

CENTER FOR BLACK STUDIES RESEARCH

ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 1, 2005 - JUNE 30, 2006

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Mission Statement

The Center's two primary missions are:

Academic Mission

An academic mission geared towards organizing, promoting, administering, and disseminating through a variety of mechanisms including working papers, edited volumes, academic journals, conferences and colloquia, interdisciplinary research on the social, political, historical, cultural, and economic experiences of people of African descent.

Public Mission

A public mission geared towards enhancing the communication between the university and the community, the development and implementation of community based educational and social initiatives, and the co-sponsorship of cultural activities on campus and in the community complements the Center's academic mission.

Director's Statement

In 1998, the Center's Advisory Board members drafted a new mission statement which emphasizes their strong support for retaining the Center's public/cultural mission while also re-directing the Center's agenda towards a more systematic effort to engage in research and publications. Though the Center's old mission statement also indicated a commitment to research and public service, documents supporting work done in these areas were lacking. Over the past few years we have systematically engaged in documenting past work and current research done at the Center.

During the academic year 2005-2006, the Center took one more initiative to further enhance its research visibility in the academic community. After consultation with various academic and administrative entities, and after approval from the Office of Research, the *Center for Black Studies* was officially renamed the *Center for Black Studies Research*.

The Center's general research agenda is uniquely positioned to provide a critical synthesis of issues of race, social equality and justice; these narratives and approaches are present in all our projects and are a central part of our effort to merge theoretical findings with social change. The name change also reflects the newly recognized positioning of the Center at the national and international levels in terms of three particular areas of research: (1) the Haiti initiative; (2) the race and technology initiative; and (3) the ethnic studies project.

Through its various projects focusing on either religion and/or social justice in Haiti and via the publications of the highly acclaimed *Journal of Haitian Studies*, the UCSB Center for Black Studies Research is becoming the number one research center within the Diaspora for projects on Haiti. The Center is also viewed as a major research center for race and technology, in particular, in terms of racialized utilization of technology. Both projects lead to the preparation of a number of volumes published or in production. One of these initiatives was supported by a significant grant from the Ford Foundation. Various video projects also aim at disseminating our ideas, research, and community projects in the academic community and among the general public.

Furthermore, we are gaining acclaim for our initiative to create a comparative ethnic studies dialogue through conferences and symposia; this project will lead to the creation of the first nation-wide comparative ethnic studies journal in 2007. The journal will be a place to generate ideas on the culture, history, politics, economic factors and educational matters which have affected the course of life for various ethnic studies populations over time. It will also address pressing contemporary issues within aggrieved communities of color as well as their rapport with one another.

We also note that during the academic year 2005-2006 the Center's Associate Director launched a significant outreach project, Project Excel, aimed at raising family awareness and community support about matters of education for African American and Native American students. It is a FOG project launched in partnership with the larger Santa Barbara community. This project has the full endorsement of the university as well as that of various community constituencies.

In years to come we plan to continue focusing on these various projects along with other initiatives related to our core programs. We also plan to work towards maintaining the UCSB Center for Black Studies Research's stature as one of the finest research and cultural units of its type.

Haiti Projects

- **KOSANBA:** The Congress of Santa Barbara (KOSANBA) is a scholarly association for the study of Haitian vodou housed at the Center for Black Studies Research. KOSANBA's seventh international colloquium, "La Fanmi-a sanble/Family Resemblances," focused on the relationship between Haitian Vodou and African-derived religions. The colloquium was held March 31-April 1, 2006, in Detroit, Michigan at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History. Over two hundred participants were in attendance.
- One of the books deriving from this project, *Fragments of Bone*, appeared in 2005 with Illinois University Press; two other volumes, *Spirit, Myth, Reality* and *Vodou: Invisible Powers*, are scheduled for publication this fall, respectively with Indiana University Press and Palgrave/McMillan. Two more books are in progress, *Dr. Gede* and *God in Every Woman*.
- The Center's visiting researcher in 2005-2006, Dr. LeGrace Benson, completed the first draft of her manuscript on *Historical Figures of Merit in Haitian Art* while in residence at the Center. The book is a powerful account of works of art, some of them not known at all, which offer a visual narrative about the country's social and political history (see Visiting Researcher for more details).
- This **art project** complements the different, but equally significant work of artist Hersza Barjon who has painted 126 paintings depicting an indigenous vision of the Vodou religious pantheon and whose collection the Center is representing. The Center has co-sponsored two art exhibits on her work and continues to apply for grants to help take this magnificent collection to larger art centers and museums. We have also produced two catalogs on her work. Her artwork is featured on the cover of two of the Center's volumes.

- ***Brassage, An Anthology of Haitian Poetry*** was published by the Center with Multicultural Women's Presence, Inc. This is the first published anthology of contemporary poetry by Haitian Women. This is an important project depicting personal, social and political concerns facing Haitian women living both in Haiti and in the Diaspora.
- **Poto Mitan:** The Center for Black Studies is currently working with filmmakers Renée Bergan and Mark Schuller to produce *Poto Mitan: Haitian Women Confronting Globalization and the Third Occupation*.

The image of Haiti that comes out of both mainstream and alternative media is almost entirely negative: a seemingly endless stream of dire poverty, protracted violence, and extreme fallout from natural disasters. While it is true that Haiti is a society that is poor and divided, there are important structural causes of this poverty and division. *Poto Mitan* steps forward where the press has left off, providing context and understanding for the people who are confronting these structural imbalances.

The film is a story of struggle, resistance, solidarity, democracy and global justice. Through gripping images of injustice and the powerful, compelling stories/lives of five courageous Haitian women, *Poto Mitan* will inspire women around the world. Our approach is to depict how inequalities based on globalization and gender roles intersect and are experienced on the ground. It is a tool to educate and empower solidarity activists globally.

- **Journal of Haitian Studies:** JOHS continues to be well received in the academic community in the U.S. and abroad and produced its eleven and twelve issues this year. Papers are primarily generated from within the US and from Haiti; we also received submissions from places as far away as Belgium, Finland or Greece. We noted an increase in our subscription-generated income (almost \$ 5,000 over the last year instead of the projected \$3,000) which may be linked with the production of our two [strong] bicentennial issues (one of them with color photographs) guest-edited by two formidable teams Fatton/Bellegarde-Smith and Danticat/Benson. In particular, institutional subscriptions from Europe have increased. The number of subscribers remains fairly stable, combining internationally approximately 200 individual and institutional subscriptions. An outreach mailing to U.S. libraries is planned for Fall 2006. We also continue to send 30 complimentary copies of each issue of JOHS to Haiti. One board member has assisted us with distributing these issues to other board members, libraries and targeted social organizations.

Race and Technology Initiative

- **AfroGEEKS Anthology and DVD:** Following the two successful AfroGEEKS conferences organized by the Center and held at UCSB, *AfroGEEKS: From Technophobia to Technophilia* and *AfroGEEKS: Global Blackness and the Digital Public Sphere*, the Center is currently compiling a collection highlighting the important work presented at these two international conferences. The anthology includes seventeen essays from participants from both conferences, highlighting various topics including the digital divide, the importance of the internet and virtual communities, technology and art, connectivity and the diaspora, representation in computer and other technology related sciences, and globalization and modernization. The anthology will also incorporate a DVD highlighting both conferences, with special emphasis on the larger second [international] conference funded by the Ford Foundation. The interactive DVD will feature clips from speakers, presentation information, links to the internet and embedded documents. Both the anthology and DVD will be widely distributed by the Center.
- **Screening Noir:** Last year the Center launched the new journal *Screening Noir: A Journal of Black Film, Television and New Media Culture*. Edited by former Center director, Professor Anna Everett, released its inaugural issue entitled “Blaxploitation Revisited,” and has sought to distribute this issue to various university scholars and libraries in the United States. The journal is currently accepting submissions after releasing an open-call, and is poised to release its next issue. This important marketing and distribution time has allowed the journal to begin to establish a strong name in the field, and will allow us to place the journal on a twice-yearly publishing basis.

Ethnic Studies Project

- **Multi-Ethnic Alliance Conference**
On May 12 – 13, the Center for Black Studies Research and the Department of Black Studies hosted a two-day symposium to discuss the future of ethnic studies on the 21st century university campus. The event was co-hosted by Asian American Studies, the Department of Chicana/o Studies, and the Center for Chicano Studies. The Multi-Ethnic Alliance symposium brought together an enthusiastic group of scholars from various ethnic studies programs to focus on new scholarly paradigms which acknowledge the inextricability of ethnicity from issues of (im)migration, class, health, education, and gender studies. The event was designed so participants would have the opportunity to present new research and experiences during a series of panel discussions, and to encourage the exchange of ideas by creating ample opportunities for response and conversation. The event offered new opportunities for

interdisciplinary, intercampus collaborations. All the panels and discussions during this free event were open to the public. The event was filmed for distribution by UCTV.

Toni Cade Bambara has written: “One’s got to see what the factory worker sees, what the prisoner sees, what the welfare children see, what the scholar sees, got to see what the ruling class mythmakers see as well, in order to tell the truth and not get trapped.” Our opportunity is to represent and document these multiple—frequently overlapping and conflicting—perspectives. As the communities we represent experience complex ethnic and cultural re-shifting, growing struggles for recognition and social justice, and challenges to established identities, our role as scholars must reflect new responsibilities and levels of engagement. Ethnic studies scholars have made a commitment to serve as a bridge between these historically marginalized communities.

- ***Journal of Comparative Ethnic and Relational Studies***

In 2007, the Center will launch the *Journal of Comparative Ethnic and Relational Studies*. *Interstices* will focus on social movements, social institutions and social relations. We aim to build links between intellectuals, artists and activists, to promote the development of ethnic studies scholarship, and to disseminate the specialized knowledge produced in the university to a broader public, and in particular, to aggrieved communities of color with the goal of effecting changes in the realms of public policy and social justice.

Katrina Events

The government response, or lack of response, to the devastation of Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita left many residents of New Orleans and surrounding communities without homes, electricity, clean water, or access to basic services. Communities of color have been disproportionately impacted, raising questions of institutional racism. Some people see lethal incompetence; some see an agenda of ethnic cleansing. On October 19, 2005, the Center for Black Studies Research and the Department of Black Studies hosted an interdisciplinary panel to discuss these issues.

The Center for Black Studies was the first campus unit to respond to the Hurricane Katrina disaster by hosting such a panel. The event opened with a slide presentation by Nathan Bassiouni, who took his own boat into flooded areas to rescue people stranded by the storm, and was deputized by the National Guard for New Orleans for rescue work. His narrative set the tone for the event. The discussion was filmed and broadcast nationally on UCTV. In addition to hosting this important discussion, the Center also helped support the Associated Students Katrina Relief Group as well as their “Report Back” to the UCSB

community event held on February 28 in Corwin Pavilion.

Fourth Annual Shirley Kennedy Memorial Lecture

The Center welcomed award-winning author and leading United States African-American studies scholar Robin D.G. Kelley for the 4th Annual Shirley Kennedy Memorial Lecture, created to help the UCSB community celebrate the memory and work of community activist and Black Studies Professor Shirley Kennedy. The event opened with a nine-minute video presentation on Dr. Kennedy's achievements. Dr. Kelley's lecture, entitled "Africa Speaks, America Answers: The Drum Wars of Guy Warren," was well attended by an enthusiastic audience of both campus and community members at Campbell Hall. Kelley discussed the cultural influence of jazz in the 1950s and Ghanaian drummer Guy Warren, considered by many critics to be the inventor of Afro-jazz, providing sound samplings of the drummer's work and placing it in a larger historical context.

The Center is currently working on expanding the video introduction about the life of Dr. Shirley Kennedy into a longer film about the life of this important local activist. The Fund for Santa Barbara has awarded the Center \$3,000 toward this project, which will allow us to begin interviews and other research. We are currently seeking additional funding for the project, which we know is an important educational tool for which many members of the UCSB and broader community have expressed great support.

Visiting Researcher

This year the Center welcomed Dr. LeGrace Benson as Visiting Researcher in residence. Dr. Benson holds an M.F.A. from the University of Georgia and a PhD from Cornell University. Currently she is Director of the Arts of Haiti Research Project and an Associate Editor of the *Journal of Haitian Studies*. As author of a number of articles concerning Haitian art, she has also contributed chapters to books concerning educational, environmental and arts issues in Haiti and the wider Caribbean. She has taught studies in the history of art at Cornell University and Wells College. Her forthcoming book, *Figures of Merit in Haitian Art*, will be published under the auspices of the Center for Black Studies Research.

Community Outreach

Project Excel

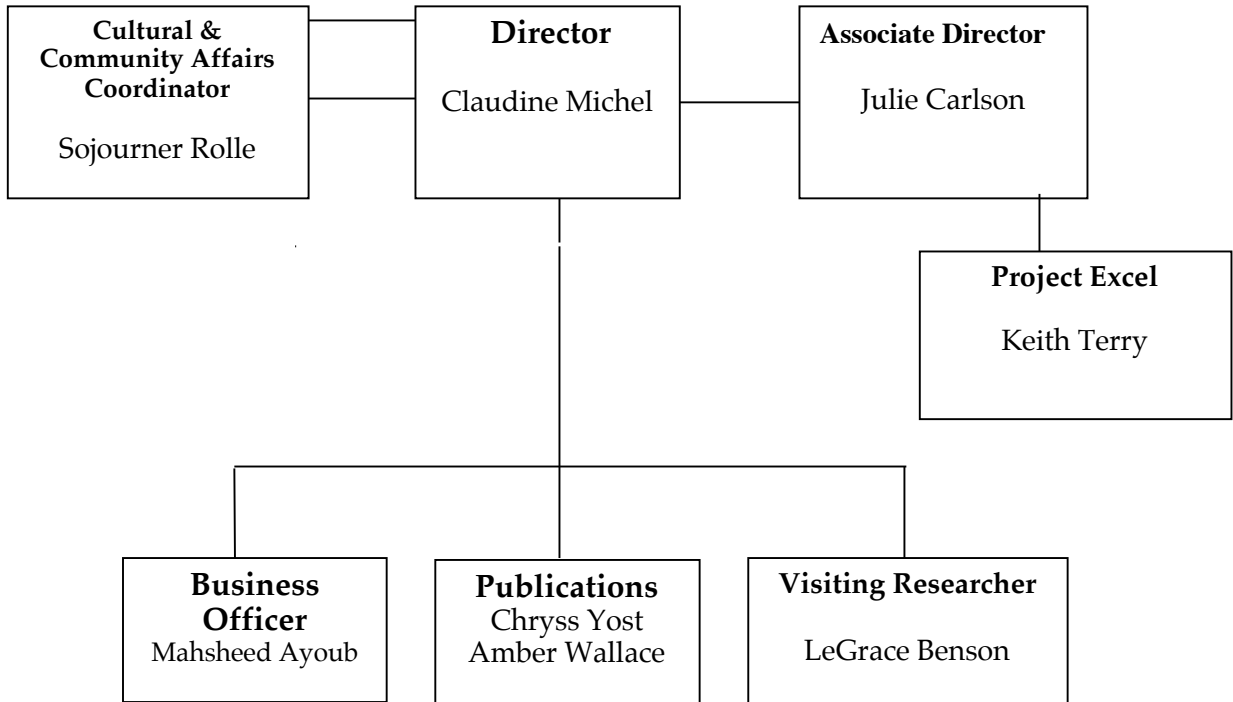
Project Excel, a new initiative based at the Center for Black Studies Research, is an outreach and early preparation program that seeks to increase the number of academically better prepared African American and American Indian students in Santa Barbara and Goleta Middle and High Schools (6 -12) for possible eligibility

and enrollment at UCSB and other colleges and universities. This first year of the project was a clear success with a number of significant steps having been achieved. (see Public Service Activities)

Other Programming Activities

One role of our community outreach effort is to encourage and facilitate community attendance at campus events and participation in campus programs. Another goal is the joint sponsorship of events and activities. In 2005-2006, we have continued our program of collaboration with various community groups to maintain a Center presence in the Community. (see Public Service Activities)

Organizational Chart



Other Projects and Activities

1. **Race & Response in the Wake of Katrina**, October 19, 2005. The government response, or lack of response, to the devastation of Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita left many residents of New Orleans and surrounding communities without homes, electricity, clean water, or access to basic services. Communities of color have been disproportionately impacted, raising questions of institutional racism. Some people see lethal incompetence; some see an agenda of ethnic cleansing. On October 19, 2005, the Center for Black Studies Research and the Department of Black Studies hosted an interdisciplinary panel to discuss these issues.

The Center for Black Studies was the first campus unit to respond to the Hurricane Katrina disaster, by holding a panel discussion featuring scholars and community leaders and drawing from both the UCSB campus and the community for a large audience. The spirited panel was moderated by Carl Gutiérrez-Jones, Director of the Center for Chicano Studies, and featured Santa Barbara Mayor Marty Blum, William Freudenburg (Environmental Studies), Gaye Theresa Johnson (Black Studies), George Lipsitz (Black Studies) and Howard Winant (Sociology). The discussion was filmed and broadcast nationally on UCTV. The event opened with a slide presentation by Nathan Bassiouni, who took his own boat into flooded areas to rescue people stranded by the storm, and was deputized by the National Guard for New Orleans for rescue work. His narrative set the tone for the event. As an evacuee from New Orleans, Mr. Bassiouni was given exceptional student status to attend UCSB during the fall quarter.

In addition to hosting this important discussion, the Center also helped support the Associated Students Katrina Relief Group. The group spent winter break gutting houses, staffing an emergency food distribution center, and supporting the communities ravaged by the storms. These students gave "A Report Back" to the UCSB community, sharing images and impressions of what they had seen. During Report Back, held on February 28 in Corwin Pavilion, students expressed their intention to continue their involvement, noting how much work remained to be done and the virtual collapse of support systems. As part of the spring break trip, which included about twenty UCSB students, the Center for Black Studies Research supported a staff member, Chryss Yost, and student, Candace Mandujano, who worked with Project H.O.P.E., an extension of Common Ground Relief. Volunteers at Project H.O.P.E. worked in Violet, a community in St. Bernard Parish about eight miles south of New Orleans. While in Violet, students distributed food and clothing, cleared debris, and gutted houses, many of which had been completely submerged during the flooding.

2. **3rd Annual Nakupenda**, February 14, 2006
The Nakupenda Valentine's Concert entitled *Eclectic Musings* was a tremendous success. The concert featured original compositions by Black Studies Professor Earl Stewart who brought together three artists to perform for a standing room only crowd that evening: Jazz pianist Richard Thompson (San Diego University), pianist Jeremy Haladyna (Music and the College of Creative Studies, UCSB) and author/poet Donald Bakeer. Stewart's complex, deeply emotional compositions inspired memorable performances by Thompson, Haladyna, and Bakeer. After an evening of piano compositions, short stories, and poetry, Stewart's *Eclectic Musings* left the Valentine's Day audience clamoring for more. UCTV will air the concert in its entirety throughout the summer.

3. **A Slice of Jazz History**, February 16, 2006
An evening of jazz history, discussion, and free pizza were ingredients for the Center for Black Studies Research's first Movie Night. Jazz scholar and author Douglas H. Daniels, a professor in UCSB's Black Studies Department, responded to the film, with conversation following. "Jazz: An American Story" was produced by the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Jazz at Lincoln Center. Designed primarily as a web-based curriculum for high school students, the program is an introduction to jazz, examining cultural forces that shaped its development. The event was well attended, and a lively question and answer period allowed for even further conversation and exploration into jazz history, its relation to blues music, and broader issues involving music and education. After viewing the program, Professor Daniels led the audience in asking where the program succeeded and what questions it raised. He noted that while the video was a good introduction, some key figures were missing and women were not sufficiently represented. These concerns were passed on to staff at the NEA who had requested feedback for future versions of the developing program. The Center plans to host additional movie nights in the coming academic year.

4. **Black History Month – Rosa Parks Day**, February 18, 2006
On February 18, 2006, the Center for Black Studies Research joined the Building Bridges Community Coalition and the County of Santa Barbara Human Relations Commission in cooperation with the MTD and the Santa Barbara Public Library to celebrate Rosa Parks and the civil rights movement with a short re-enactment of Ms. Parks' protest and arrest. The program included community leaders and a recitation of Dr. Martin Luther King's "I Have A Dream" speech and was coordinated by Sojourner Kincaid Rolle, Community Affairs Coordinator for the Center. (see Public Service Activities).

5. **4th Annual Shirley Kennedy Memorial Lecture**, March 9, 2006
(See Director's Statement)

Dr. Shirley Kennedy Film Documentary Project

The Center for Black Studies Research and IRMMA, the Institute for Representational Multimedia Art run by Anita David and Frederick Backman, are creating a DVD documentary on Dr. Shirley Kennedy, the late community outreach coordinator for the Center and a long-time activist for progressive causes in Santa Barbara. Dr. Kennedy played a critical role in establishing Black Studies at UCSB, as well as establishing community foundations such as Building Bridges and Not In Our Town. The DVD, directed by Anita David and Frederick Backman, will be available to local schools and other organizations, presenting a positive role model for advocating change in the Santa Barbara, or any community. The intent is to motivate a new generation of activists, especially young women of color. A grant from the Fund for Santa Barbara has provided initial funding to begin the project. The Center and IRMMA are seeking additional support through grants and individual donations, and hope to develop the current nine-minute DVD into a feature length film highlighting the life of an activist.

6. **Multiethnic Alliances Conference**, May 12 -13, 2006

On May 12 – 13, the Center for Black Studies Research and the Department of Black Studies hosted a two-day symposium to discuss the future of ethnic studies on the 21st century university campus. The event was co-hosted by Asian American Studies, the Department of Chicana/o Studies, and the Center for Chicano Studies. The Multi-Ethnic Alliance symposium brought together an enthusiastic group of scholars from various ethnic studies programs to focus on new scholarly paradigms which acknowledge the inextricability of ethnicity from issues of (im)migration, class, health, education, and gender studies. The event was designed so participants would have the opportunity to present new research and experiences during a series of panel discussions, and to encourage the exchange of ideas by creating ample opportunities for response and conversation.

Toni Cade Bambara has written: "One's got to see what the factory worker sees, what the prisoner sees, what the welfare children see, what the scholar sees, got to see what the ruling class mythmakers see as well, in order to tell the truth and not get trapped." Our opportunity is to represent and document these multiple—frequently overlapping and conflicting—perspectives. As the communities we represent experience complex ethnic and cultural reshifting, growing struggles for recognition and social justice, and challenges to established identities, our role as scholars must reflect new responsibilities and levels of engagement. Ethnic studies scholars have made a commitment to serve as a bridge between these historically marginalized communities.

The event offered new opportunities for interdisciplinary, intercampus collaborations. All the panels and discussions during this free event were open to the public. The event was filmed for distribution by UCTV.

Participants to the conference were:

Gerardo, Aldana, UCSB, Chicana/o Studies
Edwina Barvosa-Carter, UCSB, Chicana/o Studies
LeGrace Benson, UCSB, Center for Black Studies Research
Felice Blake-Kleiven, UCSC (Graduate Student Symposium)
Lisa Cacho, University of Illinois, Urbana, Asian American Studies
Julie Carlson, UCSB, English Dept. & Center for Black Studies Research
Grace Chang, UCSB, Women's Studies
Nadège Clitandre, UC Berkeley, African American Studies
João H. Costa Vargas, University of Texas at Austin
Reginald Daniel, UCSB, Sociology Department
Douglas H. Daniels, UCSB, Black Studies & History Departments
Anna Everett, UCSB, Film Studies Department
Rosa Linda Fregoso, UCSC, Latino and Latin American Studies
Diane Fujino, UCSB, Asian American Studies
Ricardo Guthrie, UCSD, (Graduate Student Symposium)
Maria Herrera-Sobek, UCSB, Office of EVC
Heidi Hoechst, UCSD, (Graduate Student Symposium)
Paula Ioanide, UCSC, Latino and Latin American Studies
Johari Jabir, UCSB (Graduate Student Symposium)
Guisela Latorre, UCSB, Chicana/o Studies
James Less, UCSB, Asian American Studies
Esther Leszra, UCSD, (Graduate Student Symposium)
Nelson Lichtenstein, UCSB, History Department
George Lipsitz, UCSB, Black Studies Department
Nelson Maldonado-Torres, UC Berkeley, Department of Ethnic Studies
Elizabeth McAlister, Wesleyan University, Religion
Mireille Miller-Young, UCSB, Women's Studies
Viet Nguyen, USC, Department of English
John Park, UCSB, Asian American Studies
Laura Perez, UC Berkeley, Dept. of Ethnic Studies
Tricia Rose, UCSC, American Studies Department
Chela Sandoval, UCSB, Chicana/o Studies
Rashad Shabazz, UCSC, (Graduate Student Symposium)
Kaia Stern, UCSB, Black Studies Department
Roberto Strongman, UCSB, Black Studies Department
Lucia Suarez, University of Michigan, Romance Language Department
Ula Taylor, UC Berkeley, African American Studies
Victor Viesca, CSU, Los Angeles, (Graduate Student Symposium)
Raul Villa, Occidental College, English & Comparative Literary Studies
Howard Winant, UCSB, Sociology Department
Clyde Woods, UCSB, Black Studies Department
Xiaojian Zhao, UCSB, Asian American Studies

Welcome remarks and introductions by:

Henry Yang, Chancellor, UCSB

Melvin Oliver, UCSB, Dean of Social Sciences

Claudine Michel, UCSB, Director, Center for Black Studies Research

7. **Al Young, State Poet Laureate May 16, 2006**, read for a gathering of students, staff, faculty and community members at the MultiCultural Center. Known internationally, Young's poetry has been translated into over ten languages, and he often travels abroad. He has taught poetry and fiction at numerous universities, including UC Berkeley, Santa Cruz and Davis, and Stanford University. His work has appeared in various journals and anthologies, including the *New York Times* and the *Norton Anthology of African-American Literature*. His hour long poignant, at times humorous, and always engaging reading was followed by a question and answer period.

8. **Anita J. Mackey Service Awards, June 29, 2006**
In 2005-2006 two undergraduate students and one graduate student were awarded the Center's Annual Anita Mackey Service Award for outstanding service and scholarship. The undergraduate student recipients, both Black Studies majors, were Candace D. Mandujano, in recognition for her volunteer efforts with the UCSB Katrina project during her spring break, and Joanna N. Thomas, recognized for her exceptional volunteer work as a mentor with the Project Excel program. The graduate recipient, from the Religious Studies Department, was Johari O. Jabir for excellence in his academic performance and as lead teaching assistant in the Black Studies Department. Mr. Jabir is currently completing his dissertation on Black religion and presented his work at the graduate student symposium organized as part of the Multi-Ethnic Alliance conference.

PUBLIC SERVICE ACTIVITIES

Project Excel

Project Excel, a new initiative based at the Center for Black Studies Research, seeks to increase the number of African American, American Indian, and other under-represented students in Santa Barbara and Goleta Middle and High Schools (6 -12) in order to ensure that they are academically prepared for enrollment at UCSB and other colleges and universities.

For the past decade, the UCSB student body has included roughly 3% African Americans and just 1% American Indians. An even more alarming statistic is that fewer than one thousand African-American high school students in the entire state of California are eligible for admission at any of the University of California campuses. A recent report in the *Los Angeles Times* found a downward trend in Black students enrolment.

The Project Excel program is coordinated by Professor Julie Carlson, Associate Director of the Center and a Professor in the English Department at UCSB. As a longtime associate of the Center, Professor Carlson, together with community liaison Keith Terry, pairs students and their families with college-student mentors. Whenever possible, the family is provided with a computer. The Center and Project Excel have been fortunate to be the benefactors of 20 computers donated for this program from Santa Barbara Community College. Mentors serve as role models and help the students stay on track with their academic goals. When students are ready to graduate, mentors help them fill out scholarship and admissions forms. In addition, in hardship cases, financial aid has been provided for SAT fees from donations from the community. Other key participants are Joe Castro (Academic Preparation & Equal Opportunity) and former City Council member Babatunde Folayemi.

Additional office space for this program has been obtained at the Franklin Center for a nominal monthly fee for the convenience of students and families in order to better serve the targeted community.

Project Excel Accomplishments & Highlights 2005 – 2006:

- Admitted first cohort of 27 students in late August 2005
- Home visits for study assessment for environmental and individual needs
- Provided students with computers
- Provided students with mentors and/or tutors
- Formed Project Excel Board of Directors
- Procured office space at the Franklin Center
- Search and hire of permanent Program Director, Keith Terry
- Ran a course for UCSB mentors (spring 2006)
- Networked with campus and community agencies
- Submitted grant applications
- Forged alliances with the Transfer Achievement Program at SBCC

- Conducted workshops on college applications and financial aid
- Developed a website
- Attended as a group the lecture by Archbishop Desmond Tutu, jazz concert of Dee Dee Bridgewater, and Black Family Weekend at UCSB
- Sent several students to UCSB APEO summer programs, including the Stanford Great Books Program, Tech Track, and the Summer Arts Institute at the College of Creative Studies
- Sent one junior to a six-week Princeton SAT Preparation course (thanks to a donor)
- Graduated all three of our seniors who subsequently enrolled in college, one at UCSB, one at Cal State Northridge, and one at SBCC

Community Outreach Report – Fiscal Year 2005-2006, Submitted by
Sojourner Kincaid Rolle, Academic Coordinator/Community Liaison

Much of my work with and on behalf of the Center for Black Studies has centered around increasing communication between the Center, the campus and the greater Santa Barbara community. My main goal has been to increase awareness in the community about Center activities and to encourage attendance at Center-sponsored and other campus-connected events.

Community Collaboration

One role of our community outreach effort is to encourage and facilitate community attendance at campus events and participation in campus programs. The **Community Collaboration Roundtable** did not convene as a group in 2005-2006, but we have continued our program of collaboration with various community groups to maintain a Center presence in the Community.

One successful effort in this regard was in collaboration with UCSB **Arts and Lectures** to insure attendance by members of the African-American community at an **Evening With Bishop Desmond Tutu** held at the Arlington Theater. Over 100 tickets were distributed through the network of churches and groups, which have significant African-American participation. During subsequent months, we have used Center resources and collaborative associations to secure a reduced rate or complimentary tickets to campus events. These events include the Dee Dee Bridgewater concert, the Nina Simone film, the **Wangari Maathai** lecture at Campbell Hall and the Gospel brunch/concert at the UCSB MultiCultural Center.

Martin Luther King Holiday Celebration This is the first year since its inception in 1986 that no local celebration was planned for the national holiday to honor the work of Dr. King. Nevertheless, through word-of-mouth, nearly 100 people gathered on the steps of the Leni Fe Bland Auditorium at City College to honor the work of the legendary leader.

Speakers included **Congresswoman Lois Capps** and **Assembly member Pedro Nava**.

Black History Month - Rosa Parks Day

Our major event this year, was the hugely successful **Rosa Parks Day** held in February on the lawn of the Santa Barbara Public Library. Our sponsoring partners were the **SB County Human Relations Commission and the Building Bridges Community Coalition**. The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors issued a proclamation acknowledging **Black History Month and Rosa Parks Day**. The event featured a re-enactment of the famous “sit-in and arrest” of civil rights legend Mrs. Rosa Parks, who died in November 2005. The re-enactment cast featured Endowment for Youth founder **Mrs. Melvin Richey** as Rosa Parks. **Actors Tom Hinshaw** and **Bill Marks** as well as **City Councilmember Roger Horton** joined her. **Actor Henry Brown** gave a tour de force reading of Dr. King’s “I Have A Dream” speech. A host of community residents played supporting roles, including Santa Barbara High School senior and BSU president, **Courtney Peal**. Community groups participating in the daylong event included **Greater Hope Baptist Church Children’s Choir, Arts through Humanity (AHA), Santa Barbara B’hai, Peace and Freedom, Non-Violent Communication** group. **County Supervisor Salud Cabrajal** and **City Councilmember Helene Schneider** also spoke at the event. The library mounted a book display and sponsored a story reading for children.

2006 Shirley Kennedy Annual Lecture

This year’s guest lecturer **Robin Kelley** offered a very timely and popular talk titled “America Speaks Africa Answers,” attracting a good turnout from the Santa Barbara community. A highlight of the event was the DVD introduction about the work of Dr. Kennedy and her contributions to the campus and to the off-campus community. The 9-minute DVD sparked a decision by the Center to pursue funding for a longer film focused entirely on Dr. Kennedy’s activism work and its impact on the Santa Barbara Community. We successfully applied for and received funding support from the **Fund for Santa Barbara**. We have received many expressions of interest and promises of additional contributions from members of the Santa Barbara community.

Santa Barbara Women’s Literary Festival

I was invited to present the opening remarks at the first SB Women’s Literary Festival. Although not a member of the planning committee, I did respond to requests from committee members to help identify African-American authors who might be added to the Festival’s program.

George Washington Carver Scholarship Club

I attended the Annual Scholarship awards program presented at the Santa Barbara Public Library. I was very impressed with number of scholarships awarded to students who were attending colleges throughout the state

and across the country. The Center For Black Studies annually awards scholarships to UCSB students at an end of the year event. This year, UCSB awardees were praised for their work with Project Excel students from the community. I continue to hope that we can combine these two awards events.

The Fund for Santa Barbara

The Fund for Santa Barbara, a participant in our Community Collaboration Roundtable continues to be a strong ally for the Center. The 2005 25th Anniversary film about its work features a segment on its support for the Henrietta Marie exhibition co-presented by the Center in 2001. The film which was screened at its 2005 Bread and Roses event can be viewed on the Fund's website http://www.fundforsantabarbara.org/ffsb_video2.html

Tributes

In October 2005, we joined the community in saluting the work of 99-year old **Mr. Grover Barnes**. Mr. Barnes, a long-time Santa Barbara resident, has always been an advocate for community progress and is known for his Letters to the Editors of local papers.

Memorials

In November, the community mourned the passing of local minister and former Department of Black Studies lecturer, **Rev. Leander Wilkes**. Rev. Wilkes, a strong leader and frequent speaker at local events, continually worked to present information about the substantial contributions of African-Americans to American History.

The community also mourned the loss of **Maleka Higgins**, in a senseless tragedy which had racial overtones. Of five people shot at our local postal facility, three were of African-American descent.

I had many conversations with **Center Advisory Committee member and Black Studies librarian Sylvia Curtis** about the need for increased communication with the community. **The Center for Black Studies** offered to develop calendar of events of interest to the African American community on its website. Toward this end, we met in late June with **Candice Brooks, director of UCSB African American Cultural Services**. The **AACS** currently posts a calendar of this nature on its website so we decided to see how we might collaborate to enhance the effectiveness of this existing venue. Finally, we are discussing ways in which we might increase campus and community awareness by jointly planning a **2007 Black History Month** event.

Co-sponsored Events, Donations and Projects

The Brotherhood of Santa Barbara, Co-sponsorship of concert, "The Jackson Southernaires," Legendary Gospel Quartet, July 30, 2005 at Campbell Hall

The Channel City Club, Donation for Anita Mackey Luncheon, August, 29, 2005, as guest speaker. (Former founder of Center and Advisory Committee Member)

Bread and Roses, Fund for Santa Barbara Fundraiser, September 18, 2005, Co-sponsorship.

Ranji Kahnna Lecture, English Dept., Co-sponsorship, October 26, 2005.

Black Family Weekend sponsorship, November 4, 2005.

Ika Hugel-Marshall and Dagmar Schultz lecture, Germanic Studies, Co-sponsorship, November 14, 2005.

NAACP, Associated Students "New Flavor Comedy" at Corwin Pavilion, November 19, 2005.

Correct Health in Haiti, Inc., November 19, 2005. Donation ad in support of fundraiser.

Africa Awareness Student Organization, Associated Students, "World Aids Day HIV/AIDS" Donation, November 30 – December 1, 2005

Black Student Union Annual Outreach Program, February 22 – 24, 2006. Co-sponsorship.

"The Report Back," (Katrina Fund) Associated Students February 28, 2006.

"The RZA of the Wu tang Clan," presented by MultiCultural Center at the Corwin Pavilion, March 2, 2006. Co-sponsorship .

"New Orleans Realities" post Katrina. Lecture given by Suncere Ali Shakur at the MCC, Monday, April 17, 2006. Co-sponsorship.

Ashanti Alston (P.A.Z) at the MCC on May 2, 2006. Co-sponsorship.

Eritaj Foundation (Partnerships for a Better Haiti) Donation in support of Eritaj annual publication. May 25, 2006

Annual REEL LOUD Film Festival, (Race and Technology Initiative) at Corwin Pavilion, UCSB, Co-sponsorship, May 26, 2006

Anita Mackey Scholarship Awards (Candace Mandujano, JoAnna Thomas and Johari O. Jabir), June 29, 2006

Awards Administered

The Ford Foundation, “AfroGEEKS: Global Blackness and Digital Public Sphere” The Ford Foundation funds in the amount of \$70,000 were earmarked for the Center’s second AfroGEEKS conference, and the public dissemination of the conference proceedings and research generated from the event. The grant was extended six months to June 30, 2006, in order to complete grant activities including the AfroGeeks Anthology and the DVD production of the conference to be packaged with the publication.

K & F Baxter Family Foundation

Multiracial Identity in Brazil and the United States

An \$11,000 grant which was awarded Professor G. Reginald Daniel (present Advisory Committee Chair) is being administered by the Center at his bequest. His research examines the phenomena within the historical context of Brazilian and United States race relations as they relate to several important questions. For example, what impact might these changes have on the social construction of “whiteness” and “blackness” in Brazil and the United States? Also, to what extent might the deconstruction of traditional racial categories and boundaries in Brazil and the United States undermine racist ideology and racial privilege? While the answers to these questions will enhance understanding of similar trends among other groups, they have significant implications for black-white relations, and make a comparative historical analysis of that dynamic particularly meaningful, by virtue of the history of African slavery and the unique legacy of attitudes and policies that have crystallized around the experience of individuals of African descent in both Brazil and the United States. Penn State Press will be publishing the findings from Professor Daniel’s research this fall (2006), titled, *Race and Multiraciality in Brazil and the United States – Converging Paths?*

Fund for Santa Barbara

In June 2006, the Center for Black Studies Research received a \$3,000 grant from the Fund for Santa Barbara to begin the process of lengthening the nine-minute introductory DVD highlighting the life of community activist Dr. Shirley Kennedy into a feature-length documentary. The Fund’s support will allow the Center to start interviewing Dr. Kennedy’s family and close friends, and provides an excellent foundation on which to build. The Center is currently seeking other funding opportunities for this project, including grants and personal donations, as well.

Space

The Center for Black Studies Research is located in South Hall 4603. Our total assigned square footage is 1,459. We occupy a total of seven offices designated to accommodate the current staff. While we have changed our use of some of our offices, the assigned square footage remains the same.

The Center for Black Studies Research

Visiting Researchers Office Room 4510	Publication Manager's Office Room 4508	Storage Room 4506	Work Lab & Project Excel Room 4604 - 4602
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CBS Room 4603 WORK AREA <hr/> CONFERENCE AREA	Reception Area/ Editors Desk
	Business Officer's Office Room 4603 B
	Director's Office Room 4603 C

Advisory Committee, Administrative, and Technical Staff

2005 – 2006 Advisory Committee Members

Cynthia Hudley, (Advisory Committee Chair) Professor, Education
Ingrid Banks, Associate Professor, Black Studies Department
Kum Kum Bhavnani, Professor, Sociology Department
Julie Carlson, (Ex-officio) Professor, English Department
Sylvia Curtis, Librarian, Davidson Library
Reginald Daniel, Associate Professor, Sociology Department
Jewel Dennis, Community Member Representative
Anna Everett, (Ex-officio), Professor/Chair, Film Studies Department
Richard Flacks, Professor, Sociology Department
Carl Gutierrez Jones, Professor English Dept. and Director Center for Chicano Studies
George Lipsitz, Professor, Black Studies Department
Claudine Michel, (Ex-officio) Professor/Chair, Black Studies, Dept. and CBSR Director
Stephen Miescher, Associate Professor, History Department
Sylvester Ogbechie, Assistant Professor, History of Art and Architecture
Sojourner Rolle, Community Outreach, Center for Black Studies
James Smith, (Ex-officio) Professor Emeritus, Arts Studio
Windance Twine, Professor, Sociology Department

2005– 2006 Administrative Staff and Technical Support

Claudine Michel, Director and Professor/Chair, Black Studies Department
Julie Carlson, Associate Director and Professor, English Department
Sojourner Kincaid Rolle, Community Affairs Coordinator
Mahsheed Ayoub, Business Officer
Chryss Yost, Publications Manager
Amber Wallace, Editor
Keith Terry, Project Excel, Director
Candace Mandujano, Student Staff Support
Zach Marano, Technical Support

Principal Investigators

Ford Foundation:

PI: Anna Everett, Chair, Film Studies Department
Co-PI: Christopher McAuley, Professor, Black Studies Department
Co-PI: Guisela Latorre, Assistant Professor, Chicana/o Studies Dept.

K & F Baxter Family Foundation:

PI: G. Reginald Daniel, Associate Professor, Sociology Department

Fund for Santa Barbara:

PI: Claudine Michel, Director, Center for Black Studies Research and
Chair, Black Studies Department

Graduate and Undergraduate Students

Candace Mandujano, Undergraduate Student
Zach Marano, Undergraduate Student

Nathan Bassiouni, Graduate Student (Tulane University)
Josef Manuel Liles, Graduate Student (UCSB, Baxter Grant)