

2nd Annual Conference

BRS

BLACK RELIGION & SPIRITUALITY
IN THE 21ST CENTURY
CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

November 7, 8, 9, 2007

**MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY**

East Lansing, MI--Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center

CONFERENCE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

This conference will focus on the diversity of faiths among African Americans and how they are addressing challenges and opportunities in the 21st century.

This conference will:

1. Examine the diversity of faiths in the African American community.
2. Examine the variety of means by which these diverse faiths are addressing challenges and opportunities in the 21st century.
3. Provide for a network of academics, practitioners, and community members.
4. Explore the impact of faith communities on Black people.

Planning Committee

Dr. Gloria Stephens Smith, Conference Chair
Reverend Lester D. Stone
Ms. Bayyinah Jeffries
Reverend Dr. Michael C. Murphy
Dr. Christel Temple
Ms. Darcia Grant

Mr. Lisbon C. Berry III
Dr. Lee June
Dr. Harriette McAdoo
Dr. Geneva Smitherman
Dr. Richard W. Thomas
Dr. Denise Troutman

Conference Schedule

WEDNESDAY	NOVEMBER 7
	Registration (10 AM – 6 PM) Darcia and Bayyinah
9:00-11:00 AM	
1:00 PM – 1:30 PM	<p>Opening Remarks</p> <p>Dr. Gloria S. Smith, Conference Chair BRS Committee</p> <p>Sandy Kilbourn College of Osteopathic Medicine</p> <p>Dr. J. Johnson City of Lansing</p>
1:30 PM – 3:30 PM- Opening Sessions	Panels
Session I—Heritage Room	<p>Moderator Dr. Pero Dagbovie Michigan State University</p> <p><i>Lazarus Get Up! Contextualizing Black Men's Theology Within the Tradition of African American Religious History and Studies</i> Dr. Zachery Williams University of Akron</p> <p><i>Trouble in Paradise: The Impact of Conflicts in the Middle East on the 21st Century Interfaith Community</i> Amaris White Michigan State University</p> <p><i>Perspectives for Spirituality on College Campuses</i> Matthew Blackwell Michigan State University</p>
Session II—Room 103A	<p><i>Cities of Promise Program</i> James Butler Julie Hale Smith State of Michigan</p>

Session III—Room 101	<p><i>Interfaith Collaborative Efforts</i></p> <p>Lisbon Berry Reverend Dr. Michael Murphy Dr. Saheed Timehin Dr. Denise Troutman</p> <p>Michigan State University</p>
3:30 PM- 5:00 PM	
Session I—Heritage Room	<p><i>Community Based Research Related to Black Religion and Spirituality</i></p> <p>Dr. Christel Temple University of Maryland Baltimore County</p>
Session II—Room 101	<p><i>Faith in the City</i></p> <p>Dr. Angela Dillard University of Michigan</p>
Session III—Room 103A	<p>Panel Chair Reverend Dr. Lloyd G. Bingman, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency</p> <p><i>Higher Education Fusion: Moving from Celebration and Proclamation to a Cultural Manifestation of Faith</i> President Ernest McNealey Stillman College</p> <p><i>On Studying Black Religion, Not Just Christian Practices of Blacks in the U.S.</i> Dr. Jualynne Dodson Michigan State University</p>
5:00 PM – 7:00 PM Room 101	<p>Dinner on Your Own</p> <p>Movie Showing- CHINA, with Director Dr. Jeffrey Wray Michigan State University</p>
7:00 PM – 9:00 PM	
Keynote Address Auditorium	<p>Presiding Reverend Dr. Michael C. Murphy BRS Committee</p> <p>Introduction: Dr. Freya Rivers Lansing Public Schools</p> <p><i>Engaging Ancient Africa as an Ethical Ideal: A Critical Contribution to Modern Moral Discourse</i> Keynote-Dr. Maulana Karenga Professor of Black Studies California State University, Long Beach</p>

THURSDAY	NOVEMBER 8
	Registration 8 am – 5 pm (Darcia and Bayyinah)
9:00 AM – 11:00 AM	
Session I—Heritage Room	<i>Youth, Children & Mental Health</i> Alfice Breland-Noble Duke University Medical Center
Session II—Room 101	<i>Addressing Challenges and Opportunities for the Academy in the 21st Century</i> Dean Bernard Richardson Howard University
Session III—Room 103A & B	<i>From the Sacred to the Secular: Spirituality and Jazz</i> Rodney Whitaker Michigan State University
11:00 AM – 1:00 PM	
Session I—Heritage Room	<i>Black Women in Ministry: Challenges, Roles & Creative Responses</i> Moderator Dr. Denise Troutman Michigan State University Pastor Erlene B. Sudduth Doors of Healing Tabernacle Church Minister Glenda Griffin Come As You Are South Bend
Session II—Room 101	<i>Henriette Delille, Black Religious Woman: How, What and Why</i> Sister Claire Sisters of the Holy Family – Xavier University, New Orleans <i>Healing the Nation: An In-depth Study of African Americans</i> Dr. Dorothy Swygert Hampton University
Session III—Room 103A & B	<i>Lights of the Spirit: Historical Portraits of Black Baha'is in North America, 1898-2000</i> Dr. Richard Thomas Michigan State University

<p>1:00 PM – 3:00 PM</p> <p>Keynote Luncheon – Lincoln Room</p> <p>Open to the Public</p>	<p><i>Islam and the Blackamerica: Challenges & Opportunities for Collaboration in the 21st Century</i></p> <p>Presiding Dr. Denise Troutman Michigan State University</p> <p>Introduction of Speaker Muhammad Khalifa Michigan State University</p> <p>Keynote - Dr. Sherman Hakim Jackson University of Michigan</p>
<p>3:00 PM – 4:30 PM</p> <p>Room 103 A&B</p>	<p>Special Session</p> <p><i>Dialogue on Contemporary Issues in Black Religion and Spirituality</i></p> <p>Panel Chair, Reverend Dr. Michael Murphy Stephen's Community Church BRS Committee</p> <p>Dr. Iva Carruthers Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference, Inc.</p> <p>Dr. Maulana Karenga California State University, Long Beach</p> <p>Dr. Lee June Michigan State University</p>
<p>4:30 PM – 6:00 PM—Room 103 A & B</p>	<p>Book Signing –Dr. Francine Bellamy Chicago State University (see insert)</p>
<p>7:30 PM – 9:00 PM— Room 103 A & B</p>	<p><i>Orita and Ubuntu: Tools of the Spirit</i></p> <p>Presiding Reverend Lester D. Stone Friendship Baptist Church</p> <p>Introduction of Speaker Dr. Geneva Smitherman Michigan State University</p> <p>Keynote - Dr. Iva Carruthers, Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference, Inc.</p>

FRIDAY	NOVEMBER 9
9:00 AM – 11:00 AM	
Session I—Heritage Room	<p><i>The Nation of Islam Perspectives on Black Religion and Spirituality</i></p> <p>Rasul Muhammad Local Representative for the State of Michigan for the Honorable Louis Farrakhan</p>
Session II—Room 101	<p><i>Community and Aesthetics in Black Diasporic Religious Practice</i></p> <p>Dr. Isaac Kalumbu Michigan State University</p> <p><i>Sacred Spaces in Secular Places: Popular Culture, Commodification and Dialectics of the Sacred and Secular in Contemporary African-American Christian Music and Dance</i></p> <p>Dr. Daniel Avorgbedor Ohio State University</p>
Session III—Room 103A	<p><i>Mental Health and Spirituality</i></p> <p>Dr. Jan Collins Eaglin Michigan State University</p>
11:00 AM- 1:00 PM	
Session I—Heritage Room	<p><i>Health Challenges: Religion/Spirituality and Genetics</i></p> <p>Dr. Vence Bonham National Institute of Health</p>
Session II—Room 101	<p><i>Katrina After the Storm: Civic Engagement Through Arts, Humanities and Technology</i></p> <p>Dr. M. Skinner Britt Creative Research and Design</p> <p>Dr. Allison Clark University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign</p>
Session III—Room 103A & B	<p><i>The Pathway Home to our African Selves</i></p> <p>Dr. Willie Davis Lansing Community College</p> <p>Talib El Amin Grand Rapids Community College</p>

**1:00 PM – 3:00 PM—
Centennial BC (Lunch)**

*Where Do We Go from Here: Growing Partnership Between
Religion/Spirituality, Community, and the Academy*

Presiding/Introduction of Speaker
Lisbon Berry
Michigan State University

Occasion
Dr. Paulette Granberry-Russell
Office of Inclusion/Intercultural
Michigan State University

Remarks
Reverend Greg Roberts
Urban Affairs Specialist Office of Governor Granholm

Keynote, Dr. Saheed Timehin
Fulbright Scholar, Michigan State University
Lagos University

Closing Remarks

Dr. Gloria S. Smith

