

WAYNE STATE
UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION



Student Center Ballroom
Wayne State University
Detroit, Michigan
May 8, 2010



Dalton Conley, Ph.D.

Dalton Conley is currently Dean for the Social Sciences, as well as University Professor at New York University.

Conley's research focuses on the determinants of economic opportunity within and across generations. In this vein, he studies sibling differences in socioeconomic success; racial inequalities; the measurement of class; and how health and biology affect (and are affected by) social position. Conley holds a B.A. from the University of California Berkeley and an M.P.A. and Ph.D. in Sociology from Columbia University, as well as an M.S. in Biology from NYU. He is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Biology at the Center for Genomics and Systems Biology at NYU, studying transgenerational phenotypic plasticity and socially regulated genes.

"Being Black, Living in the Red is an important book. In Conley's persuasive analysis the locus of current racial inequality resides in class and property relations, not in the labor market. This carefully written and meticulous book not only provide a compelling explanation of the black-white wealth differential, it also represents the best contribution to the race-class debate in the past two decades. William Julius Wilson, Harvard University

"American's racial wealth gap is both an enigma and a cause for concern. With authoritative data, Conley shows how people with educational credentials and good jobs can nonetheless fall far behind in wealth of their parents lacked wealth. His insights into this puzzle of race and generations take the sociology of wealth and inequality to a new level. Michael Hout, Professor of Sociology, University of California, Berkeley



James C. Young, Ed.D.

James C. Young is Professor of Early Childhood Education at Clark Atlanta University. He is a graduate of Winston-Salem State University, Indiana State University, and the University of Massachusetts. He holds the doctorate degree in early childhood education with a cognate in school administration. He formerly taught in the public schools of Gary, Indiana.

With over forty years as an educator, Dr. Young has distinguished himself in the field of early childhood education. He is an educator, motivational speaker, author, workshop leader, and has served as a consultant to schools and school districts. In addition to teaching in public schools, he has served as regional Director of the Association for Childhood Education International — ACEI, and has been a university professor for more than thirty-five years. Most of his career at the university level was served as Professor at Georgia State University in the department of early childhood education.

In 1992, Dr. Young was selected by former President Jimmy Carter to serve as the Secretariat for Education for the Atlanta Project. Dr. Young's books have included From Roots to Wings: Successful parenting African American style; De-Mythologizing the inner city child and Analysis and critique of early childhood programs.



Amy Wilkins

Amy Wilkins is an experienced political and community organizer with a special skill in media communications. Amy oversees the Trust's media, data, government affairs and coalition work. She has sharpened her skills in advocacy over years of successful work for the Children's Defense Fund, the Democratic National Committee, the Peace Corps, and the White House Office of Media Affairs, among others.



Brenda Priestly Jackson, Esq.

Brenda A. Priestly Jackson currently serves as the vice chairman of the Duval County School Board in Jacksonville, Florida and was initially elected to the school board in 2002. She served as chairman of the school board from November 2005 through November 2006. A Jacksonville native and a self described desegregation baby, Mrs. Priestly Jackson's perspective as a servant leader was greatly influenced by the civic engagement of her family and her desire to give voice to the marginalized and disenfranchised in society.

Mrs. Priestly Jackson received the bachelor's degree in English from Grambling State University, where she served as Student Government Association president. She earned the Juris Doctorate from the University of Florida College of Law. Her professional experience is serving as a teacher in the Duval County Public Schools and a correctional facility in New Jersey. As an attorney, she specialized in constitutional law and civil rights. Mrs. Priestly Jackson recently transitioned from a career as an attorney and is currently dedicating her time to writing novels and to urban educational consulting.

A passionate advocate for reading, particularly literature that is culturally relevant, inspires imagination and encourages reluctant readers, Mrs. Priestly Jackson recently released her first novel, The Counsel: MK's First Commission, a culturally relevant fantasy novel targeted towards young adults and middle year readers.

Mrs. Priestly Jackson is a member of Historic Mt. Zion A. M. E. Church, Council of Urban Board of Education-Racial Isolation Task Force, The National Black Child Development Institute, the Institute for the Study of African American Child (ISAAC), Jacksonville Community Council, Inc., Florida School Boards Association, and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Mrs. Priestly Jackson is married to DeAndre' Jackson, an urban school teacher, and they have four children, one a graduate of the Duval County Public Schools and three who presently attend the Duval County Public Schools.



Janice E. Hale, Ph.D.

Janice Hale is a professor of early childhood education and Founding Director of the Institute for the Study of the African American Child (ISAAC) at Wayne State University. She has served as a speaker and consultant to numerous colleges, professional organizations and early childhood education programs across the United States and Jamaica. She has served as a consultant for Sesame Street and Mister Roger's Neighborhood.

Dr. Hale has written numerous articles in her field and has written three books. The title of her first book is *Black Children: Their roots, culture and learning styles*

Dr. Hale's second and third books, *Unbank the Fire: Visions for the education of African American children* and *Learning While Black: Creating educational excellence for African American children* were both nominated for the Pulitzer Prize.

Janice Hale received the bachelor of arts degree from Spelman College, the masters of religious education from the Interdenominational Theological Center and the doctoral degree in education from Georgia State University. She did post-doctoral work at Rockefeller University, The University of California San Diego and Yale University. In 1981 she was named Distinguished Alumna of the College of Education at Georgia State University. In 2007 she received an Alumnae Achievement Award from Spelman College.

A product of the public schools of Columbus Ohio, Janice is the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Phale D. Hale and the mother of Keith A. Benson, Jr.



Godfrey J. Dillard, Esq.

Attorney Godfrey J. Dillard played a significant but generally unnoticed role in the pivotal 2003 U.S. Supreme Court decision that upheld the University of Michigan's race-based admissions policy. The case was considered a victory for affirmative-action programs at state schools like Michigan, but incited tremendous debate over the validity of such policies at public institutions. Though Dillard served only as lead counsel for a group of minority students and civil-rights groups that supported the school's admissions policy, the fact that the court allowed current students to present their arguments in support of maintaining a diverse student body was a historic legal first.

Dillard is a product of the same University of Michigan law school that later became party to the court challenge. He attended Vanderbilt University; received the B.A. degree from Eastern Michigan University, in philosophy; the JD from the University of Michigan Law School; and the master's degree from George Washington University School of International Affairs. He is a Founding Member of Citizens for Affirmative Action's Preservation.

His career has encompassed service as deputy general consul with the United States State Department in Zaire, Africa. He was an associate attorney in business and international law with the Evans & Luptak Law Firm in Detroit, Michigan. He is now an attorney in private practice in Atlanta and Detroit. His life's work is devoted to equality, justice and peace.

Proceedings

1:00 – 1:45 p.m.

The Mission of ISAAC and the Public Policy Lecture Series
Dr. Janice E. Hale, Professor, Wayne State University, Founding Director of ISAAC

1:45 – 2:00 p.m.

Dr. Dalton Conley, Dean for the Social Sciences, New York University
"The Education Debt"

2:00 – 2:15 p.m.

Dr. James C. Young, Professor, Clark Atlanta University
Author: *Roots to Wings: Successful parenting African American style*
Distinguished Moderator-led questioning of the speaker and questions from the audience

2:15 – 2:30 p.m.

Coffee Break

2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Amy Wilkins, Vice President for Government Affairs and Communications, The Education Trust, Washington, D.C.
"Closing the Achievement Gap: The State of the Art"

3:30 – 3:45 p.m.

Dr. James C. Young, Professor, Clark Atlanta University
Distinguished Moderator-led questioning of the speaker and questions from the audience

3:45 – 4:45 p.m.

Discussants
Brenda Priestly Jackson, Esq., Chair of the Duval County School Board in Jacksonville, Florida
"The subtleties of inequitable allocation of resources to African American Children: Still separate and unequal"
Godfrey J. Dillard, Esq., Attorney in Private Practice
"Preparing to FIGHT: The lay of the land – Lessons for FIGHT from the U.S."
Supreme Court University of Michigan Affirmative Action Case

4:45 – 5:15 p.m.

Dr. James C. Young, Professor Clark Atlanta University
Visionary dialogue regarding framing the Public Policy Component of ISAAC

5:15 – 5:30 p.m.

Dr. Janice E. Hale, Professor, Founding Director of ISAAC, Wayne State University
Presentations
Induction of ISAAC Fellows

5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Afterglow
Where do we go from here?
Soul Food Jazz Buffet
\$35.00
Opportunity for attendees to mingle informally over food, music and drinks to discuss the Public Policy Mission of ISAAC

Lobby
McGregor Memorial Conference Center
The Brandon Parker Trio
Cash Bar

Tax exempt statement: \$15 of the Public Policy Lecture Series is tax deductible; \$10 of the \$35 Soul Food Jazz Buffet is tax deductible.

Institute for the Study of the African American Child

Mission and Objectives

The Institute for the Study of the African American Child (ISAAC) is affiliated with the Teacher Education Division of the College of Education at Wayne State University. The mission of the Institute is to understand factors that contribute to the African American academic achievement gap and, to identify and support strategies that help narrow and close that gap in order to propel African American children to their rightful position of excellence and leadership in the world. The mission requires understanding African American child development and its underpinnings and many contexts and influences that impact upon the manner in which that development unfolds. The focal point of the Institute is to formulate best practices for working with African American children in school and in the community. Pedagogy — the activity between the teacher and the child is the primary discipline represented.

In *Learning While Black* (2001), educators are called upon to relinquish their belief that African American children have educational limitations that are the reason for the achievement gap. Principals and teachers are called upon to work with community members to monitor the educational performance and extracurricular activities for each child at the classroom level, making sure that all children are performing at or above grade level and are involved in meaningful cultural enrichment programs. The society is called upon to create the “Beloved Community” conceptualized by American philosopher Josiah Royce and evoked by Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. Strategies are outlined redefining the school as the Family and the broader community as the Village, in which each child is too precious to be left behind. The mission of the Institute is carried out through five interrelated areas: Research, Community Services, Clinical Services, Training and Social Policy.

Criteria for ISAAC Fellows

The Institute for the Study of the African American Child (ISAAC) has established a status of affiliation designated as Fellows of the Institute. To become an Associate ISAAC Fellow, an individual must pay the annual membership dues of \$50.00. Additionally, to achieve Associate Fellow status, an individual must attend at least one ISAAC conference annually. A paid member who attends a conference is immediately granted Associate Fellow status.

To become an ISAAC Fellow, an individual must pay the annual membership dues of \$50.00 and make a proposal presentation at an ISAAC conference. Once a person has made such a qualifying presentation, the level of ISAAC Fellow is obtained, henceforth. However, to maintain that designation, the Fellow must pay the annual membership dues and attend at least one ISAAC conference annually. If one of those conditions is not met, the candidate can reinstate the dues and regain Fellow status by attending a conference.

To become a Senior ISAAC Fellow, an individual must pay the annual membership dues of \$50.00 and make an invited presentation at an ISAAC conference as a keynote speaker or moderator. Once a person has made such a qualifying presentation, the level of Senior ISAAC Fellow is obtained, henceforth. However, to maintain that designation, the Senior Fellow must pay the annual membership dues and attend at least one ISAAC conference annually. If one of those conditions is not met, the candidate can reinstate the dues and regain senior status by attending a conference.

Visit <http://www.coe.wayne.edu:16080/isaac/isaacsite/fellowship postings.html> for more information.

ISAAC Founding Sponsors

Yvonne R. Jackson, Chair Spelman College Board of Trustees and Frederick Jackson, Jr., CEO BeecherJackson, Miami
Rev. Dr. Charles G. Adams, Pastor, Hartford Memorial Baptist Church, Detroit
Gary Moss, DTE Energy
Dr. Leslie T. Fenwick, Dean, Howard University School of Education, Washington D.C.
Rev. Dr. Jeremiah Wright, Senior Pastor Trinity United Church of Christ, Chicago
Monica and John Pearson, Atlanta, Georgia
Dr. Carol D. Lee, Professor Northwestern University and Dr. Haki R. Madhubuti, Professor, Chicago State University, Publisher Third World Press, Eunice and James Moore, Detroit
Dr. James C. Young, Professor Clark Atlanta University
Phale D. Hale, Jr., President, Phale D. Hale Education Consulting, Washington D.C.
Dr. V.P. Franklin, Distinguished Professor and Presidential Chair, University of California, Riverside

Conference Planners

Sandra Lamb, Chair
Debra Brundidge, Co-Chair
Shirley Berry
Dr. Ingrid Draper
Brenda Flowers
Gail Fowler
Jamika Harris
LaToniya Jones
Rose L. Jones
Nancy C. Lee
Dr. Jay B. Marks
Dianne Martin
Peggy Uzzle
Deborah Winston

Janice E. Hale, Ph.D.
Professor of Early Childhood Education
Founding Director

ISAAC Fellows Induction Pledge

I pledge my allegiance to the freedom struggles of African people of the world. I pledge my allegiance to the Mission of ISAAC. As an ISAAC fellow, I am a part of the fellowship of the Saints in Caesar's House.* The die has been cast. The decision has been made. I have stepped over the line. I won't look back, let up, slow down, back away or be still. My past is redeemed, my present makes sense and my future is secure. I am finished and done with selfish thinking, sight walking, small planning, smooth knees, colorless dreams, tame visions, mundane talking, cheap giving and dwarfed goals.

I no longer need preeminence, prosperity, position, promotions, plaudits or popularity. I don't have to be right, first, tops, recognized, praised, regarded or rewarded. I now walk by faith, live by prayer and labor with power.

My face is set, my gait is fast, my goal is equality, my companions are few, my vision is reliable and my mission is clear. I cannot be bought, compromised, detoured, lured away, turned back, deluded or delayed. I will not flinch in the face of sacrifice, hesitate in the presence of adversity, negotiate at the table of the enemy, ponder at the pool of popularity, or meander on the maze of mediocrity.

About ISAAC

The Institute for the Study of the African-American Child (ISAAC), College of Education, Wayne State University, fosters African-American education and child development through research, dissemination of information, training, community service to parents and clinical services for children. ISAAC strives to expand awareness and understanding of critical issues related to the achievement of African-American children by illuminating policy issues at the local, state and national levels.

I won't give up, shut up, let up, or slow up, until I have stayed up, stored up, prayed up, paid up, and spoken up for the cause of freedom. I am an ISAAC Fellow. I must go 'til equity is won, give 'til I drop, preach 'til all know and work 'til the goal is won.

And when the Sweet Chariot Swings low, no one will have a problem recognizing me. My banner is clear. I am a part of the fellowship of the Saints in Caesar's House.*

— Adapted from Romans 1:16 and The Mission, First Quarter, 1994, NBC.* Rev. Johnny Ray Youngblood, Pastor of St. Paul Community Baptist Church in Brooklyn, N.Y. defines those who work their jobs with a level of consciousness that enhances the situation of African American people as Saints in Caesar's House.

Intellectual Guidance for African-American Children

The mission of ISAAC is carried out through five interrelated areas:

Research

- ❖ Solutions for the African-American achievement gap.
- ❖ **Conference on Research Directions (CORD) (biannual)**
- ❖ Creation of a community of scholars
- ❖ Interest group online communities
- ❖ Working paper postings
- ❖ Visions for Children Preschool Curriculum Project
- ❖ Research agenda collaboration
- ❖ Visions for Children Preschool Parent Curriculum Project
- ❖ Creation of culturally appropriate pedagogy programs

Training

- ❖ **Round Table on African American Education at WSU (annual)**
- ❖ **Round Table on African American Education at NBCDI (annual)**
- ❖ Summer Institute: Best Practices for African American children in school and in the community
- ❖ Wayne State University course offerings
- ❖ Visions for Children Preschool Teacher Training Network

Community Services

- ❖ Educational Aide Society
- ❖ Tutoring
- ❖ Network of social and mental health referrals
- ❖ Electronic grapevine – Sharing Our Stories
- ❖ Achievement gap suburban/private school consultations
- ❖ Cultural Enrichment clearinghouse

Clinical Services

- ❖ Education advocates: Advisors to parents
- ❖ Hoop Dreams: Athletic Advisors

Public Policy

- ❖ Education Watch: Policy monitoring
- ❖ **Public Policy Lecture Series (biannual)**
- ❖ Legal Action
- ❖ **FIGHT:** Community organizing and coalition building for equity and school reform

Save the Dates ISAAC Sponsored Events



5th Round Table on African American Education

The Situation, The Solution, The Strategy

July 17, 2010

Wayne State University



Conference on Research Directions (CORD) The African American Child in School

**The University of South Carolina
College of Education, Co-Sponsor**

May 1- 4, 2011

Hilton Oceanfront Resort

Hilton Head Island, South Carolina

Dr. Gloria Boutte, Schuyler and Yvonne Moore Child Advocacy Distinguished Co-Chair, University of South Carolina

Dr. Susi Long, Schuyler and Yvonne Moore Child Advocacy Distinguished Co-Chair, University of South Carolina

Keynote Speakers:

Dr. Ivory A. Toldson, Associate Professor, Howard University, Howard University, Editor of the Journal of Negro Education, Senior Research Analyst Congressional Black Caucus Foundation. Dr. Toldson is author of *Breaking Barriers: Plotting the Path to Academic Achievement for School-Age African American Males*.

Dr. Vincent G. Harding, Chairperson of the Veterans of Hope Project: A Center for the Study of Religion and Democratic Renewal, at the Iliff School of Theology in Denver, Colorado. Dr. Harding was the first director of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Social Change and of the Institute of the Black World in Atlanta. He chaired the History Department at Spelman College and is the author of numerous publications including *There is a River: The Black Struggle for Freedom in America*.

Round Table Speakers

Dr. Geneva Gay, Professor, University of Washington, Seattle

Dr. James C. Young, Professor, Clark Atlanta University

Dr. Jeanne Middleton-Hairston, National Director of Freedom Schools, Children's Defense Fund

Marvis Cofield, Founder and CEO, Alkebu-lan Village

Hal Smith, Education Director, National Urban League

Dr. Janice E. Hale, Professor of Early Childhood Education, Wayne State University



6th Round Table on African American Education at the National Black Child Development Institute/ National Association for the Education of Young Children Annual Meeting

The Situation, The Solution, The Strategy

November 3-6, 2010

Anaheim, California

www.nbcdi.org/conference

Dr. Janice e. Hale, Professor, Wayne State University
Detroit, Michigan

Other Speakers to be announced:

www.coe.wayne.edu/ISAAC

This meeting will focus on best practices for teaching African American children. Come and hear the latest strategies for teaching African American males. Everyone who is concerned about the academic achievement gap that affects African American children in urban schools should attend. Everyone who is concerned about the assimilation of African American children into suburban and private schools should attend. Activists who want to join the FIGHT for educational equity for African American children in terms of equality of resources and outcomes should attend.



