

**The Graduate Association of African American History
The University of Memphis
13th Annual Conference
November 9-11, 2011**

All events will be held in the University Center at the University of Memphis

Wednesday, November 9

12:30-2:00, Poplar Room (UC 308)

Opening Luncheon

The Benjamin L. Hooks Institute for Social Change at the University of Memphis has bestowed its 2010 National Book Award to *Hands on the Freedom Plow: Personal Accounts by Women in SNCC*. Please join us for a luncheon with two of the book's editors, Judy Richardson and Jean Smith Young.

2:15-3:45, River Room (UC 300)

The Politics of Racial Violence

Chair: Genevieve Donovan, University of Memphis

“Texas’ Anti-Lynching Law: More Than a Fig Leaf”
Brandon Jett, Texas State University

“Lynching in West Virginia: A Shameful Past, A Hopeful Future”
Adrienne M. Beasley, Marshall University

“‘Damn my soul to hell’: The Role of Alcohol, Manipulation and Betrayal in Georgia’s Reconstruction Race Riot”
Joshua W. Butler, Valdosta State University

Commentator: Dr. Janann Sherman, University of Memphis

2:15-3:45, Memphis Room (UC 340)

Women in Organizing

Chair: James Conway, University of Memphis

“Southern Graces: Women of Faith as Bridge Leaders in Jim Crow Memphis”
Ann Youngblood Mulhearn, University of Memphis

“Behind Every Respectable Black Man: The Black Press, Jesse Owens, Joe Louis, and Black Women”
Kimberly Stanley, Indiana University

Commentator: Dr. Margaret Caffrey, University of Memphis

4:00-5:30, River Room (UC 300)

Work and Freedom in the Nineteenth Century

Chair: Caroline Mitchell, University of Memphis

“Defining Freedom in the Upper South: Race Relations, Local Community, and Reputation in Maryland and Virginia, 1830-50”

Ashley Schmidt, James Madison University

“African Americans & Inner Bluegrass Agriculture: Bourbon County, Kentucky, 1850-1880”

Andrew P. Patrick, University of Kentucky

Commentator: Dr. Tim Huebner, Rhodes College

4:00-5:30, Memphis Room (UC 340)

Desegregation, Integration, and Voting Rights

Chair: Ann Mulhearn, University of Memphis

“‘More Mouth Than Anyone Else:’ *Bolling v. Sharpe*, the Consolidated Parent Group and the Desegregation of D.C. Public Schools”

Tierra Jolly, Tulane University

“The People’s University: Mississippi State University’s Integration”

Lauren Grant, Mississippi State University

“Hugh Grogan, Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act, and the Fight for African American Representation in a Georgia Suburb”

Jason C. Lutz, Georgia State University

Commentator: Dr. Charles McKinney, Rhodes College

6:30, Bluff Room (UC 304)

An Evening with Judy Richardson and Jean Smith Young

Please join us for an evening with two veterans of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and editors of *Hands on the Freedom Plow*, winner of the 2010 National Book Award from the Benjamin L. Hooks Institute for Social Change at the University of Memphis. A reception will follow the program.

Thursday, November 10

8:30-10:00, River Room (UC 300)

African American Manhood in 19th & 20th Century American Society

Chair: Brandon Black, University of Memphis

“African American Masculinity & Identity in Modern America”
Y’hoshua R. Murray, Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

“Patterns of Chaos, Ideologies of Defeat: Ellison’s Critique of the Battle Between Washington and Du Bois”
Stacy Turner, Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

“Race, Violence, and Politics: African American Manhood and Political Identity during the Reconstruction”
Joshua W. Butler, Valdosta State University

Commentator: Dr. Colin Chapell, University of Memphis

8:30-10:00, Memphis Room (UC 340)

Black Culture and Social Change

Chair: Kaylin Ewing, University of Memphis

“A Comparative Musical Analysis of the Music of ‘Trumpetiste’ Clora Bryant to that of Trumpeters Roy ‘Little Jazz’ Eldridge and John Birks ‘Dizzy’ Gillespie”
Angeleisha Rodgers, North Carolina Central University

“The Onliest One”
Nicholas Foreman, University of North Texas

“‘I Am *The Black Book*’: The Talking Book as Critical Counter-Discourse and Invention”
April F. Smith, Indiana University – Bloomington

Commentator: Dr. Rychetta Watkins, Rhodes College

10:30-12:00, River Room (UC 300)

The Culture of Blackness in North America, 1960-1980

Chair: Micki Kaleta, University of Memphis

“The teacher gave me what most Black People call ‘the look’: Pan-Africanism, Black Radicalism and Education in Toronto, 1960s-1970s”

Funke Aladejebi, York University

“‘The Revolution Will Not Be Televised,’ But It Will Be Recorded: The Response of Soul & Funk Musicians to the Black Urban Experience, 1968-1979”

Francesca D'Amico, York University

“Hef’s Harlem Hip: *Playboy* Magazine and the Black Fashion Aesthetic in 1970s America”

Katharine Bausch, York University

Commentator: Dr. Aram Goudsouzian, University of Memphis

10:30-12:00, Memphis Room (UC 340)

Uplift, Education, and Political Change

Chair: Brian McClure, University of Memphis

“The Very Heart of the Race Problem”

Sarah Rowley, Indiana University

“Creating the New Norm: The State Normal and Industrial School, Normal, Alabama, 1875-1919”

Laura West, Virginia Tech

“Adaptive Politics: African American Political Appointments in the Era of Disenfranchisement”

O’Brian Holden, University of Delaware

Commentator: Dr. Elton Weaver, LeMoyne-Owen College

12:00-1:30

Break for lunch. Please see GAAAH table for vouchers for University Center food court.

1:30-3:00, River Room (UC 300)

Capitalism, Class, and Violence

Chair: John Covington, University of Memphis

“Set-up Artists and Queen Pins: Black Women’s ‘Role’ in Gun Violence”
Adam S. Mehis, University of Texas at Austin

“Race, Class and Color-ism Conflicts: The African American Identity”
Ernest K. Davis Jr., University of Memphis

“Capitalism, Blackness, and Temporal Changes in Diaspora”
Charisse Burden-Stelly, University of California, Berkeley

Commentator: Dr. Sarah Potter, University of Memphis

1:30-3:00, Memphis Room (UC 340)

Women in Civil Rights and Black Power

Chair: Catherine Propst, University of Memphis

“Rubie Bond and the Women’s Community Club: Early Stages of the Civil Rights Movement in Beloit, Wisconsin”
Francis V. Gourrier Jr., University of Wisconsin-Madison

“Power to the People: Black Women and Black Power in American Memory”
Tonya Powell McNealey, University of West Georgia

“Not Just A Housewife: Mabel Williams and Armed Resistance”
Jasmin Young, Rutgers University

Commentator: Dr. Beverly Bond, University of Memphis

3:30-5:00, River Room (UC 300)

Slavery, Psychology, and Identity

Chair: Ainsworth Tracey, University of Memphis

“Transatlantic Medicine and Madness in the Middle Passage: Slave Ship Surgeons and African Melancholia in the British Parliament, 1789-1792”

Carolyn Roberts, Harvard University

“The Role of Ancient Egypt in Antebellum African American Identity”

William Love, Emory University

Commentator: Dr. Arwin Smallwood, University of Memphis

3:30-5:00, Memphis Room (UC 340)

Transnational Perspectives

Chair: Michael Blum, University of Memphis

“Black Power at Bandung?”

J. Scott Frizzell, Rice University

“Nigerians’ Perception of the American Mass Media: A Historical Perspective”

Emmanuel Ufuophu-Biri, Delta State University, Nigeria

“Evolving Radical Thought: Politics, Culture, and Black Transnational Space in the Twentieth Century”

David Irwin, University of St. Thomas

Commentator: Dr. Andrew Daily, University of Memphis

7:00, University Center Ballroom

“Stokely Carmichael and America in the 1960s” Keynote Address by Dr. Peniel Joseph

Dr. Joseph is the foremost scholar of the new “Black Power Studies.” A Professor of History at Tufts University, he is the author of *Dark Days, Bright Nights: From Black Power to Barack Obama* and *Waiting ‘Til the Midnight Hour: A Narrative History of Black Power in America*, as well as the editor of two essay collections and numerous articles.

We will also present the Memphis State Eight Paper Prize, awarded by a panel of faculty judges to the outstanding conference paper. A reception and booksigning will follow the lecture.

Friday, November 11

8:30-10:00, River Room (UC 300)

The Long Civil Rights Movement

Chair: Sherye Fairbanks, University of Memphis

“‘Searching Haplessly for Work’: A Short History of West Virginia’s Bureau of Negro Welfare and Statistics”

Colin Reynolds, Emory University

“Breaking the Color Line in Nursing: African American Nurses in the Army Nurse Corps from 1918 to 1948”

Nancy Jane Traylor-Heard, Mississippi State University

“Race and Place: The Afro-German Experience in Germany, 1919-1945”

James K. Blackwell, North Carolina Central University

Commentator: Dr. Shirletta Kinchen, University of Central Oklahoma

8:30-10:00, Memphis Room (UC 340)

Depicting African Americans

Chair: Ashley Fair, University of Memphis

“Fighting for Freedom: Fanonian Perspectives on the Black American Experience, 1861-1877”

Kali Love, North Carolina Central University

“The Worm has Turned: Black Masculinity and the World War One Soldier in Political Cartoons”

Andrew Amron, University of Alabama

Commentator: Dr. Reginald Ellis, Florida A&M University

10:30-12:00, River Room (UC 300)

Outside the Lines of History: Forgotten Civil Rights Moments Through Five Decades

Chair: Michael Lejman, University of Memphis

“Freaknik and the Civil Rights Legacy of Atlanta”

Pete Stockus, Auburn University

“Richard Charles Boone: From Anger to Action, The Making of a Nonviolent Civil Rights Activist”

Teresa Baxley, Auburn University

“Taking the Stand: The 1946 Senate Hearing of Theodore Bilbo and the Complexities of the Early Civil Rights Movement in Mississippi”

Zach Wakefield, Auburn University

Commentator: Dr. Darius Young, Florida A&M University

10:30-12:00, Memphis Room (UC 340)

Activism and Conservatism

Chair: Jeffery Jones, University of Memphis

“Libertarianism of a Different Color: Jay Parker and the Role of African-Americans in the Rise of Modern Conservatism”

Louis Fagnan, Emory University

“George Lee: An Unsung Civil Rights Activist in an Overshadowed Movement”

Mathew Jehl, Rhodes College

“Strength in Numbers: Charles H. Houston, the CTA, and NRLEC Membership Initiatives”

Ervin James, Texas A&M University

Commentator: Dr. Daryl Carter, East Tennessee State University

12:30-2:00, River Room (UC 300)

Pizza Lunch and Roundtable

Please join us for an informal pizza lunch and roundtable discussion with four recent graduates of the Ph.D. program at the University of Memphis: Daryl Carter, Reggie Ellis, Shirletta Kinchen, and Darius Young. We will discuss such topics as strategies for success in graduate school, writing dissertations, going on the job market, and starting a new job.