



MONMOUTH
UNIVERSITY

HISTORY *and*
ANTHROPOLOGY

THE SIXTH BIENNIAL
**INTERDISCIPLINARY
CONFERENCE ON RACE**

**RACE, MEMORY,
& IDENTITY**

NOVEMBER 14-16, 2019

Professors Brooke Nappi and Maryanne Rhett

Conference Coordinators

Department of History and Anthropology

Acknowledgements:

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Special thanks to the Race Conference Committee:

Heidi Bludau	Hillary DelPrete
Maureen Dorment	Walter Greason
Katie Parkin	Karen Schmelzkopf
Rich Veit	Hettie Williams
Melissa Ziobro	

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Debora Graas, Office Coordinator, Department of History and Anthropology
Vice Provost Nicolle Parsons-Pollard
Provost Rekha Datta

Daily Agenda:

Thursday, November 14:

- Opening Plenary Lecture: Wilson Hall Auditorium (2:50 – 4:10pm)
Dr. William Sturkey, Assistant Professor, University of North Carolina
- Founder's Event: Wilson Hall Auditorium (4:30 - 5:30)
A Celebration of Dr. Julius Adekunle's Work, Mentorship, and Foundational Contributions
- 5:30—6:00 Mingling and Snacks
- Cultural Event – Memory in African American Music and Culture: An Extravaganza
Wilson Hall Auditorium (6:00 – 8:30pm)

Friday, November 15:

- Panels and Workshops in the morning and afternoon (8:30 am - 4:30 pm, Magill Commons)
- Plenary Speaker: Versailles and Pompeii, Wilson Hall (11:40 – 1:00pm) **RSVP, limited seating.**
Tiffany Williams, Assistant Professor, Pepperdine Law
- Keynote Speaker: Wilson Auditorium (4:30 – 6:00pm)
Dr. Qiana Whitted, Professor, University of South Carolina
(RSVP for reception to follow, Wilson Great Hall, talk open to all)

Saturday, November 16:

- Panels and workshops (8:30am – 12:00pm, Magill Commons)
See details in conference program.

Memory in African American Music and Culture: An Extravaganza

•Poetry • Negro Spirituals • Contemporary Gospel Music • Freedom Songs

Come and be inspired!

Featuring Performances by:

Daryl L. Stewart • Leah Joy Hilliard • Solomon Cobbs • Donna J. Gore
The Rushing Singers • Kasey Sanders

Thursday, November 14, 2019 in Wilson Hall Auditorium from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm



The Fisk Jubilee Singers c. 1872

This event is an evening that includes poetry and the singing of some classic Negro spirituals, as well as contemporary gospel music. Culture has been the primary location of black identity formation in U.S. history. As a response to oppression, and the denial of opportunity, African Americans turned to poetry and music to record their grievances, triumphs, and sorrows. African Americans have recorded and memorialized the black experience in poetry and music from the first arrival of Africans in North America to the present. Songs such as “Steal Away” and “Wade in the Water,” later performed by the Fisk Jubilee Singers, guided enslaved blacks on the underground railroad to freedom in the North and songs such as “The Buses Are A Coming” or “Ella’s Song,” composed during the height of the Civil Rights era, were performed by the Freedom Singers to lift morale in the struggle for black equality during the 1960s. Memories of suffering and jubilation exist in black cultural productions from Negro Spirituals to the present.

Distinguished Invited Speakers and Performers



Opening Plenary Lecture

Dr. William Sturkey, Assistant Professor

Department of History, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

A historian of Modern America, Dr. Sturkey specializes in the history of race in the American South, with a particular interest in the histories of working-class racial minorities. He teaches courses on Modern American History, Southern History, the Civil Rights Movement, and the History of America in the 1960s. His first book, *To Write in the Light of Freedom*, is a co-edited collection of newspapers, essays, and poems produced by African American Freedom School students during the Mississippi Freedom Summer of 1964. His second book, *Hattiesburg: An American City in Black and White*, is a biracial history of Southern Jim Crow (Harvard University Press, 2019). Dr. Sturkey is currently working on a new project, tentatively titled *To Be An American*, a biography of the legendary Vietnam War hero Master Sergeant Roy Benavidez. Dr. Sturkey is also an engaged public scholar who regularly gives public lectures, appears in local and national media, and works with K-12 teachers.



Plenary Lecture

Professor Tiffany Williams, Assistant Professor, Pepperdine Law

Professor Williams is an Assistant Professor of Legal Research and Writing, who teaches courses in evidence and academic support. She is a former New Jersey Administrative Law Judge where she conducted hearings and issued written decisions in varying regulated areas including special education, employee discipline, civil rights, banking, insurance, public utility rate setting, public assistance, child welfare, regulated professionals, and environmental matters.

Williams has served as a senior advisor to several leaders in New Jersey government over the course of her career prior to coming to Pepperdine Law, including: Deputy Chief Counsel to the Governor, Chief Counsel to the Speaker of the General Assembly, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State (where she oversaw the state's election system), and agency counsel at the NJ Civil Service Commission (the state's personnel agency). Prior to law school, Williams also served as Special Assistant to former U.S. Senator Bill Bradley.



Keynote Speaker

Dr. Qiana Whitted, Director of African American Studies & Professor of Literature, University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina

Dr. Whitted works in 20th-Century African-American Literature and Culture, American Comics and Graphic Novels, and Southern Literature – all areas reflected in her recent works *EC Comics: Race, Shock, and Social Protest* (Rutgers University Press, 2019) and “A God of Justice?” *The Problem of Evil in Twentieth-Century Black Literature* (University of Virginia Press, 2009). *EC Comics* examines a selection the publisher’s works— “sensationally-titled comics such as ‘Hate!’, ‘The Guilty!’, and ‘Judgment Day!’—and explores how they grappled with the civil rights struggle, antisemitism, and other forms of prejudice in America. Putting these socially aware stories into conversation with EC’s better-known horror stories, Qiana Whitted discovers surprising similarities between their narrative, aesthetic, and marketing strategies. She also recounts the controversy that these stories inspired and the central role they played in congressional hearings about offensive content in comics” (Rutgers University Press).

Friday — November 15, 2019

- 8:30—9:50 Migration and Memory
Boardroom Chair: Frederick McKittrick, Monmouth University
Barbara Krasner, Gratz College
“When Memory Is Not Enough: One Child Refugee’s Search for Meaning”
Zohar Segev, University of Haifa
“Memory and Identity in the Shadow of a Trauma: American Jewry in the 1950s and 1960s”
- 8:30—9:50 Constructive Narrative and Public Space
Room 108 Chair: Heidi Bludau, Monmouth University
Joseph Williams, Rutgers University
“Mourning Frederick Douglass: Black Eulogies and the Struggle for African American Freedom”
Erin R. Santana, Rutgers University-Newark
“Remembering Ocean Hill-Brownsville: Performing Race, Labor, and Educational Justice through Public Memory”
James Elton Johnson, Rowan University
“Maggie Elias (1858-1907): Foot Soldier of Black Education in Wilmington Delaware”
- 8:30—9:50 Media: Censorship and Resiliency
Room 107 Chair: Marina Vujnovic , Monmouth University
Arielle D. Steimer-Barragán, California State University, Los Angeles
“*Prensa y poder en México: For a Mexico without Censorship and Free Journalism*”
Ophera A. Davis, Independent Scholar
“Media Oversight: The Memory of Mississippi Hurricane Katrina Black Women Survivors Resilience and Recovery”
- 8:30—9:50 Race and Education
Lounge Chair: Lauren Rorie, Monmouth University
Latoya Wilson, WCR Consultancy
“Examining the effectiveness of how High School Career Pathway initiatives are Targeting students of color and preparing them for the global economy”
James Ponzo, SUNY Buffalo
“Equipping Black Students for Success: Analyzing Baldwin and Coates for the Blueprint”
Jennifer Padilla Wyse, Widener University
“The Social Forgetting of Race Theory in Prestigious Graduate Sociology Departments”
- 8:30—9:50 **Roundtable: A Light in Woodrow Wilson’s Shadow: The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Interactive Exhibit**
Dining Room Chair: Walter Greason, Monmouth University
Richard Veit, Monmouth University
Nicolle Parsons-Pollard, Monmouth University

Friday — November 15, 2019

Coffee and Tea Break—9:50 to 10:05

10:05 — 11:25 Art and Protest

Room 108 Chair: Michael Richison, Monmouth University

Cicely Hunter, Saint Louis University

“Blaring Silence: The Silent Protest Parade of 1917 and Its Historical Influence on Activism”

Lauren Rorie, Monmouth University

“‘She did it for the Culture’: Black Women Artists and Their Ideas About Race in the 1920s”

10:05 — 11:25 US Political Culture and Race

Room 107 Chair: Bill Gorman, Monmouth University

Rachelle J. Brunn-Bevel, Fairfield University

“Undergraduate Reflections: Interrogating Race and Ethnicity in the Obama and Trump Eras”

Gregory Keith Davis, Harvard University

“The People and the Party: How Knowledge of the Historical Relationships between Black Americans and the Republican Party impacts Racial and Political Identity”

Benjamin Foley, Rutgers University

“‘We don’t mean to be Crackers in the Man’s soup for the next 400 years!’: How the Young Patriot’s ‘oppressed white-as-revolutionary’ Discourse Troubles the Legitimacy of ‘Whiteness’”

10:05 — 11:25 Memory and Trauma

Lounge Chair: Hillary DelPrete, Monmouth University

Irene Hwang, Bergen County Academies

“‘The World Kept Silent’: The Construction of Memory at the Auschwitz-Birkenau Museum and Memorial”

Saliba Sarsar, Monmouth University

“Identity, Memory, and Peace in Palestinian Arab and Israeli Jewish Relations”

John Matthew Teutsch, Piedmont College

“‘Everywhere there were ghosts wandering through our everyday lives’: The Gothic in Lillian E. Smith and Ernest J. Gaines”

11:25—1:15 Lunch Break

Plenary Lecture (12:00—1:00)

Please RSVP (Food service begins at 11:40)

Versailles and Pompeii, Wilson Hall

Professor Tiffany Williams, Assistant Professor, Pepperdine Law

Friday — November 15, 2019

1:15 —2:35 Intersectionality and Queer Politics
Boardroom Chair: Brooke Nappi, Monmouth University
K.L. Broad, University of Florida
“Legacy Work: Intersectional Remembering and the Story of Saving Black Gay Lives and Those that Love Them“
Anwar D. Uhuru, Monmouth University
“Black Sousveillance and the Anagrammatical Black Queer”

1:15 —2:35 Workshop: The Role of Media in National Identity
Room 108 Chair: Bill Gorman, Monmouth University

1:15 —2:35 Roundtable: Remembering T. Thomas Fortune: The Journey to Restore a Legend’s Legacy
Room 107 Chair: Walter Greason, Monmouth University
Gilda Rogers, T. Thomas Fortune Foundation
Mark Fitzsimmons, T. Thomas Fortune Foundation
Ron Bernstein, T. Thomas Fortune Foundation

1:15 —2:35 Activism and Identity: Utility of Popular Culture
Lounge Chair: Tedi Pascarella, Monmouth University
Jenna Paterno, Monmouth University
“The Comic Republic: African Superheroes and Representation”
Maryanne Rhett, Monmouth University
“Orientals and Others in Platinum Age Comics”
Melissa Brzycki, Monmouth University
“*Ghost in the Shell* and the Politics of Race in Manga/Anime”

Coffee and Tea Break — 2:35 to 2:50

2:50—4:10 Workshop: Awareness to Advocacy:
Room 108 Creative Educational Experiences to Engage Students in Antiracism Advocacy
Chair: Tina Paone, Monmouth University

2:50—4:10 Roundtable: ...by a thread:
Room 107 Examining Black Identity and Markers of Progress at a Historically White University in the South
Chair: Jerry J. Wilson, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
Cortland Gilliam, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Friday — November 15, 2019

2:50—4:10

Race and Literature

Lounge

Chair: Anwar Uhuru, Monmouth University

Kelsey Flint-Martin, University of South Carolina

“That only happens when the dying’s bad’: Haunting as Cultural Rememory in Jesmyn Ward’s *Sing, Unburied, Sing*”

Lise Esdaile, Lehman College

“Expressing the Unexpressed: Trauma in Roxane Gay’s *Hunger* and Jessica B. Harris’ *My Soul Looks Back*”

Chelsea Hawthorne, University of South Carolina

“Retelling to Recovery: Storytelling as Healing in *Beloved* and *Barracoon: The Story of the Last Black Cargo*”

2:50—4:10

Race, Employment, Gentrification, and Policy

Dining Room

Chair: Marcus D. Allen, Stella and Charles Guttman Community College

Molly Vollman Makris, Stella and Charles Guttman Community College and Mary Gatta, City University of New York-Guttman

“Seasonal Gentrification, Race and Jobs on the Jersey Shore: Preliminary Findings From Asbury Park, NJ”

Robert Cherry, Brooklyn College and the Graduate Center

“Disconnected Youth and Violent Crime”

Elizabeth Brown, William Paterson University & Dr. Deena Khalil, Howard University

“Diversity Dissonance: Disentangling the Intersectionality of Race, Class, History, and Space”

James Rodriguez, Guttman Community College

“Project Gentrification: Policing & Public-Private Partnerships in NYC Public Housing”

Keynote Speaker

Dr. Qiana Whitted, Director of African American Studies & Professor of Literature,
University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina

4:30—6:00 pm Wilson Auditorium (Open to all)

Reception to follow, Wilson Great Hall (**please RSVP**)

Saturday — November 16, 2019

- 9:00—10:30 People *as* Places, People *in* Places
Boardroom Chair: Melissa Ziobro, Monmouth University
Douglas Catterall, Cameron University
“Oklahoma City Housing Jim Crow in Map and Memory, 1900-1965”
Monica R. Ward, Monmouth University
“*Emistisiguo*: The Architect of Little Tallassee”
- 9:00—10:30 Deep and Erased Identity
Room 108 Chair: Karen Schmelzkopf, Monmouth University
L. Kathryn Tucker, Troy University
“Racial Violence, Local Connections, and Memory in Lower Alabama”
Margaret Blair, Teachers College Columbia University
“Erasure in the Public Space”
Cortland Gilliam, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
“‘Before I Let Go’: On Canceling, the Canceled, and the Expanse of Black un-Memory”
Michael Washington, Union Institute and University
“Leader Identity: The Secret Sauce”
- 9:00—10:30 Markers of Difference: Constructed Displays of Regions and Communities
Room 107 Chair: Corey Dzenko, Monmouth University
Theresa Avila, California State University, Channel Islands
“Monuments of Displacement: Westward Expansion and its Effect(s) on Communities of the Grand Canyon”
Corey Dzenko, Monmouth University
“An Anti-Colonial Curving of the White Cube: Wendy Red Star’s *A Scratch on the Earth* (2019) at the Newark Museum”
Dickie Cox, Monmouth University
“Art Punks, Corporate Social Responsibility, and a Question of Inclusive Economies: Meow Wolf in Santa Fe and Beyond”
- 9:00—10:30 Health, Medicine, and Race
Dining Room Chair: Kiameesha R. Evans, Monmouth University
Imanni K. Sheppard, Bard Early College of New Orleans
“Molecular Memory: Evaluating the Intergenerational Effects of Institutionalized Health Disparities and Social Inequity through an Epigenetic Lens”
Tedi Pascarella, Monmouth University
“A Time to Heal: The Black Cross Nurses in the Wake of the Great War”

Saturday — November 16, 2019

Coffee and Tea Break—10:30 to 10:45

10:45 —12:15 Memory and Oral Histories

Room 108 Chair: Melissa Ziobro, Monmouth University

Katie Singer, Rutgers University - Newark

“Memory and Fire”

Kasey Sanders, Monmouth University

“Race, Memory and Identity through the Afro Brazilian Martial Art of Capoeira”

10:45 —12:15 Identity in Global Settings

Room 107 Chair: San Rao, Monmouth University

Paula D. Royster, Southern New Hampshire University

“Ulcinj, Montenegro: The African Cultural Identity in the Islamic Slave Trade”

Meyby Ugueto-Ponce & Hortensia Caballero-Arias, Center for Anthropology,

Venezuelan Institute of Scientific Research

“Rebel or Assimilationist? Hierarchies of Remembrance and Significance on Juan del

Rosario Blanco, Founder of Curiepe, an Afro-Venezuelan Descended Village from Free Blacks”

Manuel Chavez, Monmouth University

“Borders, Race, and Ethics”

10:45 —12:15 **Workshop:** Remember Yourself: Making Memory Move, A Performance Workshop

Lounge Chair: Angela Kariotis, Seton Hall University

10:45 —12:15 **Roundtable:** Black Male Initiative (BMI), Cultural production and Social Memory

Dining Room Chair: Marcus D. Allen, Stella and Charles Guttman Community College

CUNY Black Male Initiative (BMI) students