“From Slavery to Freedom: The African American Experience”
Graduate Association for African American History
The University of Memphis
11th Annual Conference
September 9-11, 2009
Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Session 1
1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Rose Theater, Entertainment Lobby

“On the Pulse of Morning”: Labor, Rights, and Resistance

Alyssa D. Warrick, Mississippi State University
“Bathing Jim Crow: African American Workers at Hot Springs National Park, Arkansas”

Sara K. Eskridge, Louisiana State University

Kevin Boland Johnson, Mississippi State University
“Taking It to the Streets: Garbage Men, the Memphis Crises of 1968, and Problems with Trash Collection”

Session Chair: Michael Lejman, University of Memphis
Commentator: Dr. Sarah Potter, University of Memphis

Session 2
3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Rose Theater, Entertainment Lobby

“Lifting as We Climb”: Teachers in the South

Kiron Johnson, New York University
“‘The Southern dream’: Charlotte Forten Grimké and African-American Migration South during the Civil War and Reconstruction”

Christina L. Davis, University of Georgia
“Desegregating Women’s History: Crossover History and Long-term Teachers of Freed People in the South”

Session Chair: Shirletta Kinchen, University of Memphis
Commentator: Dr. Douglas Cupples, University of Memphis
**Session 3**  
5:00 p.m. – 6:10 p.m.  
Rose Theater, Entertainment Lobby

“Freedom on My Mind”: *Identity in the Black Diaspora*

Christopher James Tucker, Virginia Commonwealth University  
Amanda Lee Savage, The College of William and Mary  
“A Most Perplexing Subject’: Race and Community Identity in Virginia, 1820-1861”

Nicolette Wilhide, Vanderbilt University  
“Scenas da Escravidão: Abolitionism, Transition and Brazil’s Gazete da Tarde, 1883-1886”

Session Chair: James Conway, University of Memphis  
Commentator: Dr. Scott Marler, University of Memphis

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**Thursday, September 10, 2009**

**Session 4**  
8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.  
Rose Theater, Entertainment Lobby

“If We Must Die”: *African Americans and the Military*

Le’Trice Donaldson, University of Memphis  
“A Battle for Honor: Lt. Henry Flipper’s Fight to Restore His Manly Honor”

Brittany E. Guardia, Pittsburg State University  
“Flyboys: African Americans in the History of Aviation, WWI to the Mid 20th Century”

Stephen E. Arionus, University of Texas at San Antonio  
Paper Title: ‘You Drive I’ll Shoot’: Race, Riot, and Resistance in Beaumont, Texas”

Session Chair: Michael Blum, University of Memphis  
Commentator: Dr. Aram Goudsouzian, University of Memphis
**Session 5**  
10:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.  
Rose Theater, Entertainment Lobby

“Not Without Struggle”: Racial Violence and White Supremacy

Leonard J. Lanier, Louisiana State University  
“Killing the General: Remembering Reconstruction in Eastern North Carolina”

Jack Lorenzini, University of Memphis  
“‘Fallen on Distempered Times’: The Big Creek Lynching of 1894”

Kyle Ainsworth, University of Southern Mississippi  
“The Harbinger of White Supremacy: The Clarke Courier, 1869-1877”

Session Chair: Laura Perry, University of Memphis  
Commentator: Dr. Janann Sherman, University of Memphis

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**Lunch**  
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
Rose Theater, Entertainment Lobby

Lunch, Discussion, and Book Signing with Keynote Speaker Dr. Clayborne Carson

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**Session 6**  
1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.  
Rose Theater, Entertainment Lobby

“Praise Song for the Day”: Race and Modern America

Scotty E. Kirkland, University of South Alabama  
“From the Blood of a Guiltless Man: The Murder and Memory of Michael Donald”

Daryl A. Carter, University of Memphis  
“President Clinton and Crime: A Democrat Gets Tough on Crime”

David G. Latimore, Duke University  
“Barack or Barabbas”

Session Chair: Jeff Harris, University of Memphis  
Commentator: Dr. Andre Johnson, University of Memphis
**Session 7**  
2:45 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.  
Rose Theater, Entertainment Lobby  

**“They Carried Their Freedom Bags”: Women in the Age of Slavery**  

Brittany E. Guardia, Pittsburg State University  
“But By the Grace of God Did They Persevere: The Plight of Slave Women and Their Families in the 18th Century British Caribbean and 19th Century American South”  

Kimberly Sambol-Tosco, University of Pennsylvania  
“The Dilemma of Black Families and Households: A Reconsideration of the Transition to Freedom among African-Americans in the North before the Civil War”  

Session Chair: Meredith Baker, University of Memphis  
Commentator: Dr. Beverly Bond, University of Memphis  

**Keynote Address**  
4:45 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.  
Mitchell Hall, Room 200  

Dr. Clayborne Carson, Stanford University and Morehouse University  
“The Global Significance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.”
The Global Significance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Dr. Clayborne Carson

Keynote address starts at 5:00 p.m., Mitchell Hall, Room 200

Dr. Clayborne Carson is Professor of History at Stanford University, Founding Director of the Martin Luther King, Jr., Research and Education Institute, and Distinguished Professor and Executive Director of the Martin Luther King, Jr., Collection at Morehouse College.

He is the author of *In Struggle: SNCC and the Black Awakening of the 1960s*, which remains the definitive history of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, one of the most dynamic and innovative civil rights organizations. *In Struggle* won the Organization of American Historians' Frederick Jackson Turner Award.


Under Dr. Carson’s direction, the King Papers Project has produced six volumes of *The Papers of Martin Luther King, Jr.* – a projected fourteen-volume comprehensive edition of King’s speeches, sermons, correspondence, publications, and unpublished writings. In addition to these volumes, he has written or co-edited numerous other works based on the papers, including *A Knock at Midnight: Inspiration from the Great Sermons of Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr.* (1998); *The Autobiography of Martin Luther King, Jr.* (1998), compiled from King’s autobiographical writings; and *A Call to Conscience: The Landmark Speeches of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.* (2001).

***Booksigning begins at 4:45***

***Talk followed by a Reception***
Friday, September 11, 2009

Session 8
8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
Rose Theater, Entertainment Lobby

“That All May Be Free”: Colonial Slaveries

Armanthia Duncan, University of Memphis
“Rival Geography: How Enslaved Women Resisted Colonial Occupation”

Christina Dickerson, Vanderbilt University
“New France, 1689-1763: A Forgotten Outpost of Black Slavery”

Christian Pinnen, University of Southern Mississippi
“Settling a Slave Frontier: Empires, Westward Expansion, and Slavery in the Natchez District, 1720-1820”

Session Chair: Sheena Harris, University of Memphis
Commentator: Dr. Arwin Smallwood, University of Memphis

Session 9
10:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.
Rose Theater, Entertainment Lobby

“I’ll Be Sitting Right There”: Myth, Memory, and the African American Past

Dorothea Walter, University of Wuerzburg
“There’s a way to alter the pain: Exploring an alternative mythology of redemption in Gloria Naylor’s ‘Bailey’s Cafē’ and ‘Mama Day’”

T. DeWayne Moore, Middle Tennessee State University
“When I leave Here, I’m Gon’ Catch That M&O’: Willie Lee Brown and His Legacy”

Jason Jordan, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
“When A Very Worthy Negro’: Tom Lee and the Politics of Respectability in Jim Crow Memphis”

Session Chair: Le’Trice Donaldson, University of Memphis
Commentator: Dr. Earnestine Jenkins, University of Memphis
**Pizza Lunch and Roundtable**
12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Rose Theater, Entertainment Lobby

**Roundtable: Professional Development**

A discussion about the practice of history, the graduate school experience, and professional opportunities with two alumnae of the GAAAH Conference

Dr. Deirdre Cooper Owens
Assistant Professor, University of Mississippi
Carter G. Woodson Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Virginia, 2008-2009
Ph.D., Department of History, University of California-Los Angeles, 2008
Dissertation: “‘Courageous Negro Servitors’ and Laboring Irish Bodies: An Examination of Antebellum-Era Modern American Gynecology”

Dr. Sowande’ Mustakeem
Mellon Post-Doctoral Fellow in History, Washington University in St. Louis, 2008-2010
Ph.D., Department of History, Michigan State University, 2008
Dissertation: “‘Make Haste & Let Me See You With A Good Cargo of Negroes’: Gender, Health, and Violence in the 18th Century Middle Passage”

Moderator: Dr. Dennis Laumann, University of Memphis

***Followed by the Presentation of the Memphis State Eight Paper Prize***

**Outing: National Civil Rights Museum**
Meet at 2:30 p.m.
Parking Lot, Holiday Inn Hotel, University of Memphis
**Wednesday, September 9, 2009**

**Session 1 (1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.)**

"ON THE PULSE OF MORNING": LABOR, RIGHTS, AND RESISTANCE

Alyssa D. Warick, MS State Univ

"Bathing Jim Crow: African American Workers at Hot Springs National Park, Arkansas"

Sara K. Eskridge, LA State Univ

"Illegal Breeding Frustration: Massive Resistance and Virginia’s Pupil Placement Board, 1956-1966"

Kevin Boland Johnson, MS State Univ

"Taking It to the Streets: Garbage Men, the Memphis Crises of 1968, and Problems with Trash Collection"

*Session Chair: Michael Lejman, Univ of Memphis

**Commentator: Dr. Sarah Potter, Univ of Memphis

**Session 2 (3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.)**

"LIFTING AS WE CLIMB": TEACHERS IN THE SOUTH

Kiron Johnson, NYU

"The Southern dream’: Charlotte Forten Grimké and African-American Migration South during the Civil War and Reconstruction"

Christina L. Davis, Univ of GA

"Desegregating Women’s History: Crossover History and Long-term Teachers of Freed People in the South"

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Amanda Lee Savage, The College of William and Mary

"A Most Perplexing Subject: Race and Community Identity in Virginia, 1820-1863"

Nicolete Wilhide, Vanderbilt Univ

"Scenas da Escravidão: Abolitionism, Transition and Brazil’s Gazette da Tarde, 1883-1886"

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Leonard J. Lanier, LSU

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Jack Lorenzini, Univ of Memphis

"Fallen on Distempered Times’: The Big Creek Lynching of 1894"

Kyle Ainsworth, Univ of So MS

"The Harbinger of White Supremacy: The Clarke Courier, 1869-1877"

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Brittany E. Guardia, Pittsburg State Univ

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"The Dilemma of Black Families and Households: A Reconsideration of the Transition to Freedom among African-Americans in the North before the Civil War"

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***Moderator: Dr. Dennis Laumann, Univ of Memphis

**Awards for 2009 | "Memphis State Eight" Paper Prize**

Last Conference event: Meet at 2:30 p.m. in the Parking Lot, Holiday Inn Hotel, University of Memphis, for trip to NATIONAL CIVIL RIGHTS MUSEUM