

*Theorizing
Black
Studies*

**THINKING
BLACK
INTELLECTUALS**

Frederick Douglass Institute
For African and African-American Studies
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Friday, February 5-Saturday, February 6, 2010

“Theorizing Black Studies: Thinking Black Intellectuals”

Friday, February 5-Saturday, February 6, 2010.

Friday, February 5, 2010 - Hawkins-Carlson Room

9:30 am Coffee Service for all conference attendees
in the Welles-Brown Room of Rush Rhees Library.

10:00 -10:15 am Introduction

Grant Farred (Africana Studies & English, Cornell
U.; Editor, *South Atlantic Quarterly*)

10:15 - 10:30 am Welcome to Conference Participants

Tom DiPiero, Senior Associate Dean of Humanities—College of
Arts, Sciences, & Engineering; Professor—Modern Languages &
Cultures, U. of Rochester

10:30 am - Noon Session I: Literature

- Stephanie Li (English, U. of Rochester)
*“Performing Intimacy Using ‘Race-Specific, Race-Free
Language’: Black Private Letters in the Public Sphere”*
- Jeffrey Tucker (English, U. of Rochester)
*“The Necessity of Models, of Alternatives: Samuel R. Delany’s
‘Stars in My Pocket Like Grains of Sand’”*

Moderator and Respondent:

Sharon Willis (Film & Media Studies, U. of Rochester)

1:30 pm - 3:00 pm Session II: Philosophy

- Olúfémí Táíwò (Philosophy & Global African Studies, Seattle U.)
*“‘The Love of Freedom Brought Us Here’: An Introduction to
Modern African Political Philosophy”*
- Grant Farred (Africana Studies & English, Cornell U.)
*“Denn keiner trägt das Leben allein”: The Thought of St.
Augustine*

Moderator and Respondent:

Cilas Kemedjio (Modern Languages & Cultures, U. of Rochester)

3:00 pm - 3.30 pm Coffee Service for all Conference attendees

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm Session III: Cultural Studies

- Ashley Dawson (English, CUNY Graduate Center)
“Climate Justice: The Emerging Movement against Green Capitalism”
- Marlon Ross (English, U. of Virginia)
*“An Anatomy of the Race Icon: Joe Louis as Fetish-Idol in Postmodern
America”*

Moderator and Respondent:

A. Joan Saab (Art & Art History, Graduate Program in Visual & Cultural
Studies, U. of Rochester)

5:00pm Reception in the Plutzik Room (2nd Floor or Rush Rhees Library)
Open to all conference attendees.

Saturday, February 6, 2010 – Hawkins-Carlson Room

10:00 am Coffee Service for all Conference attendees

10:30 am - 12:30 pm Session IV: History

- David Roediger (History & African American Studies, U. of Illinois)
*“A White Intellectual among Thinking Black Intellectuals: George
Rawick and the Settings of Genius”*
- Judith Byfield (Africana Studies, Cornell U.)
“Finding Voice, Giving Voice: Gender, Politics, and Social Change”
- Ben Carrington (Sociology, University of Texas at Austin)
“Improbable Grounds: The Emergence of the Black British Intellectual”

Moderator and Respondent:

Larry Hudson (History, U. of Rochester)

2:00 pm -3:30 pm Session V: Meditations and Responses

- Valentin Y. Mudimbe (Program in Literature, Duke University)
“‘Masques Aux Quatre Points’: A Meditation”

Respondent:

John Michael (English & Visual & Cultural Studies, U. of Rochester)

Moderator:

Victoria Wolcott (History, U. of Rochester)

3:30 pm Closing Remarks:

Jeffrey Tucker (English, U. of Rochester)