

WAYNE STATE
UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

**Institute for the Study of the African American Child (ISAAC)
Round Table Program**

**Moving Forward: The Next Civil Rights Frontier
It's Time for a Plan To guide African-American
children's journey through school**



The Situation • The Solution • The Strategy

McGregor Conference Center
Student Center Building
Wayne State University
Detroit, Michigan
July 19, 2008



W.E.B. Du Bois, Ph.D. — 140th Birthday Celebration (1868 – 2008)

The hypnotic Old Testament voice of W.E.B. Du Bois thunders out of David Levering Lewis's (1995) monumental biography like a locomotive under full steam:

We claim for ourselves every single right that belongs to a freeborn American – political, civil, social; and until we get these rights we will never cease to protest and assail the ears of America. The battle we wage is not for ourselves but for all true Americans.

Premier architect of the civil rights movement in the United States, W.E.B. Du Bois was a towering and controversial personality – a fiercely proud individual blessed with the language of the poet and the impatience of the agitator.

William Edward Burghardt Du Bois was born in Great Barrington, Massachusetts, in 1868, three years after slavery was outlawed;

he died ninety-five years later on the eve of the historic civil rights March on Washington. He studied at Fisk University where he entered the African American world; at Harvard where he became the first African American to earn a doctoral degree in 1890 and at the University of Berlin. He elevated the Talent Tenth, established the Niagara Movement for civil rights; and founded the NAACP. **He sparred with the great accommodator, Booker T. Washington, Carnegie and Rockefeller as he rejected their educational agenda for Black Americans.** He wrote pioneering and provocative books, especially *The Souls of Black Folk*, founded and edited the fiery and galvanizing journal *The Crisis*, from whose heated pages scholarship and majestic indignation thundered and flashed across the land for a quarter century. He provided the leadership for the Pan-Africanist movement and protested the brutal treatment of African-American veterans that followed World War I.

David Levering Lewis (2000), the Pulitzer Prize-winning biographer re-creates the second half of W.E.B. Du Bois' charged and brilliant career. Beginning with the return of World War I African-American veterans to the riots and lynching of the "Red Summer" of 1919 and ending with Du Bois' self-imposed exile and death in Ghana forty-four years later.

Lewis chronicles the titanic struggle between Du Bois and Marcus Garvey's "back to Africa" movement and interprets the Harlem Renaissance as a civil rights enterprise masquerading as an arts movement that Du Bois, a movement impresario, soon renounced in search of economic solutions to the race problem. After inspiring millions of black and white readers through the NAACP journal, *The Crisis*, Du Bois left the NAACP in a firestorm of controversy to pursue a politically risky course that took him inside Nazi Germany, the Soviet Union, China and Japan as the major geopolitics of the American Century were taking shape. Leaving historians to absorb the seismic impact of his 1935 masterpiece, *Black Reconstruction in America*, Du Bois looked increasingly to socialism in his search for race solutions after a postwar return to the NAACP which ended with his embrace of the Progressive Party politics of Henry Wallace, a deepening friendship with Paul Robeson, and an expanding circle of friends on the left. Federal indictment as a foreign agent and humiliation followed but failed to silence the prescient voice that would come to inspire new generations with its genius. Had he died at fifty, the great contrarian said that he would have been acclaimed. *"At seventy-five, my death was practically requested."*

*Had it not been for the race problem early thrust upon me and enveloping me, I should have probably been an unquestioning worshipper at the shrine of the established social order into which I was born. But just that part of this order which seemed to most of my fellows nearest perfection seemed to me most inequitable and wrong; and starting from that critique, I gradually, as the years went by, found other things to question in my environment. — W.E.B. Du Bois, *The Autobiography: A Soliloquy on Viewing My Life from the Last Decade of its First Century**

Lewis, David Levering. (1995). W.E.B. Du Bois: *Biography of a race 1868-1919*. N.Y.: Henry Holt and Company.

Lewis, David Levering. (2000). W.E.B. Du Bois: *The fight for equality and the American Century, 1919-1963*. N.Y.: Henry Holt and Company.



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.





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Carol Brunson Day, Ph.D.

Carol Brunson Day is currently the President of the National Black Child Development Institute after serving as the CEO and President of the Council for Professional Recognition from 1985 until 2004. The Council is a Washington, D.C. — based association that serves as the home of the Child Development Associate

National Credentialing program, as well as the National Head Start Fellowship Program. Dr. Day was also the liaison for the international exchange between the schools in Reggio Emilia, Italy and the early childhood community in the United States.

In addition to her impressive scholarly contributions to the field, Dr. Day is recognized as a leader in the field of early childhood education.

Dr. Day sits on numerous national boards and has spoken at conferences and programs across the United States and internationally. She has authored over 25 publications on subjects such as professional development, diversity and multicultural education, and cultural influences on development, with a long history of interest and expertise on African-American culture and heritage.

Dr. Day received a B.A. in Psychology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, a M.Ed. in Early Childhood Education from the Erikson Institute in Chicago and a PhD in Education from Claremont University in Claremont, California.



V.P. Franklin, Ph.D.

V.P. Franklin holds a University of California Presidential Chair and is Distinguished Professor of History and Education at the University of California, Riverside. He also serves as the Editor of *The Journal of African American History* (formerly *The Journal of Negro History*).

Dr. Franklin received his B.A. in History from Penn State University, the Master in Arts in Teaching from Harvard University, and a Ph.D. in the History of Education from the University of Chicago. He has taught in the Boston, Cambridge, MA and Philadelphia public schools and several

universities including Yale, University of Pennsylvania, Teachers College, Columbia University, Xavier University of Louisiana and Dillard. Dr. Franklin has also served as a Scholar-in Residence at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture in New York City.

Dr. Franklin has published over fifty scholarly articles and co-edited numerous books on African American history and education. He is the author of *The Education of black Philadelphia: The social and educational history of a minority community, 1900-1950*; *Black self-determination: A cultural history of African American resistance*; *Living our stories, telling our truths: Autobiography and the making of the African American intellectual tradition* and *Martin Luther King, Jr.: A biography*. He is the co-author of *My soul is a witness: A chronology of the civil rights era, 1954-1965*.



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.





Carol D. Lee, Ph.D.

Carol D. Lee is Professor of Education and Social Policy in the Learning Sciences Program of the School of Education and Social Policy. Her research interests include urban education, cultural supports for literacy, classroom discourse, and instructional design. Her research focuses on the design of curriculum

to support literate problem solving in response to literature.

She is the author of two books, *Signifying as a scaffold for literary interpretation: The pedagogical implications of an African American discourse genre* and *Culture, literacy and learning: Taking bloom in the midst of the whirlwind*.

Professor Lee is active in the school reform movement in Chicago Public Schools. She has worked as a teacher in both public and private schools before assuming a university career. She is a founder and former director of an African centered independent school in Chicago that is 36 years old, New Concept School. She is also a founder of an established African centered charter school, the Betty Shabazz International Charter School, with 3 campuses. She is active in Chicago school reform and engages in professional development activity for teachers both locally and nationally.

Professor Lee received her undergraduate degree in English Education from the University of Illinois at Urbana, a master's degree in English from the University of Chicago, and a Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Chicago.

She is currently President-Elect of the American Educational Research Association (AERA).



Ivory A. Toldson, Ph.D.

Dr. Ivory A. Toldson is an assistant professor of counseling psychology at Howard University and Senior Research Analyst for the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation. Dr. Toldson is the author of *Breaking Barriers: Plotting the Path to Academic Success for School-age African-American Males*, which

analyzes academic success indicators from national surveys that together give voice to nearly 5,800 pupils from schools across the country. *Breaking Barriers* suggests policy solutions that will assist policymakers, educators, school advocates, families and others in enabling African-American males to have greater success in the classroom and afterward.

Dr. Toldson is a Brisbane lecturer and active academic, credited with numerous publications and research presentations in over 20 US states, Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic, Scotland and South Africa. Dr. Toldson has recently been featured on C-SPAN2 Books, and routinely talks on local and national radio programs. Dr. Toldson was named "Young Researcher of the Year" at Southern University and was the feature of the Howard University Quest Magazine article, "Improving the Lives of African-Americans Males in the 21st Century." He won EboNetwork's Changing Faces award for outstanding literary achievement for is novel, *Black Sheep: When the American Dream Becomes a Black Man's Nightmare*. He was the fourth recipient of the prestigious DuBois Fellowship from the US Department of Justice. He received a Ph.D. from Temple University, and has held teaching and research positions at Emory, Drexel and Southern University. Dr. Toldson currently lives in Washington, DC with his wife Marshella and his daughter Makena.



William H. Watkins, Ph.D.

William "Bill" Watkins was born in Harlem, New York and raised in South-Central Los Angeles. A former high school teacher, he completed the Ph.D. in 1986, University of Illinois at Chicago. Bill served on the College of Education and Black Studies faculties at the University of Utah before returning to the College

of Education at the University of Illinois at Chicago in 1995.

Bill is the author of *The white architects of black education*, lead editor/contributor to *Race and Education* and editor/contributor to the book *Black protest thought and education*. His numerous articles, chapters, essays and reviews have appeared in scholarly journals, books, encyclopedias and the popular press.

Bill has presented papers, lectured and traveled widely throughout the world. He has served on numerous editorial boards and held leadership positions in professional organizations. His life's work is devoted to equality, social justice and peace.



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*.



Proceedings

- 8 – 8:30 a.m. Executive Continental Breakfast
- 8:30 – 9 a.m. **Dr. Janice E. Hale**, Professor, Wayne State University, Founding Director of ISAAC, Presiding
Welcome — **Dr. Robert L. Bryant**, President, Wayne State University
College of Education Alumni Association
- 9 – 9:30 a.m. The Mission of ISAAC and the Round Table
- 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. **Keynote Lecture — The Situation**
Dr. V.P. Franklin, University of California Presidential Chair and
Distinguished Professor of History and Education at the University of California, Riverside
Author, Editor of the *Journal of African American History*
“Protecting our Children: Lessons for the Twenty-first Century”
- 10:30 – 10:45 Coffee Break
- 10:45 – 11:45 a.m. Distinguished Moderator-led questioning of the speaker and questions from the audience
Dr. William H. Watkins, Professor, University of Illinois at Chicago
Author of *Race and Education: The roles of history and society in educating African American students*
- noon – 12:45 p.m. Lunch
Meetings of online communities; attendees will select online communities of interest at registration
- 1 – 3 p.m. **The Round Table — The Solution**
- ❖ A panel of nationally distinguished African American education scholars, policymakers and practitioners address the intersection of practice, research and policy as they relate to African American Children
- Dr. Carol Brunson Day**, President and CEO, National Black Child Development Institute (NBCDI)
- Dr. Carol D. Lee**, Professor of Education, Northwestern University,
President-elect American Educational Research Association (AERA)
- Dr. Ivory Toldson**, Assistant Professor, Howard University, Research Analyst,
Congressional Black Caucus Foundation
- ❖ After a brief introduction, each of the panelists makes a statement and responds to questions posed by the Distinguished Moderator
- Dr. James C. Young**, Professor, Clark Atlanta University
Author of *Roots to Wings: Successful parenting African American style*
- ❖ Visionary dialogue regarding research, policy and practice between audience and panel.
- 3 – 3:15 p.m. Induction of ISAAC Fellows
Dr. Janice E. Hale, Professor, Wayne State University, Founding Director of ISAAC
- 3:30 – 5 p.m. **The Charge for Action — The Strategy**
- ❖ Action Group Meetings (1 ½ hours). The audience will be divided into small groups with assigned facilitators for brainstorming, planning and volunteering to work on the Mission of ISAAC. Recorders will prepare edited transcripts of the deliberations which will be posted on the ISAAC website.
- 5 – 8 p.m. Afterglow: Where do we go from here?
Soul Food Jazz Buffet — \$35.00
Jerome Perry Plus Combo and cash bar
- ❖ Opportunity for attendees to mingle informally over food and drinks to discuss issues raised by the Round Table, Lobby McGregor Memorial Conference Center

Tax exempt statement for Round Table program — for the Round Table, \$70 of the \$100 ticket is tax deductible; \$10 of the \$35 Soul Food Jazz buffet is tax deductible.



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In Memoriam

**Asa G. Hilliard, III, Ed.D. —
Baffour Amankwatia II, (1933-Eternity)**

We mourn the passing and celebrate the life of Dr. Asa Grant Hilliard, III, world renowned Pan-Africanist educator, historian, and psychologist. Asa passed from this life on August 13, 2007 in Cairo, Egypt of complications from malaria.

Dr. Hilliard was a multi-disciplinarian whose work in education, socialization, psychology, history and the culture of the African Diaspora impacted people around the globe. Dr. Hilliard was born in Galveston, Texas. He earned the B.A. in psychology from the University of Denver. He later earned a M.A. in counseling and an Ed.D. in Educational Psychology from the University of Denver.

Dr. Hilliard joined the faculty of San Francisco State University and was sent to Liberia, West Africa where he served as Chief of Party for the San Francisco State advisory team, a school psychologist, a consultant to the Peace Corp and ultimately as superintendent of schools in Monrovia. He returned to San Francisco in 1970 and continued working at San Francisco State University as Department Chair, and later Dean of the School of Education.

In 1980, he became the Fuller E. Calloway Professor of Urban Education at Georgia State University in Atlanta, Georgia where he served for 27 years.

Professor Hilliard was a Board Certified Forensic Examiner and Diplomat of the American Board of Forensic Examiners and the American Board of Forensic Medicine. He served as lead expert witness in landmark federal cases on test validity and bias, including Larry P. v. Wilson Riles in California, Mattie T. v. Holliday in Mississippi, Deborah P. v. Turlington in Florida, and also in two Supreme Court cases, Ayers v. Fordice in Mississippi, and Martino v. Ortiz in New York City.

Professor Hilliard served on numerous boards and helped found and/provide guidance for several organizations and conferences. A few were the Black Child Development Institute, The Association for the Study of Classical African Civilizations, the Nile Valley conference at Morehouse College. He designed the approach and selected the essays that appeared in The Portland Baseline Essays, Portland, Oregon. This seminal work represented the first time that a comprehensive global and longitudinal view of people of African ancestry has been presented in public school curriculum.

Hilliard has authored over a thousand publications including journal articles, forwards, magazine articles, special reports, chapters in books and books. Some include the forward to Janice Hale's *Black Children: Their Roots Culture and Learning Styles* and blurbs on her books, *Unbank the Fire and Learning While Black*; *The Maroon Within: Selected Essays on African American Community Socialization*; *SBA: The Reawakening of the African mind*; and *African Power: Affirming African Indigenous Socialization in the Face of the Cultural Wars*.

Dr. Hilliard was married to Patsy Jo Hilliard. They had four children, seven grandchildren and thousands of nieces, nephews and godchildren. If not for his untimely death, he would have been with us today as a speaker at the Round Table.



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.

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.

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.

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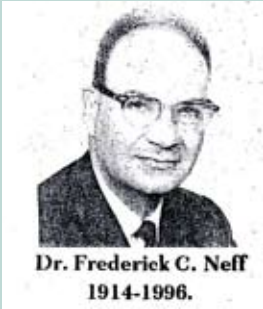
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Dr. Frederick C. Neff

Professor Neff joined the College of Education faculty at Wayne State University in 1959. He served as chairman of the Department of History and Philosophy of Education for 12 years and as professor until his retirement in 1980. Before coming to Wayne State he chaired the Department of Social and Philosophical Foundations of Education at Rutgers University from 1955-59 and taught at Occidental College, UCLA and public schools in California and Ohio. During his career, he held visiting professorships at 10 major universities.

For many years, Professor Neff was one of the best known and most highly regarded philosophers of education in the country. He was a forceful and inspirational teacher who taught his students to examine their assumptions critically, draw their conclusions carefully, and recognize the moral nature of the educational enterprise. Above all, he was a friend to his students and his colleagues and was much loved by them.



Pauline Bergener

The Frederick C. Neff Memorial Lecture in Philosophy and Education has been endowed by a generous gift to the College of Education from Pauline Bergener, a long-time and devoted friend of Professor Neff. Ms. Bergener, now 95 years of age, is one of the few living graduates of all three institutions served by Old Main: Central High School, College of the City of Detroit, and Wayne State University. She was a teacher and principal in the Detroit Public Schools for 49 years until her retirement in 1969.

Save the Date

2nd Round Table on African American Education The Situation, The Solution, The Strategy

Sunday, October 26, 2008
10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Hyatt Regency Hotel
Atlanta, Georgia

Annual Meeting of the National Black Child
Development Institute (NBCDI)

Speaker

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

Moderator

Dr. James C. Young, Professor of
Early Childhood Education
Clark Atlanta University

Round Table Speakers To Be Announced at
www.coe.wayne.edu/ISAAC.

3rd Round Table on African American Education The Situation, The Solution, The Strategy

July 2009
Wayne State University
McGregor Memorial Conference Center
Detroit, Michigan

Speakers To Be Announced at www.coe.wayne.edu/ISAAC.

Conference on Research Directions The African American Child in School

May 3-6, 2009
Hilton Oceanfront Resort
Hilton Head Island, South Carolina

Opening Plenary Session - Dr. A. Wade Boykin, Professor
Cognitive Experimental Developmental Psychology
Executive Director, Capstone Research Institute
Howard University

Closing Plenary Luncheon - Dr. V.P. Franklin, Presidential
Chair and Distinguished Professor of History and Education
at the University of California, Riverside
Editor, Journal of African American History