



# BLACK POWER BEYOND BORDERS CONFERENCE

APRIL 8TH - 9TH, 2011

## BLACK POWER BEYOND BORDERS

*This conference aims to expand our understanding of the black power movement geographically, chronologically, and thematically. By examining black power beyond geographic and chronological borders, Black Power Beyond Borders will investigate the multiple meanings of black power both within and beyond the United States.*

### FRIDAY, APRIL 8TH

RECEPTION AND REFRESHMENTS 4 PM

WELCOME 4:45 PM

**Dean John Lehoczky, Joe W. Trotter, Nico Slate**

KEYNOTE ADDRESS 5:00-6:30 PM

**Barbara Ransby**

Professor of History and African-American Studies, The University of Illinois at Chicago

### SATURDAY, APRIL 9TH

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST 8:30 AM

PANEL ONE 9:00-10:30 AM

***Black Power Before "Black Power"***

**Carol Anderson**

Associate Professor of African American Studies,  
Emory University (Atlanta, GA)

**Yvette Richards Jordan**

Professor of Women's History, African American History,  
Labor Studies, and Pan-Africanism  
George Mason University (Fairfax, VA)

*Chair: Edda Fields-Black*

PANEL TWO 10:45-12:15 PM

***The Panthers Abroad***

**Oz Frankel**

Associate Professor of History, The New School (New York, NY)

**Robbie Shilliam**

Senior Lecturer, School of History, Philosophy,  
Political Science & International Relations  
Victoria University (Wellington, New Zealand)

*Chair: Joe W. Trotter*

LUNCH

12:15 PM

PANEL THREE

1:30-3:00 PM

***Global Black Power from Inside Out***

**Donna Murch**

Associate Professor of History, Rutgers University (New Jersey)

**Yohuru Williams**

Associate Professor of African American History  
Fairfield University (Fairfield, Connecticut)

*Chair: Nico Slate*

PANEL FOUR

3:15-4:45 PM

***Power, Violence, and the Values of Militancy***

**Scott Kurashige**

Associate Professor of American Culture  
University of Michigan (Ann Arbor, Michigan)

**Nico Slate**

Assistant Professor of History  
Carnegie Mellon University (Pittsburgh, PA)

*Chair: Lara Putnam*

CLOSING COMMENTARY

5:00-6:00 PM

**Kevin Gaines**

Professor of History Center for Afro American & African Studies  
University of Michigan (Ann Arbor, Michigan)

## Keynote Speaker:



**Dr. Barbara Ransby** is the Director of the Gender and Women's Studies Program and Professor of History at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She received a BA in History from Columbia University and an MA and Ph.D. in History from the University of Michigan. Professor Ransby is an historian, writer, and longtime political activist. She is the author of the award-winning biography of civil rights activist Ella Baker, entitled *Ella Baker and the Black Freedom Movement: A Radical Democratic Vision*. Dr. Ransby was the recipient of the 2004 Lillian Smith Book Award, the Joan Kelley Prize for best book in women's history in 2003 from the American Historical Association, and the Letitia Woods Brown Memorial Prize for best book in African American women's history in 2003 from the Association of Black Women Historians.

## Panelists:



**Dr. Carol Anderson** is an Associate Professor of African American Studies at Emory University, and has recently completed a fellowship at Harvard University's Charles Warren Center for Studies in American History. She is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Miami University, where she earned her bachelor's and master's degrees in Political Science, International Relations, and History. She earned her Ph.D. in history from the Ohio State University. Dr. Anderson is the author of *Eyes off the Prize: The United Nations and the African-American Struggle for Human Rights, 1944-1955*, published by Cambridge University Press and awarded both the Gustavus Myers and Myrna Bernath Book Awards. Professor Anderson is the recipient of the Crystal Apple Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Education and was awarded the William T. Kemper Fellowship for Teaching Excellence.



**Dr. Yvette Richards** is a Professor in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences at George Mason University of Fairfax, Virginia. She received her M.A. degree from the Department of African American Studies, and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the Department of American Studies at Yale University. Dr. Richards is a specialist in African American history, US Women's History, labor studies, and Pan-Africanism. She has published *Maida Springer, Pan-Africanist and International Labor Leader*, University of Pittsburgh Press. She has received a Mathy Junior Faculty Award in the Arts and Humanities, and a Center for Africanamerican Urban Studies and the Economy (CAUSE) Fellowship from Carnegie Mellon University.



**Dr. Oz Frankel** is an Associate Professor of History and Chair of the History Department at the New School for Social Research and Lange College. Some of his fields of scholarly interest include nineteenth century U.S. history, radicalism and its culture, and history of the book and print culture. Professor Frankel is now engaged in a transnational study that follows the social, cultural and political relationship between the U.S. and Israel at the turn of the 1970s. His most recent publications include *States of Inquiry: Social Investigations and Print Culture in Nineteenth Century Britain and the United States*, and “What’s in a Name? The Black Panthers in Israel” in *The Sixties: A Journal of History, Politics and Culture*.



**Dr. Robbie Shilliam** is a Senior Lecturer in the School of History, Philosophy, Political Science and International Relations at Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand. Professor Shilliam obtained his Doctorate of Philosophy in International Relations at the University of Sussex, and was the Hedley Bull Junior Research Fellow in International Relations at the University of Oxford before moving to Victoria University. He currently is researching the impact and integration of the struggles of African Diaspora into Maori and Pacific struggles in Aotearoa, New Zealand, especially in the last forty years through Black Power, Anti-Apartheid and Rastafari.



**Dr. Donna Murch** is an Associate Professor of History at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey. Professor Murch received her Ph.D. and M.A. degrees from the University of California and B.A. degree from Williams College in Williamstown, Massachusetts. Her scholarly interests include the urban history of California and New York, Civil Rights, Black Power and postwar social movements; the history of policing and prisons and the political economy of drugs. Dr. Murch is the author of *Living for the City: Migration, Education, and the Rise of the Black Panther Party in Oakland, California*, published by the University of North Carolina Press.



**Dr. Yohuru R. Williams** is an Associate Professor of African American History at Fairfield University in Fairfield, Connecticut. He received his B.A. and M.A. degrees from the University of Scranton in Pennsylvania, and his Ph.D. from Howard University in Washington, D.C. Professor Williams’ scholarly interests include African American History, Civil Rights, Black Power Movements and African American Constitutional and Legal History. He is the author of *Black Politics / White Power: Civil Rights Black Power and Black Panthers in New Haven* and *Teaching U.S. History Beyond the Textbook*.



**Dr. Scott Kurashige** is an Associate Professor of American Culture and History, and Director of the Asian/Pacific Islander American Studies Program at the University of Michigan. He received his Ph.D. in History at the University of California. Professor Kurashige is the author of *The Shifting Grounds of Race: Black and Japanese Americans in the Making of Multiethnic Los Angeles*, published by Princeton University Press, which received the American Historical Association's 2008 Albert J. Beveridge Award "for the best book in English on the history of the United States, Latin America, or Canada from 1492 to the present." He is a grassroots activist and is a board member of the James and Grace Lee Boggs Center to Nurture Community Leadership based in Detroit, Michigan.



**Dr. Nico Slate** is an Assistant Professor of History at Carnegie Mellon University. He received his Ph.D. from Harvard University. Professor Slate's research and teaching focus on the transnational history of social movements in the United States, with a particular emphasis on South Asia and on the history of struggles against racism and imperialism worldwide. His current book project, *Colored Cosmopolitanism: Race and the Shared Struggle for Freedom in the United States and India* argues that South Asians and African Americans learned from each other in ways that not only advanced their respective struggles for freedom, but also helped define what freedom could and should mean.

### *Closing Commentary:*



**Dr. Kevin Gaines** is the Robert Hayden Collegiate Professor of History and Afroamerican and African Studies, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, at the University of Michigan. He received his B.A. from Harvard University and his Ph.D. from Brown University in the Department of American Civilization. Professor Gaines is the author of *Uplifting the Race: Black Leadership, Politics, and Culture During the Twentieth Century*, published by the North Carolina University Press, which was awarded the John Hope Franklin Prize of the American Studies Association. His most recent book *American Africans in Ghana: Black Expatriates and the Civil Rights Era* was a Choice Outstanding Academic Title. He is a past president of the American Studies Association.

## Chairs:



**Dr. Edda L. Fields-Black** is an Associate Professor in Carnegie Mellon University's Department of History where she teaches courses on African history from the early pre-colonial to the neo-colonial period, slavery and freedom in Africa and the New World, West African history, globalization in African history, entrepreneurship in Africa, and the making of the African Diaspora. She is the author of *Deep Roots: Rice Farmers in West Africa and the African Diaspora*, published by Indiana University Press. Dr. Fields-Black also serves as the Faculty Advisor for Carnegie Mellon's African and African American Studies Minor.



**Dr. Joe William Trotter, Jr.** is Giant Eagle Professor of History and Social Justice and Department Chair at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He also directs Carnegie Mellon's Center for Africanamerican Urban Studies and the Economy (CAUSE). Professor Trotter received his BA degree from Carthage College in Kenosha, Wisconsin and his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Minnesota. His recent publications include *Race and Renaissance: African Americans in Pittsburgh since World War II* (with Jared Day) and *African American Urban History* (with Kenneth Kusmer). He is also vice president of the Board of Trustees of the H. John Heinz III Regional History Center, and the recipient of the 2010 Ronald Brown Civic Leadership Award.

**Dr. Nico Slate** is an Assistant Professor of History at Carnegie Mellon University.



**Dr. Lara Putnam** is an Associate Professor of History at the University of Pittsburgh, specializing in the study of gender, kinship, and migration in the Greater Caribbean. She received her Ph.D. from the University of Michigan. Since 2007 Professor Putnam has been co-Senior Editor (with Reid Andrews and Alejandro de la Fuente) of the *Hispanic American Historical Review*. She is the author of *The Company They Kept: Migrants and Politics of Gender in Caribbean Costa Rica, 1870-1960*, published by the University of North Carolina Press.





# CAUSE

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