College of Humanities and Social Sciences (H&SS)

H&SS is the second largest academic unit at Carnegie Mellon, and offers more than 60 majors and minors. The college emphasizes interdisciplinary study in a technologically rich environment, with an open and forward-thinking stance towards the arts and sciences.

H&SS is comprised of eight academic departments and four specialized degree programs, including two that are offered in conjunction with two other Carnegie Mellon colleges. Award-winning faculty from all over the world help prepare students for intellectual discourse at the university and in society at large.

H. John Heinz III School of Public Policy and Management

Founded in 1968, the Heinz School has an international reputation for excellence in educational programs and faculty research in problem-solving approaches to critical public issues. Its programs in information technology, criminal justice policy, policy analysis, finance, and environmental policy are respected across the nation and internationally as among the elite. Programs in health care and medical management, educational technology, and other areas continue to grow and take national prominence.

Heinz School graduates serve in key managerial positions across a wide range of government, business and non-profit organizations. The school takes a flexible and interdisciplinary approach to teach students to look at societal problems from many different perspectives, using technology, quantitative and qualitative analysis, and group dynamics to aid in decision-making.

African Americans and the Post-Industrial Age: New Challenges of Urban History and Policy-Making

Hamburg Hall 1000
Carnegie Mellon University
30 September – 1 October 2005
Mission Statement

Introduction

Scholars from a variety of disciplines have examined the urban transformation of African American life. As we move deeper into the 21st century, we are in a unique position to take advantage of existing contributions and deepen our efforts to reconcile historical scholarship with the ongoing quest for effective urban social and economic policies. The Center for African American Urban Studies and the Economy (CAUSE) aims to take advantage of this moment and help bridge the gap between research on urban history, economic, and policy issues. We also aim to build collaborative linkages not only within the university, but between Carnegie Mellon University and other institutions of higher education and social service.

Principal Aims

CAUSE seeks to link the historian’s interest in socioeconomic change over time with a commitment to analyses of the contemporary urban labor force and employment policies; analyze the complex interconnections between work and work relations and the development of the larger African American community; consider the comparative experiences of blacks and other ethnic and racial groups; and advance clearly articulated policy choices for this century that are firmly grounded in systematic understanding of similar situations and outcomes in the past.

Programs and Activities

CAUSE pursues its objectives through programs of graduate and postdoctoral training, scholarly research, speakers series, scholarly conferences, data collection, publications, and education that appeals to scholars, public policy experts, and the broader public.

Director, Joe W. Trotter
Mellon Professor of History

Associate Director, Tera W. Hunter
Associate Professor of History

Administrative Assistant, Nancy Aronson

Carnegie Mellon University does not discriminate and Carnegie Mellon University is required not to discriminate in admission, employment, or administration of its programs or activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap in violation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or other federal, state, or local laws or executive orders.

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Inquiries concerning application of these statements should be directed to the provost, Carnegie Mellon University, 5000 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213, telephone 412-268-6684 or the vice president for enrollment, Carnegie Mellon University, 500 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213, telephone 412-268-2056.

Carnegie Mellon University publishes an annual campus security report describing the university’s security, alcohol and drug, and sexual assault policies and containing statistics about the number and type of crimes committed on the campus during the preceding three years. You can obtain a copy by contacting the Carnegie Mellon Police Department at 412-268-2323. The security report is also available online.

Dear Friends and Conference Participants:

Welcome to the 10th Anniversary Celebration of the Center for Africanamerican Urban Studies and the Economy (CAUSE). Ten years ago, Carnegie Mellon University founded CAUSE as an interdisciplinary research center in the Department of History. CAUSE aims to bring the work of urban historians and contemporary policy researchers into closer conversation. Based upon funds provided by the University, the Maurice Falk Fund, the Ford Foundation (through the Midwest Consortium for Black Studies), and the Mellon Financial Corporation, CAUSE has made substantial progress toward achieving its mission.

The Center’s achievements include support of faculty and graduate student research projects; postdoctoral fellowships; internships through the H. John Heinz III School of Public Policy and Management; speakers series; publications; and graduate seminars. It has also built bridges between Carnegie Mellon, other institutions of higher education, and the larger Pittsburgh community. CAUSE has not only realized these objectives through the Midwest Consortium for Black Studies, but through work with the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission; the Labor and Working Class History Association (LAWCHA); U.S. Department of Education-funded collaborative program with the Pittsburgh Public Schools; and the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania. Indeed, these various activities have advanced CAUSE as a nationally recognized center of research and education on the African American urban experience.

Perhaps most important, CAUSE has developed a vigorous program of graduate and postgraduate training, scholarly research and publication. Accordingly, CAUSE is using this conference to launch a multi-year oral history project on African American life in Pittsburgh since World War II. This project will encourage African Americans to recall how they entered the work force, initiated families, built communities, and waged diverse struggles against inequality within the city’s economy. As such, this project promises to produce exceedingly rich primary documents for scholarly and popular use.

As a vehicle for ushering in the next phase of CAUSE’s contributions to knowledge, a multi-year oral history of African American life in Pittsburgh since World War II is a noteworthy project. Accordingly, I congratulate the Center on its past accomplishments and offer the college and university’s support and best wishes for success in the years ahead. Again, welcome to this event and enjoy the conference.

John P. Lehoczky, Dean
College of Humanities and Social Sciences
Carnegie Mellon University

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Milton L. Cofield
Associate Teaching Professor of Business Management, Tepper School of Business, Carnegie Mellon University

John P. Lehoczky
Dean, College of Humanities and Social Sciences; Lord Professor of Statistics, Carnegie Mellon University

James P. McDonald
First Vice President, Corporate Affairs, Mellon Financial Corporation

Susan Williams McElroy
Associate Professor of Economics and Education Policy, University of Texas-Dallas

Kerry O’Donnell
President, Maurice Falk Fund

Everett L. Tademy
Director, Equal Opportunity Services, Carnegie Mellon University

Mark Wessel
Dean, H. John Heinz III School of Public Policy and Management, Carnegie Mellon University

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In addition to its Advisory Board, the Center wishes to thank the following sources of support, past and present:

Carnegie Mellon University

Offices of the President, Provost, and Dean of H&S
H. John Heinz III School of Public Policy and Management

Maurice Falk Fund

Ford Foundation

Mellon Financial Corporation
“Race, Politics and the Promise and Problems of Community”
Cathy Cohen
Professor of Political Science, University of Chicago

Education: B.A., Miami University-Ohio; and Ph.D., Political Science, University of Michigan
Publications: The Boundaries of Blackness: AIDS and the Breakdown of Black Politics (1999); “HRV/AIDS and African American Youth,” in A. Schulz and L. Mullings, eds., Gender, Race, and Health (forthcoming); and “Health Activism and the Black Church,” in D. Smith, ed., The Public Influences of African American Churches (forthcoming)
Awards: Best Book Award, Race Relations and Public Policy, American Political Science Association; Robert Wood Foundation Grant; and Ford Foundation Grant

“‘The House I Live In’: Race, Class, and Black Suburban Dreams in Postwar America”
Andrew Wiese
Associate Professor of History, San Diego State University

Education: B.A., University of Iowa; M. Phil., Columbia University; and Ph.D., History, Columbia University
Awards: John G. Cawelti Book Award, American Culture Association; National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship; and Award for Best Scholarly Article, Urban History Association

Conference Schedule

FRIDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER

5–6 p.m. Reception
6–7 p.m. Keynote address: “Blacks in the New Multiracial Metropolis”
Lawrence D. Bobo
Professor of Sociology and Director of the Center for Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity, Stanford University

Education: B.A., Loyola of Marymount University; M.A., University of Michigan; and Ph.D., Sociology, University of Michigan
Awards: Phi Beta Kappa National Honor Society Visiting Scholar; Fellow, Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences; and Visiting Scholar, Russell Sage Foundation

Saturday, 1 October

8:30–9 a.m. Continental Breakfast
9–10:30 a.m. Session 1: Migration, Work, and Labor Relations
Facilitator: Kevin Mumford
Assistant Professor of History, University of Iowa

3:15–3:30 p.m. Break

3:30–4 p.m. Closing Remarks
Tera W. Hunter and Joe W. Trotter

Education: A.B., University of Wisconsin-Madison; M.A., Stanford University; and Ph.D., History, Stanford University
Awards: Fellow, W. E. B. Du Bois Institute for Afro-American Research (Harvard University); Scholar in Residence (Brown University); and Fellow (Rutgers Center for Historical Analysis)
“Racial Sincerity”
John Jackson
Assistant Professor of Cultural Anthropology, Duke University

Education: B.A., Howard University; M.A., Columbia University; and Ph.D., Anthropology, Columbia University


Awards: Woodrow Wilson Career Enhancement Award; Lilly Endowment Fellowship; and William F. Milton Fund Grant, Harvard Medical School

“The Politics and Struggles of Black Women in Poverty”
Rhonda Williams
Associate Professor of History, Case Western Reserve University

Education: B.S., University of Maryland-College Park; and Ph.D., History, University of Pennsylvania

Publications: The Politics of Public Housing: Black Women’s Struggles Against Urban Inequality (2004); “I’m a Keeper of Information,” in Oral History Review (2001); and “We Are Tired of Being Treated Like Dogs,” in Black Scholar (2001)

Awards: Postdoctoral Research Fellowship, American Association of University Women; W. J. Jones Presidential Faculty Development Award, and Fellow, W. E. B. Du Bois Institute, Harvard University

“Rage, Activism and Power: African Americans and the Remaking of the Motor City, 1945-1975”
Heather Thompson
Associate Professor of History and Public Policy, University of North Carolina-Charlotte

Education: B.A., University of Michigan; M.A., University of Michigan; and Ph.D., American History, Princeton University


Awards: The Franklin Research Grant; National Endowment for the Humanities Grant; Littleton-Griswold Research Grant, American Historical Association

“The Politics and Struggles of Black Women in Poverty”
Katryn Edin
Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Pennsylvania

Education: B.A., North Park College; M.A., Northwestern University; and Ph.D., Sociology, Northwestern University


Awards: Russell Sage; MacArthur Foundation, and National Science Foundation Grants

10:30–10:45 a.m. Coffee Break

10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m. Session 2: Race, Class, and Neighborhood Change
Facilitator: Adam Green
Assistant Professor of American Studies and History, New York University

Education: B.A., Yale University; Ph.D. History, Yale


Awards: Scholar in Residence, Occidental College; Danforth Compton Fellow, Yale; and IAC-CAAS Research Grant, UCLA

12:15–1:45 p.m. Lunch

1:45–3:15 p.m. Session 3: Politics, Culture, and Community Conflict
Facilitator: Francille Rusan Wilson
Associate Professor of African American Studies, University of Maryland-College Park

Education: B.A., Wellesley College; M.A.T., Harvard; M.A., University of Pennsylvania; and Ph.D., History, University of Pennsylvania


Awards: Organization of American Historians Distinguished Lecturer; Research Fellow, Smithsonian Center for African American History and Culture; and Rockefeller Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship