



INSTITUTE ON BLACK ANNUAL CONFERENCE

TUESDAY –
WEDNESDAY
FEB. 2–3, 2021

From 9:00 a.m.
To 6:00 p.m.

VIRTUAL EVENT

Understanding
and Addressing
Blackness and
Anti-Black
Racism in our
Local, National,
and International
Communities

INSTITUTE ON BLACK LIFE
usf.to/IBLcon21

WELCOME!

Welcome to the 2021 annual conference of the Institute on Black Life (IBL) at the University of South Florida. Founded in 1986, the Institute continues its core mission to serve as a resource center on the history and culture of the Black experience in the United States and the African Diaspora. Faculty all across the University of South Florida collaborate with the institute to conduct interdisciplinary community-engaged research and outreach programs in our local Tampa Bay African American communities, throughout the African Diaspora and on the African continent. Our students assist in the implementation of collecting and analyzing data. The title of our conference this year is Understanding and Addressing Blackness and Anti-Black Racism in our Local, National, and International Communities. The variety of departments, schools and college-level conference presenters represent shows the importance of taking a multidisciplinary

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Handel Kashope Wright has been variously Canada Research Chair of Comparative Cultural Studies and David Lam Chair of Multicultural Education and is currently Professor of Educational Studies and Director of the Centre for Culture, Identity and Education, University of British Columbia. He is currently Senior Advisor to the President of the UBC system on Anti-Racism and Inclusive Excellence, has served as the Chair of the Race and Leadership Committee and was a founding member and interim executive member of the Black Caucus.

Prof. Wright's community engagement includes service on the Mayor of Vancouver Advisory Committee on Black History Month and the City of Vancouver External Committee on Equity and Diversity. In November 2020 Prof. Wright gave the address at a series of four Forums on Systemic and Other Racisms organized by Vancouver for its 23 municipalities. Prof. Wright is also Senior Associate Professor, Department of Communications Studies, University of Johannesburg, South Africa. He has published extensively on continental and diasporic African cultural studies, studies of education, critical multiculturalism and its alternatives, qualitative and curriculum theorizing, including being a co-author of *A Presence of African Cultural Studies* (Peter Lang, 2004) and co-editor of *Africa, Cultural Studies and Difference* (Routledge, 2011); *Transnationalism and Cultural Studies* (Routledge, 2012); *International Multicultural Education* (Sense, 2012); *The Dialectics of African Education and Western Discourses* (Peter Lang, 2012) and *The Promised Land and Historiography of the Black Experience in Chatham-Kent and Beyond* (University of Toronto, 2014). His work in progress includes two co-edited books on Blackness in British Columbia (Fernwood, forthcoming) and *The Nuances of Blackness in the Canadian Academy* (University of Toronto Press, 2021).

EMCEE: GEVERYL ROBINSON, MFA, DEPARTMENT OF
USF ST PETERSBURG CAMPUS

- 9:00–9:10 a.m. Opening Remarks
Prof. Fenda A. Akiwumi, Director, Institute on Black Life, USF
- 9:10–9:15 a.m. Welcome Remarks on behalf of USF
USF President Steve Currall
- 9:15–9:20 a.m. Welcome Remarks on behalf of USF
USF Provost Ralph Wilcox

PANELS

- 9:20–10:25 a.m. Cultural Heritage and Art in Anti-Black Racism Education
African American Burial Grounds & Remembering Project
Communities Challenging Silenced Histories in Flori& Rem

Storytelling Saves Lives: Challenging the Stigma of Mental Health through Stories from the Black Community.

Dr. Kyaien Conner and Dr. Kristin Kosyluk, Department of Health Law and Policy, USF Tampa campus

Dismantling Drivers of Racial Disparities (DDoRD).

Dr. Denise Davis-Cotton, Director, Florida Center for PAInT, Sarasota-Manatee campus

Moderator: Ms. Abby Vidmar, Ph.D. Student, Department of Anthropology, USF

10:35–11:35 a.m. Health and Healing: Overcoming Challenges from Systemic Anti-Black Racism

Ending Racism to End HIV: A Qualitative Pilot Study to Explore the Impact of Racism and Intersectional Stigmatizing Identities on Black Adolescents Living with HIV in Tampa Bay.

Dr. Tiffany Chenneville, Dr. Kemesha Gabbidon, Department of Psychology, USF St. Petersburg campus, Mr. Hunter Drake, School of Public Health, Ms. Alexandra Cario, Mr. Bernard Washington, Carina Rodriguez, M.D., USF Tampa campus

Black Men for CHAT (Community Healing through Activist Transformation) and the Emotional Freedom Train(ing): Get on Board!

Prof. Gary Lemons, Department of English, USF Tampa campus, Min. Risasi Milima, Executive Director of the Federation of Mental Health (FMH), Inc., Mr. Marques A. Clark, Ms. Briget Home, Ms. M. Romigh, and Mr. Christopher Glass

The BEST Way to Support Black Men/Youth in Medical and Healthcare Fields.

Moderator Mr. John Pendygraft, Ph.D. student, Dept. of Anthropology, USF

12:50–1:50 p.m. BREAK FOR LUNCH

1:50–1:55 p.m. Introduction of Keynote Speaker
Dean Eric Eisenberg, College of Arts and Sciences, USF

1:55–3:00 p.m. KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Professor Handel Kashope Wright, Director of Centre for Culture, Identity and Education, The University of British Columbia Vancouver
TITLE: “We The North!” The Insufficiency of Anti-Racism and the Urgency of Black Canadian Studies.

3:10–4:10 p.m. Racial Disparities in Education: Challenges, Innovative Strategies and Opportunities

A Strengths-Based Approach to Addressing Racial Challenges Impacting Black Students.

Ms. Ruby Joseph, MPA, Florida Center for Inclusive Communities, USF, Prof. Fenda Akiwumi, Institute on Black Life, Dr. LaToya Thomas, Office of Student Success, Ms. Rene Anderson, Ms. Angela Vatalaro, Florida Center for Inclusive Communities, Richard Briscoe, Retired USF Assistant Professor, and Mr. Coney Jr., Corporations to Develop Communities of Tampa Bay

Racism in School Exclusionary Suspensions (RISES).

Prof. Brenda Walker, College of Education, USF St. Petersburg campus

Engineering Identity Development of Black Teachers and Students Through the PHASES of Success Design Process and Affirmation

Resiliency Support Network for Minority Lead Microbusiness
Dr. Matthew Mullarkey, Muma College of Business, USF Tampa

Tier 1 - Game On: Grooming Black Youth for Leadership E
Using Video Gaming.

Dr. Sylva Thomas, College of Engineering, USF Tampa campus

Moderator: Ms. Dawn Brown, School of Social Work, USF

5:20 p.m.

Closing Remarks/Discussant

DAY 2 – FEBRUARY 3

EMCEE: MR. KRISTOFER NEWSOME, PRESIDENT, B
FACULTY AND STAFF ASSOCIATION

10:00 a.m.

Welcome Back and Overview of Day 1

Prof. Deirdre Cobb-Roberts, College of Education, USF

PANELS

10:15–11:15 a.m. Media and Law

Colorism, Police Killings, and Anti-Black Discipline.

Dr. David Ponton III, Africana Studies Program – SIGS, USF
campus

Mad Men: Using Cultural Competency to Reduce Racist P
of Blacks in Advertising.

Dr. Kelly Cowart, Muma College of Business, USF Sarasota
Manatee campus

Argumentation Games to Cognitively Inoculate Against Anti-Black Bias.

Dr. David Ponton III, Africana Studies Program - SIGS, Dr. Joseph Licato and Ms. Lindsay Fields, College of Engineering, USF Tampa campus

Moderator: Dr. Tangela Serls, Department of Women's & Gender Studies, USF Tampa campus

Maternal Health and Family Life

Challenges to Engagement with Parent Education and Early Childhood Programming in a Historically Black Neighborhood

Dr. Anna Abella, Department of Child & Family Studies and Dr. Elizabeth Hordge-Freeman, Department of Sociology, USF Tampa campus

Increasing Job Opportunities for Young Black Fathers to Improve Child and Community Health.

Dr. Ronee Wilson, College of Public Health and Dr. Will Taylor, Department of Sociology, USF Tampa campus

Exploring Unique Experiences and Needs of African American Black Pregnant Women.

Dr. Vanessa Hux, Morsani College of Medicine, USF Tampa campus

Trauma-informed Infant-Family Mental Health: Expanding a Community Agency Collaborative to Address Anti-Black Bias.

BREAK FOR LUNCH

Dr. Ruthmae Sears, College of Education
Prof. Maya Trivedi, Department of Civil and Environmental
Engineering

Moderator Prof. Fenda Akiwumi, Director, Institute on Black

THANK YOU!

I want to take a moment to express my sincere gratitude to all of our sponsors for their support of this event. Furthermore, I want to extend a very special thanks to the Ivor Foundation, the University of Tampa Bay and the Helios Education Foundation. Because of their support, USF is able to help more first-generation, low-income, and minority students earn a postsecondary degree, and, develop important scholarly research and service projects in areas affecting and important to the Black and African American community.

We are so grateful for their support of the Institute on Black Life's mission of advancing our message within and beyond the community.

To all of our sponsors, your support of this Institute, its goals, and USF students has made the world a better place to me, and I am grateful for your continued generosity.

- Fenda A. Akiwumi, Ph.D.
Director, Institute on Black Life

EVENT SPONSORS:

USF SPONSORS:

Department of Anthropology
Institute for the Advanced Study of Culture & the Environment
School of Geosciences
Office of Student Success
Institute for the Study of Latin America & the Caribbean