Women* and *Shakara: Dance-Hall Queen*

Juliette Pack  
Texas Southern University

Ideology, Purpose, and Content in African-American Studies

Paul Miller  
Temple University

Rethinking the Mechanics of African-American Leadership

Andrew Kaye  
University of Newcastle

*Comment:* The Audience



*Saturday, February 8, 2003*

*11:00am- 12:30 pm*

**PANEL 21**

**CENTERING AFRICA IN BLACK STUDIES**

**Room C-204**

*Chair:* Fitzroy Baptiste, University of the West Indies

*Papers:* Creating Historical and Cultural Continuity: Black Studies, the Study, and Voice of the People

Halima Dhuhuty Hoover  
Temple University

Nile Valley Civilizations: Kemet and Black Studies

Karanja Keita Carroll  
Temple University

Acquiring Data and Examining Phenomena: Cosmological and Epistemological Issues

Sekhmet Ra Em Kht Maat  
Temple University

Speaking from Our Center: Resistance and Empowerment

Shahn L. Smith  
Temple University

*Comment:* The Audience

**PANEL 22**

**AFRICANA STUDIES: A LOOK INTO THE PAST AND THE FUTURE**

**Room C-205**

*Moderator:* Terry Kershaw, Virginia Tech University

*Panelists:* Bruce Hare, Syracuse University  
James Stewart, Pennsylvania State University  
Alfred Young, Georgia Southern University  
Delores Aldridge, Emory University

*Comment:* The Audience

*Saturday, February 8, 2003*

**12:30-2:00 pm**

**LUNCH**

**2:00-3:30 pm**

**PANEL 23**

**BLACK STUDIES AND DIVERSITY INITIATIVES: OUTREACH STRATEGIES**

**Room C-201**

*Moderator:* Richard Pierce, University of Notre Dame

*Panelists:* Hugh R. Page, University of Notre Dame  
Richard Pierce, University of Notre Dame  
Gina V. Shropshire, University of Notre Dame

*Comment:* The Audience

**PANEL 24**

**BLACK STUDIES AND RESEARCH METHODOLOGIES**

**Room C-202**

*Chair:* Miriam Jiménez Román, Schomburg Center

*Papers:* Reliving the Past in the Present: Documents vs. "The Living Past"  
Rose Thevenin  
Florida Memorial College

In the Archives of an Oral Culture: Harlem  
Jonathan Gill  
Fordham University

Black Studies in the Context of Ethnic Studies: California as a Case Study  
Jane Rhodes  
University of California, San Diego

*Comment:* The Audience

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*Saturday, February 8, 2003*

**2:00-3:30 pm**

**PANEL 25**

**AFRICAN CENTERED PEDAGOGY IN AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES  
Room C-203**

*Moderator:* Nathaniel Norment, Jr., Temple University

*Papers:* Towards a Solution: Current Issues Facing African American  
Studies

Yaba Blay, Temple University

Pedagogy in an African Centered World View

Kilolo Moyo, Temple University

African Centered Spiritual Pedagogy

Mukasa Africa, Temple University

African Centered Education: Practical Applications

Patrick Spearman, Temple University

*Comment:* The Audience

*Saturday, February 8, 2003*

**2:00-3:30 pm**

**PANEL 26**

**BLACK DIASPORA CONSORTIUM: SCHOLARLY/ACTIVIST  
COLLABORATION AGAINST ANTI-BLACK RACISMS**

**Room C-204**

*Chair:* Edmund T. Gordon, The University of Texas at Austin

*Papers:* Diasporic Racisms: Racial Processes in the Americas and the  
Transformation of US Race Relations

Edmund T. Gordon  
The University of Texas at Austin

Racial Formations

Denise Ferreira da Silva  
University of California at San Diego

Diaspora Theory and Practice

Cynthia Young  
University of Southern California

Race and Resources

Bettina Ng'weno  
University of Texas at Austin

Notes from the Field: Researching for Social Change in Black  
Brazil

Keisha-Khan Perry  
University of Texas at Austin

*Comment:* The Audience

*Saturday, February 8, 2003*

*4:00-5:30 pm*

**PANEL 27 – Closing Plenary Session**

**LOOKING INTO THE CRYSTAL BALL:  
BLACK STUDIES AND THE CHALLENGES OF THE FUTURE**

**Proshansky Auditorium**

*Moderator:* Ann duCille, Wesleyan University

*Panelists:* Abdul Alkalimat, University of Toledo  
Henry Louis Gates, Harvard University  
Farrah Jasmine Griffin, Columbia University  
Robert Hall, Northeastern University  
Robin Kelley, New York University

*5:30 p.m.*

*Closing Remarks:*

Howard Dodson, Chief, Schomburg Center