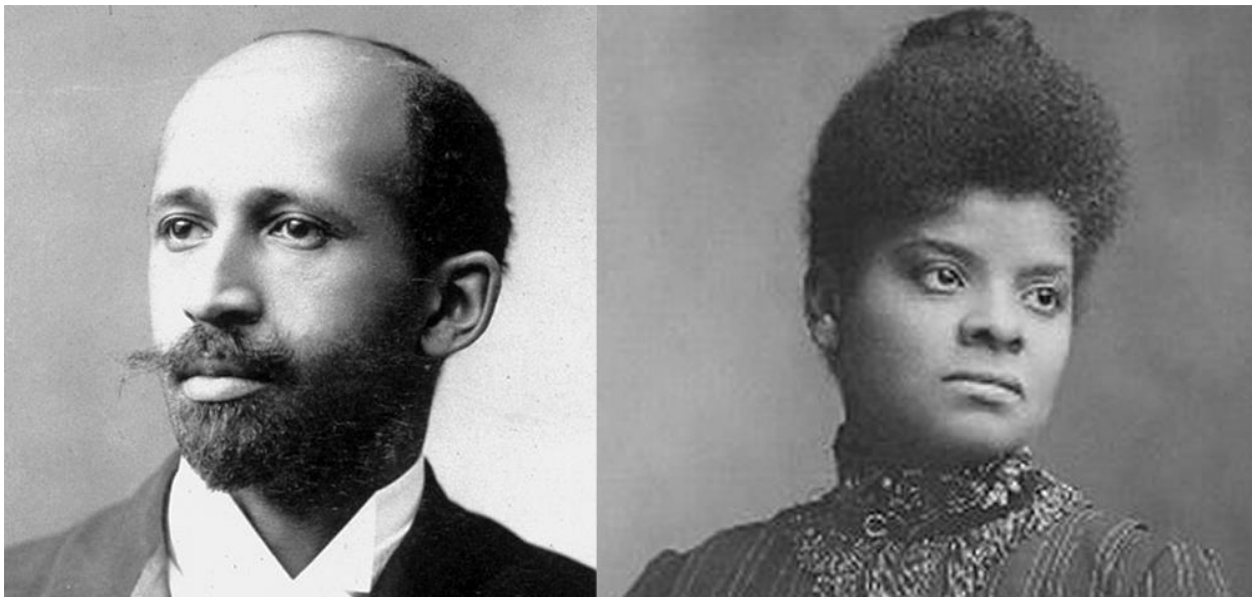




**FIRST ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

**New Perspectives on the Black Intellectual Tradition**



**UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA, CHAPEL HILL**

**MARCH 10-11, 2016**

**HYDE HALL**

**CHAPEL HILL, NC**

## Welcome

The African American Intellectual History Society (AAIHS) welcomes you to the First Annual Conference. Since AAIHS began in January 2014, it has quickly become one of the leading online spaces for dialogue about new scholarship and research methods on the black intellectual tradition. Whether it is the dynamic roundtables on Garveyism and black women's intellectual history, blog posts about the intellectual traditions forged by enslaved men and women, or resources such as the #Charlestonsyllabus and #blackpanthersyllabus, AAIHS has fostered a valuable and innovative online community.

With our inaugural conference, we seek to advance these online conversations in person and foster new and innovative ideas about race and intellectual history. In that spirit, the theme of the conference is "New Perspectives on the Black Intellectual Tradition." The papers and panels featured at this two-day event not only foreground individual and group contributions to black intellectual history, they also offer new approaches to excavating the ideas and philosophies of these black activists and intellectuals across the African Diaspora.

Regardless of your scholarly background or focus, the period of study, or research methodology you utilize, we hope that you will find the conference to be a space to develop personal and professional relationships, explore new pedagogical approaches to black intellectual history, and create new opportunities for professional development. Indeed, the theme of the conference is meant to engender relationships among scholars of global black intellectual history as much as it is designed to explore what makes the black intellectual tradition innovative and unique.

In closing, we would like to thank each of you for joining us for our first conference and for bringing your perspective and expertise to bear on this year's conference theme. It is because of your participation and engagement that AAIHS has grown into a dynamic and multifaceted organization. We look forward to meeting each and every one of you and learning more about your perspective on the black intellectual tradition.

2016 Conference Planning Committee

Ashley Farmer, *chair*

Christopher Cameron

Keisha N. Blain

## Du Bois–Wells Graduate Student Paper Prize

AAIHS recently introduced the Graduate Student Conference Paper Prize named after W.E.B Du Bois and Ida B. Wells. This is the first annual \$100 prize that recognizes the most outstanding paper written by a graduate student at the conference. In addition to a monetary prize, the winner will receive a plaque, a one-year complimentary membership, and a featured spot on AAIHS' blog. We are pleased to present this year's winner, **Jonathan Lande**, and runner-up, **Annalisa Mogorovich**.

**Winner:** Jonathan Lande, “The Black Badge of Courage: The Politics of Freedom and the Memory of Black Soldiers in the Civil War”

Jonathan Lande is a Ph.D. candidate in History at Brown University. He earned his B.A. (*summa cum laude*) from DePaul University in 2010 and his M.A. (*first class honors*) in Modern History from Queen's University Belfast in 2012. His M.A. thesis traced the changing relationship between black abolitionists and July Fourth during the nineteenth century and received Highest Distinction. His Ph.D. dissertation – “Disciplining Freedom: Union Army Slave Rebels and Emancipation in the Civil War Courts-Martial” – offers a new interpretation of the history of black Union soldiers. His forthcoming article – “Trials of Freedom: African American Deserters during the U.S. Civil War” – delves into a part of this story, examining the trials of black deserters and how the courts-martial influenced freedom using the logic of contracts. “Trials of Freedom” will be published in the 2016 Spring issue of the *Journal of Social History*.

**Honorable Mention:** Annalisa Mogorovich, “The Black Cabinet and the Political Challenges of the New Deal: Race, Rights and the Leadership of Mary McLeod Bethune (1936-1943)”

Annalisa Mogorovich is currently a third-year Ph.D. candidate in *History of Societies, Institutions and Thought from Medieval to Contemporary History* at University of Trieste (Italy) where she is working on a research project titled “The African American Intellectual Leadership and the New Deal: The Federal Council on Negro Affairs”. She won the Agostino Lombardo Award in 2014, for the best Master of Arts dissertation in American Studies defended in Italy, with the thesis “The activity of Mary McLeod Bethune in the New Deal: Race, Gender, Leadership” (Supervisor: Professor Elisabetta Vezzosi). She is a member of CISPEA, the first Italian and European inter-university consortium for the study of the history and politics of the United States, founded by US historians to both promoting scholarly research and contributing to the public conversation on the United States and its relationship with Europe.

## 2017 AAIHS Conference

**Keynote Speaker: Davarian Baldwin**

Location: Vanderbilt University (Nashville, Tennessee)

Date: March 24-25, 2017



**Davarian L. Baldwin** is the Paul E. Raether Distinguished Professor of American Studies at Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut. Alongside numerous essays and scholarly articles, he is the author of *Chicago's New Negroes: Modernity, the Great Migration, and Black Urban Life* (University of North Carolina Press, 2007) and co-editor (with Minkah Makalani) of *Escape From New York: The New Negro Renaissance beyond Harlem* (University of Minnesota, 2013). Baldwin is currently at work on two projects, *Land of Darkness: Chicago and the Making of Race in Modern America* (Oxford University Press) and *UniverCities: How Higher Education is Transforming Urban America*. He is also editing the *Encyclopedia of the Harlem Renaissance: Using the Present to Excavate the Past* (Greenwood Publishers) and served as a consultant for the 2014-15 national art retrospective, *Archibald Motley: Jazz Age Modernist*.

## **Thursday, March 10, 2016**

**9:00-11:45am - On-site Registration**

**Location:** Lobby, Hyde Hall

**9:00am- 9:45 am - AAIHS Business Meeting**

**Location:** Seminar Room

• All current members of AAIHS are invited to attend

### **\*\*10:00-11:45pm- Session 1 (Concurrent Panels)**

#### **Performance, Space and Movement in Africa and the Diaspora**

**Location:** University Room

**Chair:** Quito Swan, *Howard University*

**Presenter 1:** Jessica A. Krug, *George Washington University*

- “Fugitive Modernities and the Performance of Self: Fashioning Subjectivities Beyond the State in West Central Africa and the Americas, c. 1594-Present”

**Presenter 2:** Greg Childs, *Brandeis University*

- “Benedicta’s Cabin: Gender, Space, and Rebellion in Late Eighteenth-Century Brazil”

**Presenter 3:** Jessica Marie Johnson, *Michigan State University*

- “Sex and Freedom in a World of Slaves”

**Commentator:** Quito Swan, *Howard University*

#### **W.E.B. Du Bois and American History**

**Location:** Seminar Room

**Chair:** Christopher Cameron, *University of North Carolina at Charlotte*

**Presenter 1:** Edward Carson, *The Brooks School*

- “W.E.B. Du Bois’s Editorial Influence on Negro Migration and the Western Color Line”

**Presenter 2:** Vondre D. Cash, *Texas Department of Criminal Justice*

- “Unresolved Problem of the 20th Century: W. E. B. Du Bois and the Continuing Struggle for the Social Regeneration of African Americans”

**Presenter 3:** Phillip Luke Sinitiere, *Sam Houston State University*

- “Environmental Intellectual: W. E. B. Du Bois and Nature”

**Presenter 4:** John D. Wilsey, *Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary*

- “What, Then, Is The American? Crèvecoeur and Du Bois on American Identity”

## **Nineteenth Century Black Political and Social Thought**

**Location:** **Incubator Room**

**Chair:** **Chris Bonner**, *University of Maryland, College Park*

**Presenter 1:** **Jonathan Lande**, *Brown University*

- “The Black Badge of Courage: The Intellectual History of Black Soldiers in the Civil War”

**Presenter 2:** **Carla L. Peterson**, *University of Maryland, College Park*

- “Rethinking Black Modernity: Urbanity and Taste in the Antebellum North”

**Presenter 3:** **Lacey Hunter**, *Drew University*

- “Made in His Image: The Origins of African American Women’s Jeremiad”

**Comment:** The Audience

**11:45-12:50pm: Lunch Break**

## **\*\*1:00pm - 2:45pm - Session 2 (Concurrent Panels)**

### **Radical Diasporas: Transnational Blackness, Pan-Africanism, and Liberated Spaces**

**Location:** **University Room**

**Chair:** **Adriane Lentz-Smith**, *Duke University*

**Presenter 1:** **Russell Rickford**, *Cornell University*

- “Black Americans and Guyana in the 1970s: Seductions of the Nation-state”

**Presenter 2:** **Quito Swan**, *Howard University*

- “Melanesia’s Way: Black Internationalism in the South Pacific”

**Presenter 3:** **E. Tsekani Browne**, *Montgomery College*

- “Much More than ‘Cold Intellectual Success’: Anna Julia Cooper’s Revolutionary Pan Africanist History in the 19th Century”

**Commentator:** **Adriane Lentz-Smith**, *Duke University*

### **Intellectuals and the Work of Many Freedoms from the Antebellum to the Civil War Era**

**Location:** **Incubator Room**

**Chair:** **Manisha Sinha**, *University of Massachusetts at Amherst*

**Presenter 1:** **Peter Wirzbicki**, *University of Chicago*

- “Alexander Crummell as Philosopher: Slavery, Elevation, and the Creation of Freedom”

**Presenter 2:** **Jordan T. Watkins**, *Utah Valley University*

- “‘Each Name and Every Past Has its Use’: Historical Argument and Appeal in William C. Nell’s Struggle for ‘A Second Revolution’”

**Presenter 3: Justin Leroy**, *University of California, Davis*

- “Frederick Douglass on Slavery and its Afterlives”

**Presenter 4: Kristin Waters**, *Brandeis University*

- “Maria W. Stewart and Black Revolutionary Liberalism”

## **Historical Preservation and Black Intellectual Leadership during the Interwar Period**

**Location:** **Seminar Room**

**Chair:** **Brenda Tindal**, *Levine Museum of the New South*

**Presenter 1: Don S. Polite**, *University of South Carolina*

- “Arturo A. Schomburg: Redefining the Revolutionary Ideology of a Afro-Puerto Rican Historian”

**Presenter 2: Brittany Hall**, *Rutgers University, New Brunswick*

- “A Legacy for the Ancestral Arts: Alain Locke and the Harlem Museum of Art”

**Presenter 3: Annalisa Mogorovich**, *University of Trieste*

- “The Black Cabinet and the Political Challenges of the New Deal: Race, Rights, and the Leadership of Mary McLeod Bethune, 1936–1943”

**Commentator: Brenda Tindal**, *Levine Museum of the New South*

**2:45pm-3:00pm Break**

## **\*\*3:00-4:45pm-- Session 3 (Concurrent Panels)**

### **Roundtable--Edward Wilmot Blyden and the Racial Imagination**

**Location:** **University Room**

**Chair:** **Stephen G. Hall**, *Alcorn State University*

#### **Discussants**

- **Manisha Sinha**, *University of Massachusetts at Amherst*
- **Ibrahim Sundiata**, *Brandeis University*
- **William Seraile**, *CUNY, Lehman College*
- **Teshale Tibebu**, *Temple University*

### **Black Youth and Campus Activism in the Twentieth Century**

**Location:** **Incubator Room**

**Chair:** **Jerry Gershennhorn**, *North Carolina Central University*

**Presenter 1: Paula Austin**, *California State University, Sacramento*

- “I would like to have a room all to myself’: Black Young People and Interiority in Washington, D.C. 1919 – 1942”

**Presenter 2: Lindsey Jones**, *University of Virginia*

- “Reverence and Joy: Religion and Girlhood at the Virginia Industrial School for Colored Girls, 1915-1940”

**Presenter 3: Ibram X. Kendi**, *University of Florida*

- “Black Power and the Redefinition of Racist Ideas in the 1960s”

**Commentator: Jerry Gershonhorn**, *North Carolina Central University*

**Film Screening and Discussion: “Audre Lorde–The Berlin Years, 1984-1992”**

**Location: Seminar Room**

- Discussion led by **Tiffany N. Florvil**, *University of New Mexico*

## **5:00pm-6:30pm Keynote Address**

**Mark Anthony Neal**, *Duke University*

**Title:** "Love in the Stax: Black Nationalism and Rebuilding the Archive in Post Apocalyptic Memphis"

**Location: University Room**

**6:30-6:40pm Du Bois-Wells Graduate Student Paper Prize Winner Awarded**

## **7-9pm: Reception (RSVP Required)**

**Location: R&R Grill, 137 W. Franklin St.**

# **Friday, March 11, 2016**

**8:00-11:45am - On-site Registration**

**Location: Lobby, Hyde Hall**

## **\*\*8:00-9:45AM—Session 1 (Concurrent Panels)**

### **Secularism and Black Intellectual Life**

**Location: University Room**

**Chair: Qiana Whitted**, *University of South Carolina*

**Presenter 1: Christopher Cameron**, *University of North Carolina at Charlotte*

- “The New Negro Renaissance and African American Secularism”

**Presenter 2: David Weinfeld**, *The University of Toronto*

- “Alain Locke's Secularism: Between Universal Religion and Cultural Pluralism”



**Presenter 3: Carla Kaplan**, *Northeastern University*

- “Secular Religions: Harlem’s Competing Passions”

**Commentator: Qiana Whitted**, *University of South Carolina*

### **African Americans and Print Culture in the Civil War Era**

**Location: Incubator Room**

**Chair: Houston Roberson**, *Sewanee: The University of the South*

**Presenter 1: Sarah E. Gardner**, *Mercer University*

- “Reading Clotelle Behind Enemy Lines”

**Presenter 2: Julia Bernier**, *University of Massachusetts at Amherst*

- “‘Published and Sold for the Benefit of his Relations Still in Slavery:’  
Abolitionist Print Culture and the Financing of Compensated Manumission”

**Presenter 3: Jonathan Daniel Wells**, *University of Michigan*

- “African American Periodicals in Civil War Era New Orleans”

**Commentator: Houston Roberson**, *Sewanee: The University of the South*

### **Insurgent Knowledge Production & the Black Radical Tradition**

**Location: Seminar Room**

**Chair: Ashley Farmer**, *Duke University*

**Presenter 1: Orisanmi Burton**, *University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill*

- “Taller Than The Wall: The Green Haven Think Tank’s Radical Prison Praxis”

**Presenter 2: Allison Guess**, *The Graduate Center, CUNY*

- “The Urgent-Insurgent Character of the Black Radical Tradition”

**Presenter 3: Alisha J. Hines**, *Duke University*

- To “Make Her Own Bargains with Boats”: Black Women, Steamboats, and Rival Geographies of the Western River World

**Presenter 4: Jose Romero**, *Duke University*

- “Refusing Solidarity: Black-Brown Pre-Occupations from Mexico to the United States”

**9:45-10AM: Break**

### **\*\*10-11:45AM— Session 2 (Concurrent Panels)**

#### **Global Garveyism: From the Margins to the Center**

**Location: University Room**

**Chair: Claude Clegg**, *University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill*

**Presenter 1: Robert Trent Vinson**, *The College of William and Mary*

- “African “Americans” in South Africa, African American “Zulus” in America and the Global Circuits of Garveyism”

**Presenter 2: Adam Ewing**, *Virginia Commonwealth University*

- “Popular Pan-Africanism: Rumor, Prophecy, and the Routes of African Garveyism”

**Presenter 3: Keisha N. Blain**, *University of Iowa*

- “‘For the Redemption of Africa’: Black Women and the Practices of Garveyism in Chicago, 1932-1940”

**Comment:** The Audience

### **Roundtable--African American Theology: The State of the Field**

**Location:** **Incubator Room**

**Chair:** **Christopher Cameron**, *University of North Carolina at Charlotte*

#### **Discussants**

- **J. Kameron Carter**, *Duke University*
- **Corey D. B. Walker**, *Winston-Salem State University*
- **Lilian Calles Barger**, *Independent Scholar*

### **African American Education: Theory and Praxis**

**Location:** **Seminar Room**

**Chair:** **Sonya Ramsey**, *University of North Carolina at Charlotte*

**Presenter 1: Christina Thomas**, *University of North Carolina at Charlotte*

- “‘What Shall I Teach My Children Who Are Black?’: An Intellectual Biography of Geraldine Louise Wilson, 1931-1988”

**Presenter 2: Elizabeth Baddour**, *University of Memphis*

- “Contextualizing Courage: Juanita Williamson and the Linguistic Turn in Composition”

**Presenter 3: Andrew Rosa**, *Western Kentucky University*

- “Educating for Freedom: St. Clair Drake and the Culture of Rebellion and Reform at Hampton Institute”

**Presenter 4: Paul Harris**, *Minnesota State University Moorhead*

- “The Freedmen's Aid Society and the Development of Black Leadership”

**Lunch Break--11:45-1PM**

### **\*\*1:00-2:45-- Session 3 (Concurrent Panels)**

#### **#Blktwitterstorians and the Work of African American Intellectual History**

**Location:** **University Room**

**Chair:** **Stephen G. Hall**, *Alcorn State University*

#### **Discussants**

- **Aleia Brown**, *Middle Tennessee State University*
- **Joshua Crutchfield**, *Middle Tennessee State University*
- **Robert Greene II**, *University of South Carolina*

### **Space and Intellectual Movement Work in Black Nationalism**

**Location:** **Incubator Room**

**Chair:** **Russell Rickford**, *Cornell University*

**Presenter 1:** **Nishani Frazier**, *Miami University*

- “Cooking With Black Nationalism or You Are What You Eat: UNIA and Women's World Recipes”

**Presenter 2:** **Edward Onaci**, *Ursinus College*

- “Free the Land: The Republic of New Afrika, Nationalist Thought, and Land- based Political Struggle During the Black Power Era”

**Presenter 3:** **Joshua Clark Davis**, *University of Baltimore*

- “Liberation through Literacy: African American Bookstores as Black Nationalist Movement Spaces in the 1960s and ‘70s”

**Commentator:** **Russell Rickford**, *Cornell University*

### **Alternative Perspectives on Black Religion and Identity**

**Location:** **Seminar Room**

**Chair:** **Rhon Manigault-Bryant**, *Williams College*

**Presenter 1:** **Alexandra Hartmann**, *Paderborn University*

- “Overlooked and Underrated: African American Humanism”

**Presenter 2:** **Andre Key**, *Bennett College*

- “Yosef ben Jochannan: The Forgotten Father of Afro-Judaic Studies”

**Presenter 3:** **Sarah Balakrishnan**, *Harvard University*

- “Afrocentrism, Afropolitanism, and the New Politics of Pan-African Identity”

**Comment:** The Audience

### **\*\*3:00-4:45-- Session 4 (Concurrent Panels)**

#### **Howard University and the Roots of an Interdisciplinary African-American Intellectual History**

**Location:** **University Room**

**Chair:** **Barbara Savage**, *University of Pennsylvania*

**Presenter 1:** **Laura E. Helton**, *Pennsylvania State University*

- “Dreaming of the National Negro Museum: Kelly Miller, Dorothy Porter, and the Gendered Space of Race History”

**Presenter 2:** **Celeste Day Moore**, *Hamilton College*

- “Translating the Negro Spiritual: Louis T. Achille, Howard University, and the Archives of Black Internationalism”

**Presenter 3: Rebecca VanDiver**, *Vanderbilt University*

- Art Matters: Howard University and the Birth of African-American Art History

**Commentator: Barbara Savage**, *University of Pennsylvania*

### **New Perspectives on Afro-Diasporic Thought and Praxis**

**Location: Incubator Room**

**Chair: Phillip Luke Sinitiere**, *Sam Houston State University*

**Presenter 1: Tshombe Miles**, *Baruch College, CUNY*

- “Abidas do Nascimento and the Afro-Diasporic Intellectual Tradition: Combatting Racism”

**Presenter 2: Sydney-Paige Patterson**, *Independent Scholar*

- “Illuminating the Unseen: Widening the Boundaries of Blackness to Encompass the Indian Ocean”

**Presenter 3: Vanessa K. Valdés**, *The City College of New York-CUNY*

- “Afro-Latinx Chronicles: The Writings of Arthur Schomburg”

**Comment:** The Audience

### **Black Politics and the Long Civil Rights Movement**

**Location: Seminar Room**

**Chair: William Sturkey**, *University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill*

**Presenter 1: Alec Hickmott**, *Amherst College*

- “A Black Southern Strategy: Land, Racial Equity, and Development in the Shadows of the Sunbelt, 1969-1980”

**Presenter 2: Evan Faulkenbury**, *University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill*

- “After the Act: The Meaning of the Ballot for Southern African Americans after 1965”

**Presenter 3: Robert Bland**, *University of Maryland*

- “Forgetting Forty Acres and a Mule: Black Land Loss, Reparations, and the Memory of Reconstruction in the Post-Civil Rights Era”

**Presenter 4: Hettie Williams**, *Monmouth University*

- “Marion Thompson Wright and New Perspectives on Black Intellectuals in the Civil Rights Movement”

**\*\*5:00pm-6:45pm-- Session 5 (Concurrent Panels)**

## **Black Women and Internationalism during the Twentieth Century**

**Location:** **University Room**

**Chair:** **Keisha N. Blain**, *University of Iowa*

**Presenter 1:** **Zakiya Adair**, *The College of New Jersey (TCNJ)*

- “C’est Si Bon: Black Women, Performance and Black Internationalism in the 20th Century”

**Presenter 2:** **Tiffany N. Florvil**, *University of New Mexico*

- “May Ayim’s ‘Connected Differences’ and International Activism”

**Presenter 3:** **Julia Erin Wood**, *Texas A&M University*

- “‘What that Meant to Me’: SNCC Women, the 1964 Guinea Trip, and Black Internationalism”

**Presenter 4:** **Anne Donlon**, *Emory University*

- “Thyra Edwards’ Scrapbook: A Black Feminist History of the Spanish Civil War”

## **The Black Press as Agents of Black Thought**

**Location:** **Incubator Room**

**Chair:** **Ronald Williams**, *University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill*

**Presenter 1:** **Jane Rhodes**, *University of Illinois at Chicago*

- “The Black Press as Radical Public Sphere: The Competing Visions of Du Bois, Randolph and Garvey”

**Presenter 2:** **Kim Gallon**, *Purdue University*

- “The African in the African American Mind: Text Mining Ideas about Africa in the Black Press”

**Presenter 3:** **Zita Nunes**, *University of Maryland at College Park*

- “Portugal’s Black Press Responds to the Third Pan-African Congress”

**Presenter 4:** **Fred Carroll**, *Elizabeth City State University*

- “Constructing a Progressive Public: Black Journalists, International Reportage, and State Authority in the Mid-Twentieth Century”

## **Race, Performance, and Cultural Production in the African Diaspora**

**Location:** **Seminar Room**

**Chair:** **Rebecka Fisher**, *University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill*

**Presenter 1:** **Jay Garcia**, *New York University*

- “Alain Locke and the “American Temperament”

**Presenter 2:** **Felix Germain**, *University of Pittsburgh*

- “The Political Dimensions of Créolité in the Caribbean”

**Presenter 3:** **A. Lavelle Porter**, *New York City College of Technology (CUNY)*

- “The Artist Denied: The Creative Imagination of W.E.B. Du Bois”

**Comment:** The Audience

## **Closing Social: 8PM**

Top of the Hill  
100 E. Franklin St.  
Chapel Hill, NC

## **Social Media**

The official hashtag for this year's conference is #AAIHS2016. Please visit <http://goo.gl/F2oBYp> for the American Historical Association's informal guide to Twitter best practices and etiquette.