



# AFRO SCHOLAR NEWSLETTER

AFRO SCHOLAR / AFRO SCHOLAR / AFRO SCHOLAR / AFRO SCHOLAR / AFRO SCHOLAR / AFRO SCHOLAR / AFRO SCHOLAR  
AFRO-AMERICAN STUDIES AND UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
RESEARCH PROGRAM 1205 W. OREGON URBANA, ILLINOIS 61801  
(217) 333-7781 USA

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## PROFESSIONALIZATION AND RANKING

The history of Black Studies is full of the same conflict and struggle for change that defines the struggle Black people waged to achieve equality in higher education. Now, after 10 years of experimentation, there are definite signs that the turbulent struggle for Black Studies is resulting in a stabilized area of academic study and research, along with a set of professional agencies to monitor, guide, and judge the work of professionals in the field. We have taken this seriously and have recently produced two monographs that sum up this development:

1. A Guide to Scholarly Publishing in Black Studies Periodicals, 1981.
2. The Professionalization of Achievement in Black Studies: A Report on Ranking Black Studies in Universities and Colleges, 1981.

Our ranking method was based on four criteria: (1) the production of scholarly papers by faculty in the major 26 Black Studies journals, (2) the representation of faculty on the boards of these journals, (3) the representation of faculty on the boards of the major 11 Black Studies-related organizations, and (4) the development of programs of graduate study in Afro-American Studies. There are 15 top programs in the United States based on these criteria:

Atlanta University	University of Iowa
Brown University	Morehouse College
City College of New York	Morgan State University
Cornell University	Ohio State University
Harvard University	University of Pittsburgh
Howard University	Washington University
Hunter College	University of Wisconsin
University of Illinois	

We believe that the use of the above-delineated criteria is essential for the continued existence of Black Studies. Therefore, we see the ranking process not as a negative call for "cut-throat" competition, but as a call for the acceptance of a common set of professional values that define achievement in the field. This is one of the major aspects of our program here at the University of Illinois, and we think it is an important way that we abide by and fulfill the core values of the university.

This is our last news letter of the 1980-81 academic year. We will publish one newsletter during the summer. We hope that all of our friends and colleagues have a productive and enjoyable summer. We plan to have fun, and hope you do as well.

DURING THE SUMMER, WE WILL BE MOVING INTO A BUILDING ACROSS THE STREET FROM OUR PRESENT FACILITY. OUR NEW HOME WILL PROVIDE US WITH SUBSTANTIALLY MORE SPACE FOR OFFICE-WORK, RESEARCH, CLASSES, MEETINGS AND STORAGE. AS OF JULY 1, 1981, OUR NEW ADDRESS WILL BE: 1204 W. OREGON, URBANA, ILLINOIS 61801.

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CAMPUS ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Summer Institute

From June 14 to June 26, 1981, we are hosting the Third Summer Institute for Social Science Faculty at Historically Black Colleges and Universities. The institute will include a staff of senior social researchers and twenty-five faculty from historically Black institutions.

The Institute is sponsored by the Committee on Institutional Cooperation (the academic consortium of the Big Ten universities and the University of Chicago) and funded by the Lilly Foundation. The general goals of the Institute are to: (1) encourage more regularized scholarly contacts between social science faculty of the CIC member institutions and historically black institutions; and (2) provide peer support and encouragement for faculty working to enhance social science teaching and research in historically black institutions.

The two previous Institutes were held at the University of Michigan and Northwestern University respectively. The theme of this summer's institute is "Research on Social Change and the Black Experience."

Our Institute staff will include senior social researchers who will talk about the research on social change in their respective fields and engage in detailed discussion of their own specific research projects. There will be researchers from the fields of History, Political Science, Sociology, Developmental Psychology, Economics and Black Studies.

While aspects of social research will be touched on, it is hoped that the twenty-five persons selected to be participants in the Institute will have some interest in carrying out research on some aspect of social change and the Black experience. They will be encouraged to bring work-in-process.

If you are interested, contact us immediately at (217) 333-7781.

Women and Work in Iran

On April 13, Janet L. Bauer (recent Stanford PhD in Anthropology; currently, a post-doctoral fellow in Demography, Population Center, University of North Carolina) presented a paper on "Women, Work and Class in Iran." The primary sponsors for the event were the Afro-American Studies and Research Program and the Sociology Department. A number of campus units served as co-sponsors: the Anthropology Department, the Center for Asian Studies, the History Department, International Programs in Education, and the Office of Women in International Development.

Afro-American Studies Courses: Fall, 1981

SOC 100E: Introduction to Sociology: Special Emphasis on the Black Experience Experience (07826)

3 hours 11:00 MWF 108 David Kinley Hall

McWorter

This course provides a general survey of the Afro-American experience while simultaneously providing an introduction to theory and method in sociology. (Same as Introduction to Afro-American Studies.)

AFRO 111: Afro-American Dance Forms (06443)

1 hour 7 p.m. TuTh 310 Freer Gym (Same as Phy Ed 101H.)

AFRO 253: Afro-American History to 1877 (04527)

3 hours 9:00 - 10:30 TuTh 313 Gregory Hall (Same as Hist 253.)

Walker

AFRO 259: Afro-American Literature, I

3 hours 9:00 MW 138 Administration Bldg. (03615)

Disc 9:00 F 152 Administration Bldg. (03616)

Disc 12:00 F 152 Administration Bldg. (03617)

Fontenot (Same as Eng 259.)

AFRO 261: Afro-American Societies and Cultures (00569)  
4 hours 10:00 MWF 109A Davenport Hall  
Stewart (Same as Anthro 261.)

AFRO 298A: The Black Family (00268)  
3 hours 2:00 - 4:30 Tu 152 Administration Bldg.  
McWorter

This course seeks to grasp (1) the historical periods of Black family development, (2) the problems confronting Black men and women in Black family life, and (3) the development of Black children. It is open to students in all colleges. Graduate credit is available if you check with the instructor.

AFRO 298B: Pan-Africanism (00269)  
3 hours 2:00 MWF 396 Lincoln  
McWorter/Staff

The struggle in the late 1960's and early 1970's put Pan-Africanism on the agenda of Black liberation. The primary focus of this course will be an extensive review and critical analysis of one of the foremost Pan Africanists, Dr. Kwame Nkrumah, former President of Ghana.

AFRO 298C: Racial and Cultural Minorities (00270)  
3 hours 9:00 MWF 262 Lincoln  
Dillingham (Same as Soc 225.)

A sociological and socio-psychological analysis of minority groups; illustrative material drawn from representative racial, ethnic and status groups.

AFRO 298D: Contemporary Radical Political Movements (00271)  
3 hours 3:00 MWF 148 Administration Bldg.  
McWorter/Staff

This course will examine recent radical trends in the Afro-American liberation movement. Primary documents, published and unpublished, from various organizations and persons will be analyzed to understand the nature of the direction of various radical trends.

AFRO 298E: Political Economy of the Black Experience (00272)  
3 hours 3:00 Th 152 Administration Bldg.

This course will focus on two phenomena: the historical development of classes within the U.S. Black community; and the overall relationship of the Black community to the development of capitalism in the United States of the 20th century.

EDUC POLICY STUDIES 302A: History of Education of Black Americans (02937)  
2 - 4 hours 4:00 - 6:00 Tu 389 Education  
or  
1/2 - 1 unit  
Anderson

SOCIAL WORK 312: Racial Minorities and Social Welfare (07760)  
3 hours 1:00 - 2:30 TuTh 105 Harker  
or  
1 unit. 1 hour to be arranged.  
Henderson

THEATER 199AAW: Afro-American Workshop (08330)  
1 - 5 hours 11:00 Tu 160 Armory  
11:00 - 1:00 Th 160 Armory  
Fugett

Lecture by Robert Chrisman  
On March 11, Robert Chrisman, publisher of Black Scholar, delivered a lecture entitled "A Black Perspective on Publishing." The lecture was sponsored by



the Afro-Americana Unit of the Library, the Afro-American Cultural Center, the Afro-American Studies and Research Program, Blacks with Unlimited Resources, and the Black Programs Committee of the Illini Union Board. The Event was part of a series of lectures and workshops on "The Black Experience: Research and Writing" coordinated by Rosemary Stevenson, Afro-American Bibliographer and Assistant Professor, Library Administration.

#### Lecture by Joseph Smith

On April 23, Joseph Smith, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Director of Academic Affirmative Action, delivered a lecture entitled "Affirmative Action at the University of Illinois?" The lecture was sponsored by the Student Government Association.

#### African Film Series

The African Studies Program is sponsoring a biweekly series of films during the summer school session. The sessions will include informal opportunities for interested persons to meet and discuss issues related to the films. Announcements of films, times and places will appear in the Daily Illini and in an announcement from the African Studies Program at the beginning of June.

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#### PUBLICATIONS

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#### AFRO-SCHOLAR WORKING PAPERS

Our last newsletter included a list of the first four publications in the AFRO-SCHOLAR WORKING PAPERS series. The following are our four most recent publications (i.e., Working Papers Nos. 5, 6, 7 and 8):

5. Diana T. Slaughter, "Perspectives on the Development of Afro-American Children and Families" (56 pp.). Dr. Slaughter is a Visiting Associate Professor in the Afro-American Studies and Research Program, University of Illinois-Urbana.
6. Diana T. Slaughter and Gerald A. McWorter, "Social Origins and Early Features of the Scientific Study of Black American Children and Families" (52 pp.). This paper was submitted to the Study Group on the Social and Affective Development of the Minority Group Child, Society for Research in Child Development. The study group was convened by Drs. Margaret Spencer, Geraldine Brookins and Walter Allen, and the paper will appear as a chapter in their forthcoming edited volume.
7. John H. McClendon, Afro-American Philosophers and Philosophers: A Selected Bibliography (85 pp.). John McClendon is a Visiting Lecturer in the Afro-American Studies and Research Program, University of Illinois-Urbana.
8. Gerald A. McWorter (with the assistance of Patricia Hughes), The Professionalization of Achievement in Black Studies: A Report on Ranking Black Studies in Universities and Colleges (83 pp.). Patricia Hughes is a Graduate Research Assistant in the Afro-American Studies and Research Program. (This report is distributed by the Chicago Center for Afro-American Studies and Research, Inc., P.O. Box 7610, Chicago, Illinois 60680.)

#### Other University of Illinois Faculty Publications

1. James Anderson, "Black Liberalism at the Crossroads," in Crisis, November, 1980. (Special issue commemorating 70th anniversary of Crisis.)
2. James Anderson, "Philanthropic Control of Black Higher Education." In Arnove, editor, Philanthropy and Cultural Imperialism. Boston: D. K. Hall, 1980.

3. Gerald Dillingham, "The Effect of Socio-Economic Status on Levels of Aspiration for Black Adults and Children," in Social Forces (forthcoming).
4. Diana Slaughter, "Early Intervention, Maternal Development, and Children's Play." Accepted for publication by Monographs, Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD), 1982.
5. Juliet Walker, "Pioneer Slave Entrepreneurship: The Case of the Slave Free Frank on the Kentucky Pennyroyal Frontier," in Journal of Negro History (forthcoming, 1982).

New Library Acquisitions

The Afro-Americana Unit of the Library purchased the Black Women's Oral History Project from the Schlesinger Library at Radcliffe College earlier this academic year. Twenty-six of the thirty volumes are currently available in the University of Illinois Library. (There are five additional transcribed volumes which are only available for use at Schlesinger Library with the written permission of the persons interviewed.) The Afro-Americana Unit has also purchased a collection of Haitian materials (450 volumes) from the University Place Bookstore in New York. The materials are in French and "Creole."

The oral history and Haitian materials are not yet catalogued. They will be listed on the Afro-Americana Unit's acquisitions list once they have been catalogued. In the meantime, persons interested in utilizing any of these materials should contact Rosemary Stevenson, Afro-Americana bibliographer, Room 328 Library/333-3006.

"Status of Black Children in 1980"

The National Black Child Development Institute (NBCDI) has released the second report in its series of annual publications. The report is entitled "The Status of Black Children in 1980." To order, send a check or money order in the amount of \$2.78 per report to: NBCDI, 1463 Rhode Island Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20005.

Index to Journal of Negro Education

Howard University has published an index to volumes 32 to 48 (1963-1979) of the Journal of Negro Education. Compiled by Theresa Rector, Associate Editor of the journal, the index contains approximately 890 author entries, 880 article titles, and 231 book and multi-media reviews.

Conference Proceedings

In February, 1980, a conference on "Black English and the Education of Black Children and Youth" was convened at Wayne State University in Detroit. The Proceedings have now been published. Edited by Geneva Smitherman, the book is entitled Black English and the Education of Black Children and Youth. (Among the articles included is one by Eyamba Bokama, Assistant Professor of Linguistics and Associate Director of African Studies, University of Illinois.) Persons interested should contact: Professor Geneva Smitherman, Center for Black Studies, Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan 48202. (313) 577-2321.

\* \* \* NON-PRINT MATERIALS \* \* \*

Oral Recollections of Black South Carolinians

"Oral Recollections of Black South Carolinians" is the first comprehensive compilation of videotaped interviews of prominent Afro-American leaders of the civil rights movement in South Carolina. Four years in the making, this package consists of twenty-five half hour taped interviews spanning ninety years of the Black experience in South Carolina. Included among those interviewed are Dr. Benjamin Mays, trumpeter Dizzy Gillespie and the Honorable Harold B. Stevens of the Supreme Court of New York. Interviews are on 3/4" color-sound videotape cassettes. Author



and Executive Producer is Dr. Grace Jordan McFadden, Associate Professor History, University of South Carolina-Columbia. Purchase prices are as follows: \$100 for one 30 minute interview, \$150 for each 60 minute composite, or \$2,000 for the complete set of twenty-five cassettes. Three day rental rate is \$10 for each 30 minute interview and \$15 for each 60 minute interview. Contact: Instructional Services Center, Film Library, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208.

\* \* \* PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES \* \* \*

Richard Barksdale

On March 14, Richard Barksdale, Professor of English and Associate Dean of the Graduate College, chaired a panel at the Langston Hughes Conference at Missouri Southern University, Joplin, Missouri. On March 25, he presented a paper on "Black Autobiography and the Comic Vision" at the Annual Convention of the Popular Culture Association in Cincinnati. On April 3, he presented a paper on "Black Literary Scholarship in the 1940's" at a conference on Black Scholars and Scholarship at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. And on April 9, Professor Barksdale presented a paper entitled "The Pen is Mightier" at the 12th Annual Writer's Conference, Clark College, Atlanta, Georgia.

Sandra Franklin

Sandra Franklin, Visiting Assistant Professor of Theatre at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, is leaving next month for New York after a one year appointment. We wish her the best of luck!

Earl Jones

During November, Earl Jones, Assistant Professor of Urban and Regional Planning, attended the Twenty-Seventh meeting of the Regional Science Association of North America in Milwaukee. He was a discussant on a panel on "Centrifugation and Displacement Research." He discussed a paper by F. Giovanni (Research Triangle Park, North Carolina) entitled "Empirical Evidence on Stage Models of Revitalization."

John McClendon

On March 27-29, several campus units sponsored a conference entitled "Latino Students Networking for Leadership in the 1980's." John McClendon, Visiting Lecturer in Afro-American Studies, delivered the Keynote address: "Study and Struggle, Leadership and Liberation: Prospects for the 1980's." On April 20, he participated in a panel on "The Social Responsibility of Latino Students." This event was part of the University of Illinois Latino Week program. On April 29, John McClendon lectured at Centennial High School in Champaign. The lecture was entitled "The Political Economy of Capitalism and Racism."

Gerald McWorter

Professor McWorter made several professional presentations at conferences and educational institutions during March and April. On March 25, he lectured on "A Black Perspective on Racism in the Mass Media" at Fisk University's Race Relations Institute. At the April 1-5 New York meeting of the National Council for Black Studies he gave a talk entitled "Notes on the Professionalization of Black Studies." On April 7, he presented "A Critique of Reagonomics from a Black Perspective" at Richland Community College in Decatur, Illinois. On April 15, 1981, he lectured on "The Black Community and Public Policy: Political Transformation in the 1980's" at Wayne State University in Detroit.

Professor McWorter has been elected 1981-1982 President of the Illinois Council for Black Studies. He has also assumed the position of Chairperson of the Advisory Editorial Board of Research in Afro-American Studies. To be published by the Chicago Center for Afro-American Studies and Research, Research in Afro-

American Studies is an annual compilation of the tables of contents from more than sixty-five Black Studies-related journals. The first annual issue, to be issued beginning in June, includes over 6,000 entries from 1979. More detailed information about this valuable reference tool will be included in the next issue of AFRO-SCHOOLAR.

Professor McWorter is the Editorial Director of a planned ten volume set of documentary anthologies on radical organizations, leaders and activities of the Black liberation movement during the 1970's. Draft volumes have been prepared on the following six topics:

1. League of Revolutionary Black Workers,
2. Black Workers' Congress,
3. Malcolm X Liberation University,
4. Student Organization for Black Unity (SOPU),
5. All African Peoples' Revolutionary Party,
6. Congress of African People.

Professor McWorter is requesting that persons with materials on these and/or similar organizations contact him. We would like to insure that the final volumes include the best available materials. The contributions of our friends will help us to realize this goal. Please help!

Professor McWorter continues as a consultant with Wabash College in Crawfordsville, Indiana. He is assisting in an effort to build an Afro-American Studies academic program on that campus.

#### National Council for Black Studies' Annual Meeting

Gerald McWorter and Glenn Jordan represented the Afro-American Studies and Research Program at the April 1-5 annual meeting of the National Council for Black Studies (NCBS). The meeting was also attended by Rosemary Stevenson, Afro-American Bibliographer, and by four University of Illinois students: Anthony Meadors, undergraduate; Jeann Rice, graduate student in Elementary Education; Raymond Tolbert, undergraduate; and Jonathan Williams, undergraduate. More than two dozen students and faculty from Illinois institutions attended the NCBS convention--the majority of them traveling in a "caravan" organized by the Afro-American Studies and Research Program and the Illinois Council for Black Studies.

#### National Endowment for the Humanities Workshop

On April 24-25, Glenn Jordan, John McClendon and Gerald McWorter attended a Grantsmanship Workshop for Minority Scholars and Institutions. Sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the workshop was held in Chicago and attended by nearly one hundred Latino and Black scholars and professionals from Illinois and nearby states. The statewide organizer was Penny Pumarejo; the Illinois Council for Black Studies assisted in coordinating the affair. A number of similar NEH workshops are being conducted during 1981 and 1982. The national organizer is Howard Dodson, Consultant to NEH and Executive Director of the Institute of the Black World in Atlanta, Georgia.

#### Michael Preston

At the April 16-18 meeting of the National Conference of Black Political Scientists, Robert Starks and Michael Preston presented a paper on "Black Political Leadership in Chicago." Robert Starks is an Assistant Professor Political Science at Northeastern University. Michael Preston is an Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of Illinois-Urbana.

#### Frederick Rodgers

Frederick Rodgers, Professor of Elementary Education, has just completed a project for the Charlottesville, Virginia Public School District. The project was entitled "Under-Achievement of Black and Other Students in Charlottesville Public Schools: A Survey of Achievement Test Results." The final report has just been made available to the Charlottesville Board of Education and the general public.



Professor Rodgers is about to begin a second project with the Charlottesville School Board: "Data Management and Staff Development." Professor Rodgers presided as Chairperson of the March 3-6 National Conference of the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development in St. Louis, Missouri.

#### Diana Slaughter

Professor Slaughter has just been elected to: (1) a six year term on the Governing Council of the Society for Research in Child Development (1981-1987); (2) the International World's Who's Who of Women, Sixth Edition, 1981; (3) the Editorial Board of the Journal of Black Psychology; and (4) the Editorial Board of Monographs, Society for Research in Child Development.

On April 1, Professor Slaughter lectured on "Perspectives on the Development of Afro-American Children and Families" at a forum convened by the Department of Psychology, State University of New York, Stony Brook.

Professor Slaughter participated in several forums at the April 2-5 biennial meetings of the Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD) in Boston. She served as convener and chairperson of a symposium on "Black English and the State of Michigan: An Instance for Developmental Research and of Public Policy" and was co-author of a paper presented in this symposium on "Developmental Characteristics of Maternal and Child Speech among Lower Income Black Dyads in an Early Intervention Study." She presented a paper on "Adult-Child Interaction: The Impact of Ethnic Studies for the Future" in a symposium on "What Do Studies of Ethnic Minorities Say about Socialization Research and Helping America's Families?" She was convener and moderator of a discussion session on "Some SRCD Black Caucus Perspectives on Directions in Developmental Research with Black Children and Families: Past, Present, and Future."

On April 6-8, Professor Slaughter attended a meeting of the National Advisory Board of the National Center for Child Abuse and Neglect. On May 21-22, she will attend a meeting of the National Advisory Board of the Research and Development Center for Teacher Education, University of Texas-Austin.

On April 20-21, Professor Slaughter served as a consultant to a Study Group jointly convened by the Institute of Child and Family Life and Howard University. The focus was on the Development of the Black Child. On April 25, she lectured at the Midwest Association for the Education of Young Children meetings in Rochester, Minnesota. Her lecture was entitled "Passing Through School: A Longitudinal Case Study of the First Evanston Head Start Children." On May 1, Professor Slaughter lectured on "The Roots of Scholarship" at Eastern Illinois University.

#### Rosemary Stevenson

On April 13, Rosemary Stevenson, Afro-American bibliographer, served as a consultant at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Michigan. She conducted an evaluation of Afro-American resources in the Western Michigan University library.

#### Juliet E.K. Walker

On February 26, Juliet E.K. Walker, Assistant Professor of History, lectured at Eastern Illinois University on "Afro-Americans: Prospects and Perspectives for the 1980's." On March 31, she delivered a paper at the Oliver C. Cox Symposium on "Equality: An Appropriate Goal for Black Americans?" at the John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University. On April 2, she attended a meeting of the Organization of American Historians and served as commentor for the session on "20th Century Black Leaders: Charles S. Johnson and Martin Luther King." On April 21, she lectured on "Generations of Progest and Self-Help: The Black Woman in American History" at the University of Illinois-Urbana. The forum was sponsored by the National Organization for Women. Professor Walker is one of ten University of Illinois faculty who have recently received Undergraduate Instructional Awards for summer, 1981. The title of her project is "Race, Law, and the American Legal Process."

Who's Who Among Black Americans

A number of persons from the University of Illinois-Urbana and the Champaign-Urbana area are listed in the 1980-1981 edition of Who's Who Among Black Americans:

1. Richard K. Barksdale -- Professor of English, Associate Dean of Graduate Studies.
2. Vernon L. Barkstall -- Executive Director, Urban League of Champaign County.
3. James R. Burgess -- Former State's Attorney, Champaign County.
4. J.C. Caroline -- Former star football player, football coach.
5. Robert M. Copeland -- Assistant Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.
6. Robert A. Eubanks -- Professor of Civil Engineering.
7. Sandra E. Gibbs -- Director of Minority Group Affairs and Special Projects, National Council of Teachers of English.
8. Mildred Barnes Griggs -- Associate Professor of Vocational and Technical Education.
9. Bennett D. Hill -- Chairperson, Department of History.
10. Kathryn Britt Humphrey -- Histologist, Natural Science Laboratory.
11. Gerald A. McWorter -- Director of Afro-American Studies and Research Program, Associate Professor of Sociology.
12. P. Roosevelt Norman -- Dentist, private practice.
13. Paul E. Parker -- Assistant Dean, School of Engineering.
14. Preston L. Ransom -- Associate Professor of Electrical Engineering.
15. Diana Slaughter -- Visiting Associate Professor, Afro-American Studies and Research Program (on leave from School of Education, Northwestern University).
16. John O. Stewart -- Associate Professor of Anthropology, writer.
17. William C. Warfield -- Singer, Professor of Music.
18. Anthony J. Yates -- Assistant Basketball Coach.
19. Charles Young, Jr. -- Principal, Urbana Junior High School.

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UPCOMING CONFERENCES/CALLS FOR PAPERS

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Affirmative Action

The American Association for Affirmative Action will hold its annual convention May 5-8 at the Shoreham Hotel in Washington DC. Theme: "Affirmative Action: Now More than Ever."

Black Women and Work

"Black Women and Work: Perspectives for the Eighties" will be the theme for the annual conference of the Association of Black Women in Higher Education. The meeting will be held May 8 at New York University, New York.

Women Respond to Racism

From May 31 through June 4, 1981, the National Women's Studies Association (NWSA) will hold its third annual convention at the University of Connecticut-Storrs. Theme: "Women Respond to Racism." Contact: NWSA Convention Coordinators, Women's Studies, P.O. Box U-181A, University of Connecticut, Storrs, Connecticut 06268; (203) 486-4310.



Research in Black Psychology

The Sixth Conference on "Empirical Research in Black Psychology" will be held on June 1, 1981 at Oakland University, Rochester, Michigan. Contact: Dr. Algea Harrison, Psychology Dept., Oakland University, Rochester, Michigan 48063.

Caribbean Studies

The Third Annual Conference of the Association of Caribbean Studies will meet July 15-17, 1981 at Ibo Lélé Hotel, Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Contact: Association of Caribbean Studies, P.O. Box 248231, Coral Gables, Florida 33124.

World Congress on Black Communication

The Howard University School of Communications and the University of Nairobi's School of Journalism will co-host a World Congress on Black Communication July 26-31 in Nairobi, Kenya. Participants are encouraged to submit papers on mass communication, intercultural/international communication, linguistics and communication disorders. Contact: Dr. Orlando Taylor, Graduate Research Professor, P.O. Box 65, Howard University, Washington, DC 20059.

African Literature Conference

The Sixth Annual African Literature Conference will be held July 27-August 1, 1981 at the University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria. Contact: Dr. Isidore Okpwho, Coordinator, 6th Ibadan Annual African Literature Conference, Dept. of English, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria.

Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History

The Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History invites papers for their 1981 Convention. The convention will be held October 29-November 1, 1981 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Contact: Dr. Donnie D. Bellamy, Chairperson, ASALH 1981 Convention Program Committee, Dept. of History, Fort Valley State College, Fort Valley, Georgia 31030. (912) 825-6230

\*\*\* GRANTS/AWARDS/COMPETITION \*\*\*

NEH Projects Funded

Tennessee State University has received a \$46,525 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) to conduct a summer institute on Afro-American history and culture for secondary students. The University of Wisconsin-Madison has received a \$75,845 grant to develop videotapes and a teacher's guide about nineteenth century Black rural communities.

Other recently awarded NEH grants that focus on key aspects of the Afro-American experience include the following:

Human Rights and Discrimination -- University of Iowa; up to \$70,000.

Black Protest Movement in Twentieth Century America -- Kent State University; up to \$70,000.

Racial Remedies in a Time of Racial Crisis -- University of Oregon; up to \$50,000.

Afro-American Literature and the Anthropology of Art -- University of Pennsylvania; up to \$70,000.

'Folk' and 'Written' Voices in Afro-American Letters -- Yale University; up to \$70,000.

National Humanities Center

Among the forty-three scholars chosen as 1981-82 fellows or associates of the National Humanities Center at Research Triangle Park, North Carolina are the following individuals: William Banks, Afro-American Studies, University of

California-Berkeley; John Hope Franklin, History, University of Chicago; Vincent Franklin, History, Yale University; Blyden Jackson, English, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill; and Rayford Logan, History, Howard University.

1981 Guggenheim Fellowships Awarded

Of the 288 1981 Guggenheim Fellowships recently awarded, three are for studies explicitly focusing on the Black experience:

Robert Francis Engs, Associate Professor of History, University of Pennsylvania, will study Samuel Chapman Armstrong and the evolution of black higher education in the nineteenth century.

Nell Irvin Painter, Professor of History, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, will study American views of the South from emancipation to W. J. Cash and Richard Wright.

Ntozake Shange, writer, New York, will utilize the Guggenheim for play-writing.

Charles White Memorial Competition

The Langston Hughes Community Library and Cultural Center in Corona, New York presents the Charles White Memorial Competition. To be juried June 6-June 30, 1981, the following types of artistic works are invited: acrylics, oils, graphics, drawings, mixed-media, watercolor, photographs and slides. (Only 35 mm slides may be entered--no more than five per artist. No sculpture. All work must be ready for hanging. All work on paper must be under glass.) All accepted works will be displayed at the Langston Hughes Community Gallery in Corona. Contact: M. Shaw at (212) 651-1100 ext. 63.

1981 Yearlong Fellowship Program

The Office of the Governor, State of Illinois, announces that applications are being accepted for the 1981 Yearlong Fellowship Program. The program is designed to draw talented undergraduates and/or graduate students into state government. All fellowships will be based in the Springfield, Illinois area and the salary will be \$1,065 per month. Contact: The Governor's Office, Room 202 State House, Springfield, Illinois 62706. (217) 782-5213. Deadline: May 15, 1981.

Upcoming Deadlines

The following are some upcoming deadlines for proposals to the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH):

1. Division of Education Programs

- a. Higher Education/Individual Institutions
  - Consultant grants June 1, 1981
  - Implementation grants June 1, 1981

- b. Higher Education/Regional - National July 1, 1981

2. Division of Fellowship and Seminars

- a. Fellowships for Independent Study and Research June 1, 1981

- b. Fellowships for College Teachers June 1, 1981

- c. Summer Seminars for College Teachers
  - Directors: for seminars held in summer 1982 July 1, 1981

3. Division of Public Programs

- a. Library Projects July 15, 1981

- b. Media Projects July 10, 1981



- c. Museums and Historical Organizations Projects July 15, 1981
- 4. Division of Research Programs
  - a. General Research Program
    - State, Local, and Regional Services Sept. 1, 1981
    - Research Conferences Sept. 15, 1981
  - b. Research Materials Program
    - Translations July 1, 1981
    - Publications May 15, 1981
  - c. Research Resources June 1, 1981
- 5. Division of Special Programs
  - a. Program Development and Special Projects July 15, 1981

The above is not an exhaustive list of NEH programs but of most of those programs having May-September deadlines. For further information, contact directly the specific program(s) you are interested in or contact: Public Affairs Office, Mail Stop 351, National Endowment for the Humanities, 806 15th Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20506; (202) 724-0386.

\* \* \* STUDY AND TRAVEL \* \* \*

The Black Studies Department of the University of the Pacific is sponsoring a course entitled Urban Black Africa: East and West. To take place August 1-August 25, 1981, the course will examine the process of urbanization in the capital cities of six African countries: Senegal, Sierra Leone, Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Kenya and Egypt. Persons on the tour will also visit Greece. (This itinerary may be slightly modified.) Cost: \$2,800-\$3,000 depending on the number of enrollees. The course can be taken for credit (2 or 4 units). Tuition costs are additional. Contact: Mark Ealey or Louise Sassenbery, Black Studies Department, University of the Pacific, Stockton, California 95211; (209) 946-2245.

\* \* \* LOCAL HIGHLIGHTS \* \* \*

Ollie Davis

Ollie Watts Davis, Graduate student in Voice, was "Carmen" in an April 30-May 3 production of Bizet's famous opera at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts. Ms. Davis is from West Virginia. The production was sponsored by the Illinois Opera Theatre.

Mildred Griggs

Mildred B. Griggs, Associate Professor of Vocational and Technical Education, has just been promoted to the rank of full professor effective August 1, 1981. The staff of the Afro-American Studies and Research Program extends to Dr. Griggs a hearty "congratulations!"

André Thomas

André Thomas, Director of the University of Illinois Black Chorus, is completing his doctoral work in choral conducting and leaving the Champaign-Urbana area. A gifted musician and conductor, Mr. Thomas also has a masters degree in piano. He has headed the University of Illinois Black Chorus since 1979.

An accomplished group, the Black Chorus has grown to a membership of approximately one hundred and fifty under Mr. Thomas' leadership. Excerpts from the Black Chorus' November 11, 1979 concert at Smith Music Hall on the University of Illinois-Urbana campus are contained on an album entitled "University of Illinois Black

Chorus in Concert." That album features the choir performing songs from a variety of musical forms: twentieth century classical music; spirituals; excerpts from the Broadway Musical, "The Wiz"; and contemporary gospel music. ("University of Illinois Black Chorus in Concert" is available for \$5.00 per album from: Mr. Bruce Nesbitt, Afro-American Cultural Program, University of Illinois, 708 South Matthews, Urbana, Illinois 61801.) The choir regularly performs on campus and in the surrounding area.

The staff of the Afro-American Studies and Research Program wishes André and his wife, Portia, the best in the years to come. The Champaign-Urbana area has clearly benefitted from their presence here.

### Douglass Library

The "North End" is the home of most of the Afro-Americans in Champaign-Urbana. (The term "North End" refers to an area in which the north ends of Urbana and Champaign join.) Like many working-class Black communities, this area has only a handful of municipal and/or community based social and educational institutions. One of these institutions is the Douglass Library.

A small, "home-like," yellow building trimmed with red paint and bricks, the Douglass Library is located at 310 E. Bradley Avenue in Champaign. The atmosphere is, as the librarian puts it, "relaxed but not lax." Although the Douglass Library provides a full range of professional services, the facility is an intimate one. Almost everyone who comes in is known by at least one of the staff members. In the mornings--the library opens at 10:00 a.m.--there are relatively few visitors, but in the afternoons, the situation changes. Upon the arrival of elementary and secondary school students, Douglass Library becomes a community center of sorts. Students are encouraged to use the library; they are even given assistance with their homework.

The library interacts on a regular basis with many of its patrons. Thus, e.g., when new books on a particular subject arrive, patrons who have a known interest in that subject are given a phone call.

With regard to the above, it is important to underscore several points here. The first point has to do with scale. One reason the Douglass Library can provide personalized services is because it is a relatively small facility. Whereas the Champaign Main Library attracts 20,000 persons per month, the Douglas Library--a branch within the Champaign City Library system--attracts about eighty regular students (i.e., students who come in at least twice per week) and thirty to forty regular adult visitors. Although this is a small clientele, in the context of the library's history and given its small size, the rate is substantial.

Since 1978, several changes have taken place in the Douglass Library. A record collection has been added. Consisting of 1100 albums, the collection is current and includes "soul," jazz and religious music. It is beginning to attract persons to the library. The monthly usage is currently between 300 and 400 albums per month, and that number is increasing. The use of books and other print materials is also increasing. The number of reference phone calls is up to about 400 per month and the number of "walk-ins" asking reference questions has also increased.

The collection of materials has also changed a bit. The Douglass Library collection formerly consisted almost exclusively of paperbacks focusing on the Black experience. The collection is expanding and diversifying--it now, e.g., includes 74 magazines and newspapers--as a result of the library's changing clientele and of the staff's desire to insure that their facility is seen as providing the same kinds of resources as other public libraries. Materials not at Douglass Library can often be made available via an inter-library loan system.

The situation was not always so healthy at the Douglass Library. In fact, until recently, the library had a turbulent history. Rapid turnover of staff; disputes between, on the one hand, the Douglass Library Advisory Board and, on the other, the boards and directors of the Champaign Public Library, Urbana Public Library and Lincoln Trail Library System; disagreements over the basic political/



service orientation of the facility; problems regarding the acquisition of adequate facilities--these were recurrent themes in the history of the Douglass Library from its inception in 1970 until the last few years.

Given this history, the present staff and those who support the Douglass Library should be especially congratulated for the tremendous strides that have been made. We encourage our readers to utilize the library's services.

\*\*\*\*\*

1982 Spring Symposium

Planning for next year's spring symposium on "Rebellion and Social Protest in Sub-Saharan Africa" is getting underway. Anyone interested in working on the organizing committee for the symposium please contact Donald Crummey at the African Studies Program office. 333-6335.

\*\*\*\*\*  
ON THE NEWSLETTER \*\*\*\*\*

Persons interested in submitting items for publication in the AFRO-SCHOLAR should forward them to Glenn Jordan, Afro-American Studies and Research Program, 1205 W. Oregon, Urbana, Illinois 61801; (217) 333-7781. (As indicated earlier, our address changes to 1204 W. Oregon on July 1, 1981.)

\*\*\*\*\*

We would like to develop an ongoing relationship with a number of newsletters throughout the U.S. (and elsewhere). If you are involved with a newsletter that you think might be of interest to AFRO-SCHOLAR, please add us to your mailing list. We will, of course, return the favor. Thank you.

\*\*\*\*\*  
AFRO-SCHOLAR STAFF \*\*\*\*\*

- Editor . . . . . Glenn Jordan
- Secretary . . . . . Addie Williams
- Production Assistants . . . . . Karen Guice, Patricia Hughes, and Pamela Jones
- Editorial Statement on page 1  
was written by . . . . . Gerald McWorter

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Special thanks to Vera Mitchell of the Afro-Americana Unit of the University of Illinois Library and to Shirley Walker of the Douglass Library.

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# AFRO SCHOLAR NEWSLETTER #5

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