



BUNCHE CENTER NEWS

NOVEMBER 2010

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Dawn Jefferson

Layout & Design:
Ana-Christina Ramon

Announcements

Director's Commentary

More of the Same?

America's 2010 midterm elections have come and gone and, yet, critical questions remain about where our nation is headed. The People's first Black president, who was swept into the White House just two years ago by a popular mandate for change, now finds himself admonished by an electorate impatient with the nation's inability to climb out of the financial rut it's been in since the financial collapse of 2008. Of course, this predicament is the pay-out from decades of standard Republican policy shenanigans – tax cuts for the rich, deregulation of the financial markets, failure to invest in the nation's infrastructure, and so forth – policies that have significantly increased the gap between the haves and have nots in America and gradually (and perhaps irreversibly, at this point) undermined our ability to turn this ship around.

But the People seem to have a short memory, and Democrats evidently don't know what to do with power when they get it.

Besieged by incoherent messaging, saddled with a lack of party discipline, and seemingly doomed to advancing tepid policy agendas, Democrats have, once again, taken it on the chin. Indeed, President Obama has characterized the results of this election -- his party's stunning loss of more than 60 seats in the House of Representatives and its remaining, razor-thin hold on the Senate -- as a "shellacking." Already there are rumblings coming from within the Democratic Party about the inevitability of the "c-word." To be sure, compromises of all sorts regarding once-popular Democratic promises loom large. Universal healthcare, ending an unpopular war, reversing tax cuts for those who should pay more, alternative energy policy, and gay rights, are just a few of the targets likely in the cross hairs. Republicans, if nothing else, know how to make the most of their numbers.

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For what it's worth, California seems to have bucked the national trend. Instead of moving back to the right after a two-year flirtation with hopes for meaningful change, California voters rejected a billionaire Republican candidate for governor who sunk more than \$140 million into her own campaign by (re)electing a seasoned, progressive-minded Democrat who *actually* thinks like the majority. Perhaps the passage of a proposition that replaces a two-thirds vote requirement on budgetary matters with a simple majority vote requirement -- when combined with a governor who knows what it means to govern -- will ease the gridlock that's become synonymous with the California legislature in recent years. Meanwhile, California voters also rejected a billionaire candidate for one of the state's two U.S. Senate seats, returning the incumbent Democrat back to Washington instead. That there is no *guarantee* money can buy an election, at least, seems somewhat reassuring.

What all of this means, in the end, remains an open question. Although the hopes most of us had in 2008 for meaningful change seem to be morphing into more of the same, what Gramsci referred to as the "organic consciousness" of the People -- the understandings and mobilizations associated with raw, material circumstances -- is an ever present, unpredictable force.

May the force be with us.

Faculty Spotlight



Joining the faculty in the fall of 2010, the Bunche Center is pleased to welcome to UCLA, **Dr. Uri McMillan**, Assistant Professor of English and African American Studies, he will also serve as the new Bunche Center faculty associate. Dr. McMillan did his undergraduate work at Rice University, completed his Ph.D. in African-American Studies and American Studies at Yale University and before joining UCLA, was the Andrew Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in Ethnic and Gender Studies at Lewis and Clark College. In 2009, he was the recipient of the Sylvia Ardyn Boone Award for best dissertation on African-American art by the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at Yale. His research has also received support from the Ford Foundation, the Social Science Research Council, and the Woodrow Wilson Fellowship Foundation.

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He has published work in *e-misférica*, *Flow* (exhibition catalogue, The Studio Museum of Harlem), and *Maroon: The Yale Journal of African-American Studies*. In 2004, Dr. McMillan co-organized “Regarding Michael Jackson: Performing Racial, Sexual, and Gender Difference Center-Stage,” the first academic conference on Michael Jackson. Most recently, Dr. McMillan served as a moderator at the UCLA 2010 Queer Studies Conference. He recently spoke with us about his work and his experience since coming to UCLA. Ed.: What are some of the things you look forward to being involved in at UCLA?

UM: As an instructor, I’m looking to see what passions the students have and are involved in so that I can develop my own way of working with them from there, being supportive of their interests. I want to be involved with African American Studies becoming a department and participate in the World Arts and Cultures Program on campus. I’ve always been involved in diversity recruitment and retention and hope to continue to do so here. I look forward to working with different faculty in a variety of programs and using the different influences to inform my teaching and my research.

Ed.: What are some of the courses you’ll be teaching this year?

UM: I’ll be teaching a course called, “Black Popular Cultures in US and Beyond,” looking at the intersection of culture, media and representation. I want to give students the tools to break down representation and examine how it works as a process. I’ll also be teaching a class called, “Lesbian and Gay Literature after Stonewall.” Referring to the Stonewall bar raid in 1969 which was the flashpoint of rapid cultural and literary output about the gay liberation movement, the class will cover literature, film, poetry, memoirs and plays, examining the convergence of sexuality, race and class.

Ed.: What are you working on next?

UM: My next project is tentatively titled *Liquid Morphologies: Race, Representation, and the Popular* and will be looking at late 21st century black cultural forms, particularly film, video, and modes of performance.

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Programs & Events



On Friday, November 19, 2010, the Bunche Center's **Circle of Thought Series** opens with a presentation by **Dr. Robert Singleton**, "*Mapping the Sources of Racial Economic Inequality Using Geographic Information Science.*"

Dr. Singleton's talk will explore reasons behind the different impact of economic and environmental changes on White and African American communities and describe the use of Geographic Information Science (GIS) as a tool to sway opinions about the existence of institutional and pernicious racism and their effect on economic inequality. Dr. Singleton is an Associate Professor of Economics at Loyola Marymount University and was a visiting scholar at the Bunche Center for the 2009 – 2010 academic year. Dr. Singleton previously served as Bunche Center director, from 1969 to 1970.

The event will be held from 12:00pm- 1:30pm in the Bunche Library and Media Center (Haines Hall 135). The event is free. Campus parking is available for \$10; UCLA map and directions: www.ucla.edu/map/. For more information, call 310-206-8267 or e-mail atucker@bunche.ucla.edu.

Awards & Accolades



Featured in the Bunche 2010-2011 Authors Series, Bunche affiliated faculty member, Dr. **Antronette K. Yancey** can also be heard discussing her latest book, *Instant Re-cess: Building a Fit Nation 10 Minutes at a Time* (University of California Press, 2010) with KPCC's Patt Morrison ([click here](#)) and KNBC's Ted Chen ([click here](#)).

To purchase this book, go to amazon.com.

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Academic Opportunities

Call for papers: International Graduate Student Research Conference on Latin America and the Caribbean: Creative and Critical Perspectives. For more information and submission procedures and forms, visit the conference website:

<http://www.yorku.ca/cerlac/grad-conf2011>

Call for papers: Afrobeat Journal is currently accepting scholarly articles under the theme, “**African Rhythms, Roots Culture,**” in homage to Randy Weston. The work may specifically investigate Randy Weston's work or speak to the ways his transdimensional musical fusion influences the creative vista of other artists or artistic media. Abstracts (200 words) due 12/31/2010. We have an open call for original poetry, prose, and multimedia submissions, but we reserve the right to publish under our stated theme. We welcome submissions from established artists and new artists. Copyright must be obtained by author for submission of previously published material. Scholarly articles are limited to 3000 words, and must follow the latest MLA format. All submissions must be accompanied by a picture of the author and a brief biography. Send submissions via e-mail to: editors@afrobeatjournal.org.

African American Review

The African American Review solicits articles applying the tools of literary theory and criticism to hip hop artistry. We invite a variety of literary methods and approaches. Articles may also examine hip hop as a narrative, a medium of storytelling and even as discourse, a constituent of language as well as a creative cultural practice. Individual or comparative analyses of particular performances and recordings are welcome, as are broader theoretical considerations of hip hop as literary, cultural, and linguistic artifact.

Inquiries and queries encouraged. E-mail completed essays (not to exceed 8,500 words) to cjenki@hunter.cuny.edu by December 31st, 2010.

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Support the Bunche Center

The Impact of Philanthropy

Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies at UCLA



As the premiere public university in one of the world's most progressive cities, the Bunche Center at UCLA serves as a model for civic engagement and innovative approaches to challenges of contemporary society. Across the campus, community initiatives and research projects bring together the finest minds from a variety of disciplines to tackle issues confronting Los Angeles, the region and the world. By transcending traditional boundaries, scholars involved in interdisciplinary programs leverage their expertise to address society's most perplexing problems. By building fresh interdisciplinary collaboration, inviting new perspectives and new ways to wonder, UCLA continues to define what a university can be.

The Bunche Center's remarkable progress can be credited to visionary leaders, a brilliant faculty, exceptional students – and in no small part to private philanthropists. Their dedicated support has enabled the continuation of promising research, the establishment of innovative public programs, and new ways to treat social ills and enrich lives.

The impact of philanthropy is evident in every corner of the Bunche Center's research and public programming. From endowed scholarships from Bunche Center supporters that ensure students in the African American Studies program can continue their studies, to the Summer Humanities Institute, which brings students from Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU's) to prepare them for graduate studies in the Humanities, the Bunche Center was built with private resources which have literally and intellectually transformed the face of UCLA.

Diminishing state funds and rapidly advancing research and scientific innovations have combined to make the need for philanthropy greater today than ever before in UCLA's history. Philanthropy moves the Bunche Center to new levels of distinction – from good to great, from excellent to extraordinary – every day. Private giving preserves the great tradition of academic inquiry for which the Bunche Center is known, and spurs the creation of new knowledge that moves society forward.

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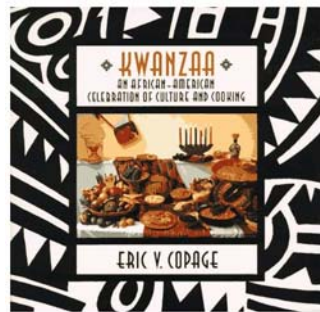
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A gift to the Bunche Center is an investment in the power of human potential. UCLA is an engine for real-time, real-world accomplishments that enhance our lives on a daily basis. Its size allows for unimagined diversity, unmatched breadth and depth of scholarship, and limitless possibility. Philanthropic investment in the Bunche Center at UCLA is a singular opportunity to leverage those strengths to improve our world and to leave a lasting legacy for generations yet to come.

To learn more about ways to support the Bunche Center, please visit <https://giving.ucla.edu/Standard/NetDonate.aspx?SiteNum=55> or contact Sabrina Burris, Director of Development at **310-206-9173** or sburris@support.ucla.edu.

Library & Media Center

As we prepare for the holiday season in these difficult times, we should look to the real purpose of holiday celebration. The Library and Media Center has materials on Kwanzaa, a cultural community celebration meant to lift the spirit of Black people in America. Here are two titles of interest. Visit us to learn more!



Kwanzaa: an African-American celebration of culture and cooking by Eric Copage. Call number: **TX715 .C7865 1991**

Kirkus Review:

Kwanzaa is an invented holiday, created in 1966 by African-American Maulana Karenga, who, Copage (a New York Times

Magazine editor) here says, "synthesized elements from many African harvest festivals." Observed throughout the week after Christmas by an increasing number of black Americans, it is loaded with symbolic rituals and capped by a feast on December 31 or January 1. As Copage describes it, the holiday is approached in a spirit of "jazzy" improvisation: Some celebrate Kwanzaa instead of Christmas, some after, and some "Kwanzafy" their Christmas celebrations. And, as with any celebration, the food is crucial. Copage has put his book together in the same spirit, including African folktales, profiles of black Americans, anecdotes and significant events from black history, and a lot more. —

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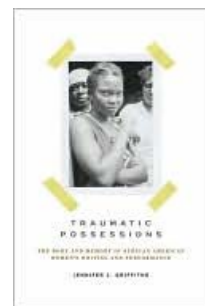
Kwanzaa: origin, concepts, practice by Maulana Karenga. Call number: **GT4887 .K37**

Written by the founder of Kwanza, the book outlines the main principles of the holiday.

- Umoja (Unity) – To strive for and maintain unity in the family, community, nation and race.
- Kujichagulia (Self-Determination) - To define ourselves, name ourselves, create for ourselves and speak for ourselves.
- Ujima (Collective Work and Responsibility) - To build and maintain our community together and make our brother's and sister's problems our problems and to solve them together.
- Ujamaa (Cooperative Economics) - To build and maintain our own stores, shops and other businesses and to profit from them together.
- Nia (Purpose) - To make our collective vocation the building and development of our community in order to restore our people to their traditional greatness.
- Kuumba (Creativity) - To do always as much as we can, in the way we can, in order to leave our community more beautiful and beneficial than we inherited it.
- Imani (Faith) - To believe with all our heart in our people, our parents, our teachers, our leaders and the righteousness and victory of our struggle.

Book Review

**Traumatic Possessions:
The Body and Memory in African American Women's Writing and Performance**
by Jennifer L. Griffiths



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Jennifer L. Griffiths book, *Traumatic Possessions: The Body and Memory in African American Women's Writing and Performance* (University of Virginia Press, 2010), is a hybrid of literary analysis and trauma theory. In this fascinating new work, Griffiths, Assistant Professor of English at the New York Institute of Technology, Manhattan Campus, expertly uses written and performance text to explore the legacy of race and gender related trauma and its effect on memory, testimony, complicity and healing.

Traumatic Possessions is a unique contribution to field of trauma study and an important addition to African American and feminist studies. In trauma study, research often centers on the contradiction between survivor memory and actual experience and the way in which the body remembers and relates trauma differently than survivor narrative. Griffiths, using contemporary novels and theatrical works, demonstrates these contradictions and shows how racism and sexism also play a role in the reshaping and in some cases denying of survivor memory and experience in order to avoid complicity – direct, cultural or historical - in the survivor's extreme experience.

Griffiths looks at trauma research in several cases, including the Holocaust, slavery and the Rodney King beating, and examines it in relation to the African American females' experience of and recovery from trauma in contemporary African American literature by authors and playwrights such as Anna Deavere Smith, Suzan-Lori Parks and Gayl Jones. Through this literary analysis, Griffiths allows the reader to gain a deeper understanding of the complexities of trauma and the struggles faced by survivors. A scene in the book from Anna Deavere Smith's "Twilight" is a compelling example of how a survivor's race influences understanding of trauma. Smith's text tells how jurors in the Rodney King beating trial were unable to concede to King's suffering and victimization when they viewed the videotape of the police striking him. But when the image – that of a large black man perceived as a threat – was taken away and the jurors listened exclusively to the audio and heard his cries, it was only then that they acknowledged that King was a victim, in pain and responding to the beating.

While offering background in trauma research and providing strategies for understanding how trauma shapes body, memory and perception within a racial and cultural context, *Traumatic Possessions* also demonstrates the subjectivity of memory and how limited language can be in retelling traumatic experience.

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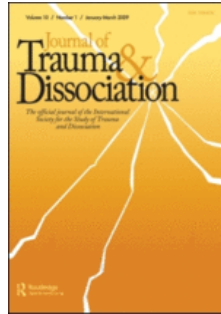
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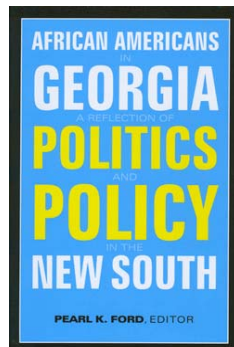
But most importantly, it teaches readers how the testimony of extreme experience or painful truths can bring about a reclaiming of self and a healing of the survivor's soul.

To purchase the book, go to amazon.com.



Dr. Gail E. Wyatt, a Bunche affiliated faculty member, co-authored an article in the latest edition of the *Journal of Trauma and Dissociation*, **Childhood Sexual Abuse Severity and Disclosure Predict Posttraumatic Stress Symptoms and Biomarkers in Ethnic Minority Women** (*Journal of Trauma & Dissociation*, 1529-9740, Volume 11, Issue 2, 2010, Pages 152 – 173, Routledge, April 2010)

To subscribe, go to [*Journal of Trauma & Dissociation*](#).



African Americans in Georgia: A Reflection of Politics and Policy in the New South

In the recently released book, *African Americans in Georgia: A Reflection of Politics and Policy in the New South*, Pearl K. Ford brought together essays by a diverse group of scholars, including Dionne Godette and Bunche Center affiliated faculty **Chandra L. Ford**, to provide a comprehensive study of politics and public policy issues with implications for African Americans in Georgia. Chapters examine the systemic barriers to political representation as well as the public policies that adversely impact quality of life for African Americans. Pearl K. Ford and colleagues Dionne C. Godette and Chandra L. Ford wrote a chapter on health disparities in Georgia, noting that social conditions, such as housing, education and socioeconomic status, affect the health of all Georgians. Serious health disparities, they wrote, result from unequal opportunities to be healthy. Opportunity and lack of opportunity can be observed at the neighborhood level.

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The researchers' examination of the most recent health data from the Georgia Department of Community Health revealed "even the best counties have significant work to do on multiple indicators in order to improve health equity for minorities in the state." To address the problems, they proposed that the state of Georgia fund increased research to better measure and analyze health disparities as well as support communities in addressing health inequities in various ways and support safety-net health-care systems across the state.

In conclusion, the researchers wrote, "Continued failure to integrate enacted state and local policy initiatives related to social justice and health will represent a conscious decision to perpetuate disproportionate rates of disease among blacks and other minority groups within the state."

Pearl K. Ford is an assistant professor of political science in the J. William Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Arkansas. Godette is with the University of Georgia College of Public Health, and Chandra Ford is with the UCLA School of Public Health. *African Americans in Georgia* was published by Mercer University Press.

To purchase the book, go to amazon.com.

The *Journal of Race and Social Problems* recently featured an article co-authored by Bunche Center affiliated faculty **Dr. Aurora Jackson**, UCLA Professor of Social Welfare, on single parenting and child behavior problems in kindergarten. The researchers examined two waves of data from a sample of 89 poor and near-poor single black mothers and their preschool children in order to study the influences of mothers' parenting stress, physical discipline practices, and nonresident fathers' relations with their children on behavior problems in kindergarten. Jackson, working with Kathleen S. J. Preston, doctoral student in Quantitative Psychology, and Todd M. Franke, Associate Professor of Social Welfare, found that higher levels of parent stress, more frequent spanking, and less frequent father-child contact when the children were 3 years old (at time 1) were associated with increased teacher-reported behavior problems when the children were in kindergarten (at time 2). In addition, they found that more frequent contact between nonresident biological fathers and their children moderated the negative effect of harsh discipline by mothers on subsequent child behavior problems. The article examines the implications of these findings for future research and policy. To read more, click here, [Jackson Article, Race and Social Problems](#).

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In the Community

NOVEMBER EVENTS

November 7th at 2:00 pm

Art Appreciation Sundays with Eric Hanks

California African American Museum



Learn how to understand and gain a general appreciation for the visual elements of art with Eric Hanks, director of the M. Hanks Gallery in Santa Monica. He has led art appreciation classes for 20 years. This event is free and open to the public. Please RSVP at 213-744.2024 (seating is limited).

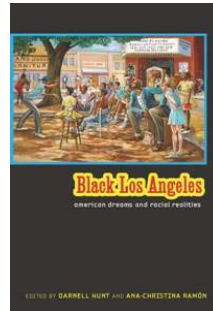
Website: www.caamuseum.org

Address: 600 State Drive, Los Angeles, 90037

November 9th at 7:00 pm

Panel Event and Book Signing

Black Los Angeles: American Dreams and Racial Realities



There will be a panel event and book signings for the anthology, ***Black Los Angeles: American Dreams and Racial Realities*** (NYU Press 2010) edited by Bunche Center Director Dr.

Darnell Hunt and the Center's Assistant Director, Dr. Ana-Christina Ramon. The event will be held at the BARNES & NOBLE, Westside Pavilion, 10850 West Pico Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90064.

<http://store-locator.barnesandnoble.com/event/3064548>

Featuring Contributing Authors:

Paul Robinson, Drew University of Medicine and Science
Assistant Professor

Chapter 1: "Race, Space and the Evolution of Black Los Angeles"

Mignon R. Moore, UCLA Assistant Professor

Chapter 7: "'Black and Gay in L.A.': The Relationships Black Lesbians and Gay Men Have to Their Racial and Religious Communities"

Dionne Bennett, LMU Assistant Professor

Chapter 8: "Looking for the 'Hood and Finding Community: South Central, Race and Media"

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Paul Von Blum, UCLA Emeritus Professor
Chapter 10: "Before and After Watts: Black Art in Los Angeles"

Scot Brown, UCLA Associate Professor
Chapter 11: "S.O.L.A.R.: The History of the Sounds of Los Angeles Records"

Co-Editors and Contributing Authors:

Darnell Hunt, UCLA Professor & Bunche Center Director
Ana-Christina Ramon, Bunche Center Assistant Director

For more information, please go to www.facebook.com/BuncheCenter.UCLA.

To purchase the book, go to amazon.com or barnesandnoble.com.

Now through January 2nd, 2011

How We Roll

At the California African American Museum



Marty Grimes (photo by: Glen Friedman)

Skating, surfing and skateboarding are not typically associated with African American culture. Through a multimedia exhibition, complete with sculptures, personal stories and photographs, the California African American Museum proves

otherwise to show a strong black presence in these sports.

Website: www.caamuseum.org/

Address: 600 State Drive, Los Angeles, 90037

Phone: 213-744-7432

Now through January 14th, 2011

"Tuskegee: Journey To Flight" Exhibit

At the Pasadena City College

African American Heritage Room on the second floor of the Shatford Library



The exhibit is an abridged version of the original presentation that was conceived and curated by the California African American Museum.

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“Tuskegee: Journey to Flight” tells the story of the Tuskegee Airmen, squadrons of African-American pilots and support staff who fought during World War II and were trained at Tuskegee Institute, a historically black college in Tuskegee, Ala. For more information, please contact the Shatford Library at (626) 585-7221.

Wednesday, November 17th –Friday, November 19th at 8:00 pm
Saturday, November 20th, 2:30 pm
Sunday, November 21st, 4:00 pm

A Raisin in the Sun

L.A. Theatre Works at the Skirball Cultural Center

Written by Lorraine Hansberry

Starring Judyann Elder



With her late husband's insurance money finally in hand, Mama Lena dreams of moving to a better home, but her children have other plans: Walter Lee wants to buy a liquor store, and Beneatha wants to go to medical school. What happens when family dreams drastically diverge? This chronicle of the Youngers,

an African American family struggling to maintain dignity in a harsh world, is a seminal drama that has become a heroic testament to hope.

\$48 and \$40 General; \$20 Full-Time Students; discounted Member prices available

*Special online promotion for Skirball Members: Save 10% off tickets to performances (except Sunday) of *A Raisin in the Sun*. Visit www.latw.org, click on “Box Office,” and enter code SCC2010 to redeem your Members-only discount. Or call the L.A. Theater Works box office: (310) 827-0889. Be prepared to show your Member ID at the door. Offer good only while supplies last.

ADVANCE RESERVATIONS FOR L.A. THEATRE WORKS PROGRAMS: Available via the L.A. Theatre Works box office at (310) 827-0889 or www.latw.org. Not available on site at the Skirball or via Skirball ticketing online or by phone.

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Now Showing:

Film Trailer for New Bunche Center Research Project

Our Stories is a documentary project profiling black female authors in Los Angeles which paints a richly textured social, political, and personal understanding of the history of black life in L.A. over the past sixty years, looking at how it was influenced by gender and race. The film explores the connection between the writers and their fiction in relation to their community, hoping to gain a better understanding of black Los Angeles and its influence on the city, state and nation. The film is currently in production. To view the film trailer, click here [Our Stories](#).

Bunche Center Summer Humanities Institute

Hosting 11th Year

The UCLA Bunche Center for African American Studies pleased to announce plans to host our eleventh Summer Humanities Institute from approximately June 19th to August 13th, 2011 under the umbrella of the UCLA Summer Program in Undergraduate Research (SPUR).* The program caters to upper division students (juniors and seniors) planning to pursue a doctoral degree in the humanities and humanistic social sciences, with a focus on African American studies. Our goal is to attract high-achieving students from historically under-represented groups.

This program entails eight weeks of intense, structured training on the graduate level, including a series of seminars taught by eminent faculty affiliated with the Bunche Center, skills workshops (on writing, presenting, research techniques, applying to and funding graduate school, preparing research proposals), and cultural activities in the greater Los Angeles area.

The Summer Humanities Institute will contribute funds towards the following expenses: travel, lodging for the duration of the program, meals, and research-related field trips. In addition, each student selected to participate will receive a stipend and access to campus facilities supported by the UCLA Graduate Division. This program is highly competitive and will admit only a select number of applicants.

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If you or anyone you know are interested in applying to the program, please feel free to contact us at SHI@bunche.ucla.edu or check the website at www.bunche.ucla.edu (click on the SHI link on the top menu bar). We look forward to hearing from you about this exciting and important program.

*Contingent upon funding availability

Institute of American Cultures

Each year the Institute of American Cultures (IAC), an administrative entity composed of UCLA's four Ethnic Studies Centers with oversight from the Graduate Division, sponsors a competitive fellowship and grant program to support research by faculty and graduate students. Awards are in the form of post-doctoral/visiting scholar and/or pre-doctoral fellowships and research grants to faculty and students. This year the Center has awarded only one fellowship for predoctoral students due to budget cuts. It also awarded eight faculty/student research grants.

IAC Predoctoral Fellow for 2010-2011

Chinyere Osuji, a doctoral candidate in the Department of Sociology, will be the Bunche Center's 2010-2011 IAC Predoctoral Fellow. Ms. Osuji's project, "Marriage and *Mistura*: Black-White Unions in Rio de Janeiro and Los Angeles," will examine the experiences of black-white couples in the U.S. and Brazil, both multiracial societies with significant populations of African descent, in order to show the extent to which interracial marriages lead to a blurring of racial boundaries.

IAC Research Grants for 2010-2011:

- Basirat Alabi, Grad Student, Psychology, "Black American Diversity: Achievement, Attitudes and Identity." Alabi will examine the pattern of relations between ethnic group perceptions and academic attitudes of students from African American and African immigrant families.
- Jean-Paul deGuzman, Grad Student, History, "Shaking up the Suburbs: From Marketing to Mobilization in the San Fernando Valley." deGuzman's project focuses on complicating the urban/suburban dichotomy through the lenses of immigration, marketing, popular culture, and multiethnic community formation in the San Fernando Valley. For this project, he will focus on SF Valley State College (now CSUN) and SF Valley HS in the late 1960s and their relationships with local community institutions.

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- Aisha Finch, Asst. Prof., Women Studies and AfroAm, “Troubled Revolutions.” For her book project, Finch follows the emergence of a dynamic resistance movement in western Cuba, fashioned by enslaved and free people of African descent in the 1840s. She will use the grant to visit Havana and the Cuban National Archives to consult the collection called La Comision Militar.
- Aletha Harven, Grad Student, Education, “Exploring factors that counteract the negative impact of racial discrimination on Black adolescent’s achievement.” Harven examines the moderating effects of parent advocacy and friendship support on the indirect path between Black adolescents’ perceptions of racial discrimination in school and their academic achievement.
- Mignon Moore, Asst. Prof., Sociology & AfroAm, “Invisible Families: Gay Identities, Relationships and Motherhood among Black Women.” Moore examines how race, ethnicity, and class influence the ways women who are gay find partners, form families, and understand their sexual orientation, challenging a number of generalizations about lesbian family patterns that have been drawn from research almost exclusively focused on White, middle-class feminist women.
- Christopher Newman, Grad Student, Education, “Engineering Success for African American Collegians.” Newman will study how schools of engineering encourage or obstruct the support of successful African American engineers by using data gathered through six case studies of universities that demonstrated success in producing a large number of African American undergraduate engineers.
- Deirdre Pfeiffer, Grad Student, Urban Planning, “African American Migration to California’s Inland Empire.” Pfeiffer will investigate whether Los Angeles County African Americans moving to the Inland Empire, a primarily exurban region, enhances their social mobility. She will use a multi-method approach in her study.
- Stefan Timmermans, Prof., Sociology, “Getting Access to Health care in South Central Los Angeles.” Timmermans examines how religion mediates access to health care among African Americans. He and his colleagues will study the different strategies low-income African Americans employ to navigate health care services and whether religion does or does not factor into these action strategies.

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