



# NEWS

## February 2012

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### *Bunche Center Commentary*

This month we're pleased to welcome Professor Mark Sawyer as our guest commentator. Dr. Sawyer is currently a Professor of African American Studies and Political Science at UCLA, Director of the Center for the Study of Race, Ethnicity and Politics, and Chair of the Interdepartmental Program in Afro-American Studies. In fall of 2005, he was a Visiting Associate Professor at the Department of African and African-American Studies at Harvard University. He is author of *Racial Politics in Post Revolutionary Cuba*, which was recently published by Cambridge University press and received the Du Bois Award for the best book by the National Conference of Black Political Scientists and the Ralph Bunche Award from the American Political Science Association. He has published widely in the areas of race, immigration and citizenship around the globe. In this issue, he updates us on the Afro-American Studies degree program.

### *IDP: A Look Ahead*

By Mark Sawyer

It has been a momentous year for the Interdisciplinary Program (IDP) in Afro-American Studies. Last fall we were saddened by the passing of E. Victor Wolfenstein, who had been a stalwart of our program for many years. Victor fell ill only a few days before he affirmed his support for the IDP by agreeing to co-chair. We will miss Victor, but his influence lives on.



**Dr. Mark Sawyer**

We have welcomed new faculty members associated with the Bunche Center. Sarah Haley and Uri MacMillan joined us and teach classes for Afro-American Studies as well as Women's Studies and English respectively. We are excited about their work and students have greeted their contributions with open arms. Our colleague, Mignon Moore, was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure, and her book, *Invisible Families: Gay Identities, Relationships and Motherhood Among Black Women* (University of California Press) was well received. We are excited to have Professor Moore contributing to the IDP.

In the summer of 2011, Afro-American Studies launched its first summer travel study program. In July of 2011, Professor Cesar J. Ayala of Sociology and I took 50 students from the University of California system to San Juan, Puerto Rico. While in Puerto Rico, students studied the Black Experience in Latin America as well as the Sociology of the

Caribbean. Students learned about the unique racial history of Puerto Rico and surrounding islands. We also visited places with unique racial history tied to plantation agriculture the City of Ponce and the Island of Vieques. The program has been renewed for another year and we are currently signing up students to travel to Puerto Rico in July 2012. (See more about Professor Sawyer's study trip on page 10.)

The biggest news is that we have moved to complete an initiative begun by our previous chair, Professor Brenda Stevenson. In October of 2012, the faculty voted to approve submitting a proposal for the IDP in Afro-American Studies to become the Department of African American Studies. We have submitted our proposal to the academic Senate and are looking forward to meeting with them in the Spring to discuss it. We are optimistic about the proposal but are mindful of the difficult budgetary situation for the Division of Social Sciences and the broader University. We have appreciated the support of the faculty of the IDP and the Faculty Advisory committee, the faculty and staff of the Bunche Center, and our staff member, Lisbeth Gant-Britton. If we are successful in departmentalization, it will have been a group effort. A Department of African American Studies at UCLA is long overdue. We hope our status will be changed by Fall of 2013.

The IDP in Afro-American Studies is in a period of exciting transition. We thank you for your support.

Mark Sawyer

Chair, Interdepartmental Program in Afro-American Studies



## ***Announcements***

### **New Vice Provost M. Belinda Tucker**

The Bunche Center congratulates M. Belinda Tucker on her appointment to the newly established position of vice provost of the Institute of American Cultures.

Dr. Tucker is a professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences, and is a Bunche Center Affiliated Faculty member. She received her B.A. from the University of Chicago and a Ph.D. in social psychology from the University of Michigan.

In addition to her research on the nature of close-personal relationships in a sociocultural context, Dr. Tucker has directed or co-directed a number of major national studies, including the landmark National Survey of Black Americans, as well as the 21-city Survey of Families and Relationships, a panel study. She has also conducted research on inter-ethnic relations, the transition to adulthood among urban Black youth, the social adaptation of developmentally delayed adults, and the impact of incarceration on family members and close ties. From 2003 to 2009, Professor Tucker directed the Family Research Consortium IV, a National Institute of Mental Health-funded collaborative network of scholars focused on family mental health, as well as an affiliated national postdoctoral fellowship program. Most recently, Dr. Tucker served as associate dean of the Graduate Division from 2007 to 2011.

Under Dr. Tucker's leadership, the IAC will serve as the administrative hub for UCLA's four ethnic studies centers and will initiate campus-wide research, educational programs and collaborations that support a wide range of disciplinary approaches to the study of American cultures.



## Announcements (Continued)

Black History Month Documentaries (PBS)  
February 2, 9, 16, check local stations for times



The celebration of Black History Month on PBS' "Independent Lens" will include several films in observance of African American history, including "More Than A Month," a documentary which follows filmmaker Shukree Hassan Tilghman's cross-country campaign to end Black History Month, challenging the commemoration as short-changing black history and culture; "Daisy Bates: First Lady of Little Rock," which focuses on civil rights activist Daisy Bates, who fought for the right of nine black students to attend the all-white Central High School of Little Rock, Arkansas, in 1957; and "The Black Power Mixtape 1967-1975," a film is by seven Swedish journalists who came to America in the late 1960s and early 1970s to document the burgeoning black power movement and contains unseen footage of interviews with leading black power figures such as Angela Davis, Stokely Carmichael and Eldridge Cleaver.

**UCLA** Institute of American Cultures The Institute of American Cultures, in conjunction with the American Indian Studies Center, the Asian American Studies Center, Bunche Center for African American Studies, and the Chicano Studies Research Center, invites applications for support of research on African Americans, American Indians, Asian Americans, and Chicanas/os for 2012-2013. The Institute also invites proposals on interethnic relations that will increase collaboration between the Centers and/or between the Centers and other campus units. UCLA faculty, staff, graduate students, and IAC postdoctoral fellows are all eligible to apply.

The Research Grant Program is on a reimbursement basis only. Ordinarily, faculty projects will be funded for no more than \$10,000 and graduate student projects for no more than \$7,000. Funds for the purchase of permanent equipment will be provided only under exceptional circumstances. Conference travel, whether the applicant is presenting or attending, is ineligible.

Applications are available now and must be received no later than 5:00 p.m., April 20, 2012. Awards will be announced by the third week in June. If you are interested in applying to the Bunche Center, contact Ana-Christina Ramon at [acramon@bunche.ucla.edu](mailto:acramon@bunche.ucla.edu) or call 310-825-7403. Once you have discussed your project with the Center's IAC Coordinator, please complete the application form. Applications may be obtained at [www.gdnet.ucla.edu/iacweb/applic.htm](http://www.gdnet.ucla.edu/iacweb/applic.htm), or from the IAC Office.

For additional information about grant opportunities visit the newly updated Bunche Center website at [www.bunchecenter.ucla.edu](http://www.bunchecenter.ucla.edu), click Research, Fellowships & Grants.

Congratulations to Alex Tucker, Bunche Center Special Projects and Community Coordinator, for ten years of service to UCLA and the Center!

## Programs & Events

In February, the Bunche Center will host two Circle of Thought lectures: Loyola Marymount African American Studies University Assistant Visiting Professor Marne Campbell on February 9<sup>th</sup>. Her lecture topic is, "One Never Forgets Los Angeles': Black Los Angelenos and Leadership at the Beginning of the 20th Century;" and on February 16<sup>th</sup>, Bunche Center Affiliated Faculty member and UCLA English Professor Caroline Streeter (pictured), will also speak.



On February 23, the Bunche Center Authors' Series will feature UCLA History Professor and Bunche Center Affiliated Faculty member Robin D.G. Kelley discussing his book, *Africa Speaks, America Answers: Modern Jazz in Revolutionary Times* (Harvard University Press, 2012). These three events are free and open to the public. They will be held at noon in the Bunche Library and Media Center, Haines Hall 135. For additional information about the events, visit the Bunche Center website: [www.bunchecenter.ucla.edu](http://www.bunchecenter.ucla.edu).

On March 1<sup>st</sup>, the "Images of Blackness" Film Series, co-sponsored by the Bunche Center and the UCLA Academic Advancement Program (AAP), will look at Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s visit to UCLA in 1965. This event will begin at 6:00pm in Haines Hall 135. For more information on these and other Bunche Center events, please contact Alex Tucker at [atucker@bunche.ucla.edu](mailto:atucker@bunche.ucla.edu).

## Programs & Events (Continued)

The new **Institute of American Cultures** will hold their **Winter Forum and Reception** on Monday, February 27, 2012 from 3:30pm to 6:00pm in the UCLA Faculty Center Main Dining Room East. The event will honor the 2011-2012 IAC Visiting Scholars, Predoctoral /Graduate Fellows, and Research Grant Awardees and celebrate the launch of the re-envisioned Institute of American Cultures. The event is sponsored by the UCLA Institute for American Cultures and co-sponsored by the four UCLA Ethnic Studies Centers. **Please RSVP by February 20th** at <http://iacwinterforum2012.eventbrite.com/>



**UCLA** INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE  
African Studies Center

Starting February 6<sup>th</sup>, the African Studies Center will present, *New Approaches to African Cinema*, a lecture series organized by French and Francophone studies Professor and Bunche Center affiliated faculty member, Francoise Lionnet. The series will explore how African cinema contributes to a better understanding of global aesthetics

and to film studies in general; and the specifics of African visual media and the new conceptual and interpretive issues that confront its scholars today. The historical and the social, gender and the environment, and the serious new challenges posed to the poetic imagination by neoliberal authoritarianism are some of the topics that will be explored. In addition, Manthia Diawara (professor and filmmaker, NYU) and Leelai Demoz (documentary filmmaker, Los Angeles) will provide personal perspectives on the practice and process of filmmaking. The events are free and open to the public.

For additional information, schedule and times, please visit call or email the UCLA African Studies Center at 310-825-3686/ [africa@international.ucla.edu](mailto:africa@international.ucla.edu) or visit [www.international.ucla.edu/africa](http://www.international.ucla.edu/africa)

## Accolades & Awards



**Scot Brown**, Professor of History and African American Studies at UCLA and a Bunche Center Affiliated Faculty Member, **served as a music historian and commentator on the popular TV ONE television documentary series, *Unsung***. The episodes featured two bands with Dayton roots: The Ohio Players and Heatwave; the Canton/Cleveland, Ohio-based vocal group, the O'Jays; and The Spinners, originating from Detroit. Brown is steadfastly working on a book about the untold story of African American music in Dayton, Ohio.



**Sondra Hale**, Professor Emeritus of Anthropology and Bunche Affiliated Faculty Member **received a "Life-Time Scholarly Achievement" award** from the Association of Middle East Women's Studies. In addition, this past fall, a conference was held at UCLA on the occasion of her retirement. The event was co-sponsored by African Studies, Center for Middle East Studies, Women's Studies, and the Center for the Study of Women.



**Mignon Moore**, Associate Professor of Sociology and Bunche Center Affiliated Faculty Member, **will give keynote addresses for Black History Month at Rice University and Oberlin College**. In addition, Dr. Moore was interviewed by Mark Anthony Neal on his show "Left of Black." The theme for the show was "Re-imagining Black Studies." There are two interviews; the first is with Professor Eddie Glaude of Princeton, on the history of Black Studies. Moore's interview discusses the move from private to public expressions of sexuality in black communities and starts at 22 min. 20 secs. To hear the program, please visit: <http://newblackman.blogspot.com/2012/01/left-of-black-s2e15-state-of-black.html>



UCLA English Professor and Bunche Center Affiliated Faculty Member, Harryette Mullen, has a forthcoming book from the University of Alabama Press, entitled, *The Cracks Between*. The cover has a striking image by the artist, Faith Ringgold. From the introduction, Hank Lazer, author of *The New Spirit* and *Lyric and Spirit: Selected Essays 1996-2008*, states, "An absolutely stellar collection of writings and interviews offering insight into the context and history of African American innovative poetry and art."

**Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies at UCLA**

160 Haines Hall, Box 951545 • Los Angeles, CA 90095-1545 • (310) 825-7403

[www.bunchecenter.ucla.edu](http://www.bunchecenter.ucla.edu)

[www.facebook.com/BuncheCenter.UCLA](https://www.facebook.com/BuncheCenter.UCLA) • [www.youtube.com/user/uclabunchecenter](https://www.youtube.com/user/uclabunchecenter)

## Accolades & Awards (Continued)



Gail E. Wyatt, Professor, Department of Psychiatry & Biobehavioral Sciences, and a Bunche Center Affiliated Faculty Member was honored as a local Freedom Sister at the Museum of Tolerance in December, 2011. She was recognized as part of their recent traveling exhibit about African American women who have fought for civil rights.

Richard Yarborough is a Professor of English at UCLA and a Bunche Center Affiliate Faculty Member. Dr. Yarborough also served as director of the Center for six years. His essay, "Academic Leadership, Community, and Values in a Time of Crisis," appeared in the Modern Language Association Journal, *Profession* 2011. In April of last year, Dr. Yarborough also had an essay on the writer William Attaway published in the book, *Writers of the Black Chicago Renaissance*, edited by Steven C. Tracy (Univ. of Chicago Press, 2011). In October 2011, Yarborough was a guest speaker at a session entitled "Navigating the Economic Strain" at the Conference of Ford Foundation Fellows in Irvine, California and in December, he served on a panel entitled "Origins" at the conference, "African American Studies: Past, Present, and Future," convened at Yale University.



## Support the Bunche Center



Gifts to the Bunche Center support our commitment to teaching, research, and service, ensuring that a UCLA education remains accessible and that the caliber of its scholarship and research is peer to none.

Private philanthropy at UCLA:

- \* Inspires scholars
- \* Spurs research
- \* Energizes students
- \* Entices world-class faculty, and
- \* Throws open the doors of academic opportunity & exploration

Your individual gift helps support vital research, programs and services. For information on how to include the Bunche Center at UCLA in your giving plans, please contact (310) 825-7403 or go to:

<https://giving.ucla.edu/Standard/NetDonate.aspx?SiteNum=55>

## Library & Media Center

This month, the Library and Media Center highlights new materials donated to the library and an upcoming library event. In January, Center director, Dr. Darnell Hunt, graciously donated materials from his Pacifica Radio Pledge to the Bunche Library Media Center. This three volume "From the Vault" series features speeches, interviews and events by activists struggling for human rights in the United States and beyond. Notable on these CD's are George Jackson, Dick Gregory, Bayard Rustin, June Jordan, and many more.

Also, the LMC recently received an original journal copy and the most recent CD "Lately," from the jazz great, Kenny Burrell. The items are being held in the Kenny Burrell Archive and are available for viewing and listening. A taped version of the concert will air locally on the PBS station, KCET, during February and/or March. Check local listings.



## ***Library & Media Center (Continued)***

In addition to these wonderful audio materials, there are several special issue periodicals now available for viewing including: *Race/ Ethnicity* devoted its Autumn 2011 issue to food justice in communities of color in the United States and abroad; and *Transition*, which is celebrating 50 years as a leading publication which serves as a "forum for intellectual debate [...] tough-minded, far-reaching criticism, both cultural and political" in the United States and abroad.

The Bunche Center Library and Media Center is open during regular hours to students, researchers, and the general public. Research and reference questions by phone and email are always welcome. The Librarian can be reached at 310-825-6060 or by email at [dhunter@bunche.ucla.edu](mailto:dhunter@bunche.ucla.edu). The LMC is located in 135 Haines Hall. For more about the library visit: [www.bunchecenter.ucla.edu](http://www.bunchecenter.ucla.edu), click on Library and Media Center.

## ***Interdepartmental Program Afro-American Studies***



Professor Mark Sawyer, IDP Chair and Bunche Center Affiliated Faculty Member, will lead a new Summer Travel Course (Afro-Am/Soc M154D) to Puerto Rico, July 1<sup>st</sup> – July 28<sup>th</sup>, Session A, Summer 2012. The trip will allow students to experience the unique geographic and political location of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, which offers a unique combination of geographic, cultural, and political conditions that place it both "inside" and "outside" the United States. Study issues of political and economic development in Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as issues of race and ethnicity that are of "domestic" U.S. concern. Even if students have taken M154C already,

they can receive upper division course credit. The deadline to apply is approaching. An information session will be held February 2 from 12:00pm – 1:00pm in Haines, 279. Refreshments will be served. Additional program info can be found on the IEO website, [www.ieo.ucla.edu/travelstudy/SocPoliSci-PuertoRico/overview.htm](http://www.ieo.ucla.edu/travelstudy/SocPoliSci-PuertoRico/overview.htm) or you can visit: [www.facebook.com/uclaieo](http://www.facebook.com/uclaieo) and [www.twitter.com/uclaieo](http://www.twitter.com/uclaieo)

## ***Research***



On February 13<sup>th</sup>, opening arguments will be made to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco over the constitutionality of Prop 209. On March 7<sup>th</sup>, the Six Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati will conduct a peer review of the identical ban on race-conscious admission in Michigan to determine if it is illegal and if affirmative action should be restored.

In the December 2011/January 2012 Bunche Center Newsletter, we discussed the Amicus Brief written by the Bunche Center. It is work done as part of a larger coalition of educators, activists, and students who have joined forces to file legal cases in the Sixth and Ninth Circuit Courts of Appeals that challenge the bans on affirmative action in Michigan and California.

As the Ninth and Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals prepare to hear oral arguments within the next two months, various student groups on the UCLA campus will host events on the pros and cons of California Proposition 209 and affirmative action. The first event will take place on February 9, 2012, from 7:00pm to 9:00pm in Moore Hall, room 100. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, please visit: [Defending Affirmative Action](#) on Facebook or [www.bunchecenter.ucla.edu/index.php/2012/01/affirmative-action/](http://www.bunchecenter.ucla.edu/index.php/2012/01/affirmative-action/).

## ***In the Community***

### ***February Events***



February 3, 2012, 10:00 a.m.

African American Heritage Month

Opening Ceremony City Hall/Live Simulcast in Fletcher Bowron Sq., 300 North Main Street, Los Angeles

Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa, the Los Angeles City Council, the City Controller and City Attorney host the African American Heritage Month Opening Ceremony. The event recognizes Sheryl Lee Ralph; Walter Mosley; and Dr. Keith Black. Seating is limited in City Hall. Please RSVP and request parking by Wednesday, February 1, 2012 by calling 213.922.9762 or emailing: [SP-RSVP@lacity.org](mailto:SP-RSVP@lacity.org).

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## ***In the Community*** ***February Events***

February 8th, 2012, 7:30pm  
"Dimensions of a Diaspora"  
Kerckhoff Art Gallery



UCLA's Afrikan Student Union and Cultural Affairs Commission will host "Dimensions of a Diaspora," an exhibit in the Kerckhoff Art Gallery celebrating the historical role that art has played in Black culture as a form of political resistance, social awareness and creative voice. For additional information contact: Taylor Mason at [tay.dominique@gmail.com](mailto:tay.dominique@gmail.com) or Kamela Jackson at [jacksonk.91@gmail.com](mailto:jacksonk.91@gmail.com).



**THE PAN AFRICAN**  
FILM FESTIVAL  
CELEBRATING 20 YEARS  
FEBRUARY 9-20, 2012  
[WWW.PAFF.ORG](http://WWW.PAFF.ORG)

February 9-20<sup>th</sup>, 2012  
Pan African Film & Arts Festival

The Pan African Film Festival presents over 130 quality films from the United States, Africa, the Caribbean, Latin America, Europe, the South Pacific and Canada, all showcasing the diversity and complexity of people of African descent. For information visit: [www.paff.org](http://www.paff.org).

February 10, 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm  
Hugh Masekela plus special guest  
Royce Hall Auditorium

Presented by UCLA Live, performer, composer, producer, innovator and human-rights activist, legendary trumpeter Hugh Masekela returns to L.A. with his high-energy band of South African musicians. For more information contact UCLA Live at (310) 825-2101 or [info@uclalive.org](mailto:info@uclalive.org). Visit their website: [www.uclalive.org/calendar/event\\_detail.asp?id=14...](http://www.uclalive.org/calendar/event_detail.asp?id=14...)



February 19, 10:00am – 12:00pm  
Black History Parade & Festival  
Charles White Park on Ventura St. at Fair Oaks Ave., Altadena

Following the parade, a family festival from noon to 4 p.m. at Robinson Park will include live entertainment, food, information booths and more. For more information call (626) 744-7300.



In celebration of Black History Month, the Bunche Center invites you to visit our newly re-launched website at [www.bunchecenter.ucla.edu](http://www.bunchecenter.ucla.edu)

Also visit us online at:

[www.facebook.com/BuncheCenter.UCLA](http://www.facebook.com/BuncheCenter.UCLA)

[www.facebook.com/BuncheCenter.SHI](http://www.facebook.com/BuncheCenter.SHI)

[www.youtube.com/user/uclabunchecenter](http://www.youtube.com/user/uclabunchecenter)

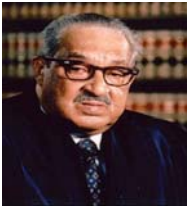
If you wish to be added to our mailing list so you can receive the Bunche Center Newsletter and other Center info, please e-mail [bunche\\_info@lists.ucla.edu](mailto:bunche_info@lists.ucla.edu) or call 310-825-7403.

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**February 2012**

For Black History Month and to learn more about African Americans and the nation's struggle for equality, we recommend the following websites:



**Library of Congress African American History Website**  
 The site provides a comprehensive look at African American history gathered at the Library of Congress, National Archives and Records Administration, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Gallery of Art, National Park Service, Smithsonian Institution and United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. Visit the site at: [www.africanamericanhistorymonth.gov/](http://www.africanamericanhistorymonth.gov/)



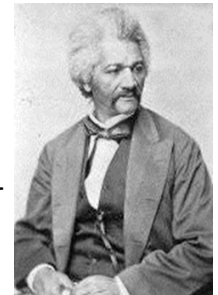
**"I Have a Dream" Speech**  
 Website provides the text and audio of the speech delivered on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial on August 28, 1963. To hear, click: [http://mlk-kpp01.stanford.edu/index.php/encyclopedia/documentsentry/doc\\_august\\_28\\_1963\\_i\\_have\\_a\\_dream/](http://mlk-kpp01.stanford.edu/index.php/encyclopedia/documentsentry/doc_august_28_1963_i_have_a_dream/)



**New York Times Learning Network Black History Month**  
 In recognition of Black History Month, this site contains a collection of New York Times and Learning Network materials for teaching and learning about African-American history. Visit: <http://learning.blogs.nytimes.com/tag/black-history-month/>



**The King Center**  
 The King Center offers a wide range of information and biographical information on Dr. King and Coretta Scott King, the King Holiday and other historical information. Visit: [www.thekingcenter.org/](http://www.thekingcenter.org/)



**National Museum of African American History & Culture**  
 NMAAHC is focused on the African American experience and our role in a global society. Visit: <http://nmaahc.si.edu/>



**National Register of Historic Places – Black History Sites**  
 Website contains itineraries for self-guided tours to historic places spotlighting African American communities and historic sites across the country. Visit: [www.nps.gov/history/nr/travel/](http://www.nps.gov/history/nr/travel/)



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