

*The Fourth Annual  
Graduate Student Conference  
In African American History*

*Conference Program*

**University of Memphis  
October 18-19, 2002**

**Sponsored by  
The University of Memphis  
Department of History  
The Graduate History Association  
The Benjamin Hooks Institute for Social Change  
Department of African and African American Studies**

*The University of Memphis offers equal educational opportunity to all persons without regard to race, sex, religion, age, color, handicap, veteran status, or national origin.*

*Fourth Annual Graduate History Conference*

*in African American History*

**Schedule of Events**

**Friday, October 18, 2002**

- 12:30 – 1:00 p.m. Conference Registration  
Upper Atrium, Fogelman Executive Center
- 1:00 – 3:15 p.m. Paper Session One
- 3:30 – 5:30 p.m. Paper Session Two
- 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Reception/Meet and Greet  
Lower Atrium, Fogelman Executive Center
- 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Keynote Address—Dr. Wilma King,  
University of Missouri  
*“You’ve Come a Long Way Baby: Images of African American Children in Selected Twentieth-Century Print Media”*  
Room 136, Fogelman Executive Center

**Saturday, October 19, 2002**

- 8:15 – 8:45 a.m. Coffee Reception  
Upper Atrium, Fogelman Executive Center
- 8:45 – 10:45 a.m. Paper Session Three
- Refreshments will be served in Upper Atrium between panel session**
- 11:00 – 1:00 p.m. Paper Session Four
- 1:15 – 1:30 p.m. Closing Remarks  
“Memphis State Eight” Prize Presentation  
Upper Atrium, Fogelman Executive Center

*Paper Session One*  
*1:00 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.*  
*Friday, October 18, 2002*

**Panel One**

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**The Black Experience in Education**

Fogelman Executive Center, Room 215

**Chair:** Angela Martin, University of Memphis

*From Desegregation to Integration: The NAACP's Education Campaign in Virginia,  
1954-1968*

Brian Daugherty, College of William and Mary

*Emancipation, Elevation, and Education: Black Education in New York City During the 1830s*

Kristopher Burrell, City University of New York

*Miller vs. Board of Education: The End of the Educational Exile  
of Black Deaf Students in Washington D.C.*

Sandra Jowers, Howard University

*"It Was Never About Being Able to Sit Next to White People": Desegregation in Chapel Hill, North Carolina Public Schools, 1954-1969*

Jennifer Nardone, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

**Commentator:** Vivian Morris, University of Memphis

**Panel Two**

**Racial Identity and Stereotypes**

Fogelman Executive Center, Room 217

**Chair:** Linda Scott, University of Memphis

*"Canaries" in the Coal Mine*

Cerissa Chaney, University of Wisconsin

*The Murder of William Johnson and The Construction of Race in Antebellum Natchez*

Timothy Buckner, University of Texas at Austin

*Beyond Bogle*

Trevor Brookins, University of Pennsylvania

*Judging By the Covers: Representations of African Americans on Song Sheets, 1860-1890*

Sara Fanning, University of Texas at Austin

**Commentators:** Fred Knight and Doveanna Fulton, University of Memphis

*Paper Session Two*

*3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.*

*Friday, October 18, 2002*

*Panel One*

**African American Women**

Fogelman Executive Center, Room 215

**Chair:** Bob Masters, University of Memphis

*Assessing Emancipation: Black Women and Freedom in Charleston, South Carolina, 1790-1820*  
Amrita Chakrabarti Myers, Rutgers University & Kean University

*As Their Wants Require: The Methods of Slave Childcare in the Late Antebellum South*  
Neal Hughes, University of Alabama

*Survival of the Fittest: The Roles of Free African-American Women  
in Antebellum South Carolina and Their Legacy*  
Charmaine Flemming, University of South Carolina

**Commentator:** Beverly Bond, University of Memphis

## *Panel Two*

### **Black Nationalism**

Fogelman Executive Center, Room 217

**Chair:** Sharon Bynum, University of Memphis

*Africa in the Heart of Dixie: Oyotunji Village and the Yoruba Movement in America*  
Solomon Smith, University of Georgia

*It Happened Here Too: The Black Liberation Movement of St. Louis, Missouri*  
Ken Jolly, University of Missouri

**Commentator:** Herbert Jones, LeMoyne-Owen College

*Paper Session Three*  
*8:45-10:45 a.m.*  
*Saturday, October 19, 2002*

## *Panel One*

### **Regional/Mid-South**

Fogelman Executive Center, Room 215

**Chair:** Carl Brown, University of Memphis

*Making Our Own Way: The Christian Methodist Episcopal Church*

*and the Struggle for Education and Autonomy in Post-Reconstruction Mississippi*  
Alicia Jackson, University of Mississippi

*The John Gaston "Negro" Appointment Controversy, 1956*  
Terrance Johnson, University of Memphis

*Where Black Met White: The Racial Vision and Agenda of the Southern Sociological Congress*  
James Boshears, Auburn University

**Commentator:** Femi Ajanaku, LeMoyne-Owen College

## *Panel Two*

### **Violence**

Fogelman Executive Center, Room 217

**Chair:** John Robertson, University of Memphis

*Violence in America is as American as Cherry Pie: The Decline and Systematic Repression of the Black Panther Party for Self-Defense*  
James Jones, Ohio State University

*Class and the "Bitter Cry" Against Apathy: Ida B. Wells and Francis Wiliard*  
Jessica Forehand, University of South Carolina

*In Ghoulisb Glee: The 1918 Lynching of Mary Turner*  
Timothy Pitts, Auburn University

**Commentator:** David Madlock, University of Memphis

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## *Paper Session Four*

*11:00—1:00 p.m.*

*Saturday, October 19, 2002*

**Refreshments will be available between panel sessions**

## *Panel One*

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### **African American Political Agency**

Fogelman Executive Center, Room 215

**Chair:** Doug Cupples, University of Memphis

*Freed People's Politics: Establishing a Political Community in the Lower Mississippi Valley, 1865-1868*  
Justin Behrend, Northwestern University

*From Maternalism to Revolutionary Solidarity: Black Women Protesting America's Involvement  
In the Vietnam War*

Brad March, Syracuse University

*Leaders, Reformers, and Martyrs: African-American Women in the Southern Tenant Farmers' Union*

Thom Copeland, Henderson State University

**Commentator:** Gail Murray, Rhodes College

## *Panel Two*

### **Slave Resistance**

Fogelman Executive Center, Room 217

**Chair:** Gary Edwards, University of Memphis

*Pattie Rollers to Pattie Owners: Ex-Slave Stories About Patrols as Anti-Slavery Arguments*

Greg Downs, Northwestern University

*Seas of Freedom: How New York City Slaves Utilized the Sea and Conflicts Between Slave Masters and Ship Captains as Tools of Resistance from 1700-1783*

Charles Foy, Rutgers University

*A "Runaway By Nature"?: Plantation Slavery During the Civil War*

Amy Crowson, University of Georgia

**Commentator:** Winthrop Jordan, University of Mississippi

## "Memphis State Eight" Paper Prize Presentation

*September 18, 1959, desegregation began at what was then Memphis State University. Under protection of police escort, Ralph Prater, Luther McClellan, John Simpson, Eleanor Gandy, Sammie Burnett, Bertha Mae Rogers, Rose Blakney, and Marvis LaVerne Kneeland braved crowds of demonstrators waving Confederate battle flags and "Civil Rights for Whites" signs. In this atmosphere of hostility, these students began their university education in an interracial setting. Plainclothes policemen were assigned to these "Memphis State Eight" escorting them to class. The students attended their classes during the school's four-hour morning session and left campus by noon. Elements of segregation persisted as they were forced to sit in the "Negro" section of Crump Stadium for football games and were prohibited from entering the school cafeteria and student center. Only two graduated within four years, although most of them eventually completed degrees either at the university or elsewhere.*



*In honor of these pioneers of educational integration, the University of Memphis Department of History and the*

*Graduate History Association are pleased to announce the continuation of "The Memphis State Eight" Paper Prize for excellence in historical writing of the African American experience. The paper prize is divided into first place (\$250), second place (\$125) and third place (\$75) prizes and will be awarded during the closing ceremony of the Fourth Annual Graduate Student Conference in African American History on October 19, 2002.*