CENTER FOR BLACK STUDIES RESEARCH

ANNUAL REPORT

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The UCSB Center for Black Studies Research has two primary missions:

**Academic Mission**

The academic mission of the Center for Black Studies Research is to support interdisciplinary research on the social, political, historical, cultural, and economic experiences of communities throughout the African Diaspora. The Center is dedicated to developing individual and collaborative research projects by securing and administering grants for faculty and student scholars. The Center also focuses on disseminating new research through a variety of mechanisms: working papers, edited volumes, academic journals, conferences, and colloquia.

**Public Mission**

The public mission of the Center is to support several levels of university–community engagement. First, we are dedicated to creating dialogues within our field and within the university on critical issues confronting our society. Second, the Center administers an educational enrichment program for Black youth in Santa Barbara in addition to cosponsoring cultural activities both in the Santa Barbara community and on campus.
In 2015–16, we continued to develop the Center for Black Studies Research (CBSR) into an important site for the study of Black history and culture, Black community suffering and resistance. Building on the work of past CBSR directors and scholars—and many others in the Black Radical Tradition—we are developing scholarly epistemologies and methodologies that insist on a collaborative process of knowledge production among scholars and community members, activists, and artists. As called for by that history, we focus on issues affecting Black communities, but are never only about Blackness. Instead we frame racial studies in a broader context of systems of oppression impacting multiple communities. We also think with an eye to Black internationalism, while situating ourselves in the local, national, and global contexts. In this moment of heightened social contestations around state violence and racial injustices, we are reminded of W.E.B. Du Bois's call for an “abolition democracy” that requires the dismantling of oppressive laws and significantly also the building of alternative institutions and alternative communities to complete the great task of democracy. In this context, the Center’s work takes on particular urgency.

**Engaged Scholarship Epistemologies and Methodologies**

We introduced the “engaged scholarship” initiative in 2013–14 to develop interdisciplinary research that intertwines academic scholarship and community-based knowledges and practices. Since establishing this initiative, we have obtained a grant from the University of California (UC) Humanities Research Initiative's Public Humanities program to bring the Grammy Award–winning *son jarocho* band Quetzal to demonstrate and articulate the ways in which community-based music making turns into music-based community making through their fandango performance. An earlier grant from the UC Center for Collaborative Research for an Equitable California (CCREC) enabled us to bring together six race-based, equity-oriented community groups in critical dialogue about social movement organizing. We are turning this work into a special issue of the journal *Kalfou* to focus on social justice organizing knowledge emerging from activist practices—work supported by a grant from the UC Center for New Racial Studies.

This past year, a small grant from the UCSB Interdisciplinary Humanities Center, together with another CCREC grant, allowed us to host a weeklong symposium featuring Black Arts poet and organizer Kalamu ya Salaam, former co-director of Students at the Center (SAC) in New Orleans, and distinguished literary scholar Doris Sommer to discuss how they use art and improvisation to promote participatory democracy and civic engagement from New Orleans to Harvard to Bogotá. It is important that our public programming moves us beyond one-time events to build our research initiatives. We are now publishing SAC’s book *Go to Jail: Confronting a System of Oppression*, featuring youth writings on incarceration and race at the infamous Angola prison, literally a slave plantation turned prison, and other prisons in the area. Sommer’s talks and work have inspired further conversation about building community-based arts and humanities pedagogy at UCSB, where the creativity and critical thinking fostered in the public humanities are seen as crucial to collective problem solving and participatory democracy in local communities and beyond.
In this year of the fiftieth anniversary of the Black Panther Party (BPP), we are organizing multiple programs throughout 2016 to critically examine BPP history, its mistakes and inspiration for today's activists.

A grant from the UCLA Institute for Research on Labor and Employment enabled us to develop a study that uses participatory action research and partnerships with community-based organizations to examine domestic care work among immigrant and Black women workers.

**Research- and Community-Based Partnerships**

Part of our commitment to interdisciplinary knowledge production requires building research- and community-based partnerships, including collaborations beyond what is discussed here. Internationally, in early 2015, we became the only US-based Executive Partner of the International Institute for Critical Studies in Improvisation (IICSI) in Guelph, Canada, enabling us to further develop our projects around social movements and improvisation. CBSR faculty George Lipsitz participated in a public policy roundtable hosted by IICSI in Guelph, Ontario, and we received a small grant from IICSI to support a CBSR publication on student writings on imprisonment. We also continued our long and strong relationship with the Haitian Studies Association. This past spring CBSR faculty Claudine Michel delivered a keynote address at the research symposium held for the inauguration of the new Haitian Studies Institute at Brooklyn College (CUNY). Nationally, we partnered with the UC-wide Consortium for Black Studies in California, headed by Robin Kelley, designed to create an infrastructure for collaborative research on topics that include the struggles against racialized violence and anti-Blackness. In February 2016, CBSR faculty George Lipsitz and Diane Fujino participated as speakers in the Center for Collaborative Research for an Equitable California’s conference “Unsetting Research Ethics” to explore ethical issues in collaborative research. Locally, we are strengthening our partnership with La Casa de la Raza, the oldest Latino community and culture center in Santa Barbara, to host a series of programs on art and activism. On campus, we work particularly closely with the MultiCultural Center to develop programs around race and social justice and share a vision of community-based research with the Interdisciplinary Humanities Center.

**Publications**

With stimulating content and clockwork consistency, the CBSR continues to produce its two journals: *Kalfou: A Journal of Comparative and Relational Ethnic Studies*, edited by George Lipsitz, and the *Journal of Haitian Studies*, edited by Claudine Michel. *Kalfou* published vol. 2, no. 2 (Fall 2015) and vol. 3, no. 1 (Spring 2016), showcasing a new level of distinction for the journal with articles on Ferguson by distinguished scholars and activists alike. *The Journal of Haitian Studies (JOHS)* published vol. 21, no. 2 (Fall 2015)—its largest issue ever, marking the hundredth year of the first US Occupation of Haiti (1915–1934)—and vol. 22, no. 1 (Spring 2016)

This past year, articles published by CBSR scholars focus on engaged scholarship, social justice mobilizations, and critical race issues, including the policing and punishment of young men of color, a domestic workers’ Bill of Rights, and the legacy of the 1960s Black movements in today’s freedom struggles. We are pleased to have published writings on the work of the CBSR’s community partners examining the improvisational pedagogy of Students at the Center in New Orleans and the work of the Los Angeles Community Action Network in exposing and resisting the policing of Skid Row.
Public Programming
This past year, we organized twelve CBSR programs and another eleven co-sponsored events around themes of Black freedom struggles, art and the public humanities, democratic education, environmental sustainability, and Haitian studies. We have made a deliberate effort to create an “afterlife” for our public programming such that hosted talks build into programmatic research, grant proposals, and publications. A Center-sponsored talk by Professor Celeste-Marie Bernier on Black art advanced a $200,000 grant proposal submitted to the National Endowment for the Humanities for a summer training institute. Programs on the Black Panther Party developed into a successful grant proposal to the UC Consortium on Black Studies in California to create a multimedia symposium on the role of art in freedom struggles. The CBSR’s 2016 Shirley Kennedy Memorial Lecture presented by Kalamu ya Salaam is leading to the publication of a book of student writings on prisons and race. The talk by Boureima Kabre of Burkina Faso on environmental sustainability, colonialism, and race was part of a series of meetings with scholars, community, and government bodies on the west and east coasts. The musician featured during Haiti Flag Week, Paul Beaubrun, is being invited back as part of next year’s KOSANBA conference at UCSB. In these ways and more, we are developing the Center’s focus on engaged scholarship and African American and diasporic studies.

Funding Opportunities
In 2014–15, the CBSR established two grant programs, one for faculty/scholars and the other for doctoral students, to enrich the quality of interdisciplinary research in Black studies, Afro-diasporic studies, and/or racial comparative scholarship. We were pleased to offer small grants of up to $1,500 each to Professors Nadège T. Clitandre and Claudine Michel for the “Carrefour-Feuilles Neighborhood Redevelopment Project”; Professor Stephanie Leigh Batiste for a project on the “Archives of Violence and Southern California Performance Culture”; Postdoctoral Fellow Dena Montague for the “NSBE Incubator Project”; and Dr. Kiley Guyton Acosta for research on dance in revolutionary Cuba.

Postdoctoral Fellow
In summer 2014, the CBSR appointed its first postdoctoral scholar in a position arising from the work of the Black Student Union’s Demands Team, in conjunction with the CBSR and support from Chancellor Henry Yang and the UCSB administration. Dr. Dena Montague, in the second year of a two-year postdoc, had an article on race in Republican France accepted for publication in Sociological Focus, continued to develop the solar-powered egg-incubator project, and traveled to France and Italy to develop and present her film project, Paris Rebels: Zoulous, Hip hop and Resistance, on anti-Black violence in 1980s–90s Paris.

The Center conducted our second postdoc search, resulting in the appointment of Jannie Scott, who received her PhD in anthropology and African Diaspora studies at the University of Texas at Austin in 2016. Dr. Scott’s dissertation utilized a spatial analysis to examine the community-building activities of African Americans in a historical freedmen’s community in Central Texas during the Reconstruction and Jim Crow periods. Her work combines archaeological, geographical, and historical approaches to the study of Black community development in the face of structural racial inequalities. The CBSR thanks the dedicated Search Committee: Co-chairs Chris McAuley and Diane Fujino; Professors Julie Carlson and Nadège T. Clitandre; and BSU students Javae Valentine and Samantha Brown.
Center Infrastructure and Staffing

We are grateful to Mahsheed Ayoub, who served as our Business Officer for fifteen years, including the past two years part-time (as a recalled employee) following her retirement in summer 2014. With remarkable dedication to the Center, Mahsheed excelled at supporting the Center’s work by nurturing relationships while managing all financial and other aspects of the Center’s functioning.

In the spring, we hired Rosa Pinter as our full-time Business Officer. Rosa brings thirty years of UCSB experience and is managing our Center with great skill, while also bringing a warm and peaceful presence to the office. The CBSR thanks the outstanding Search Committee: Claudine Michel, Rose Elfman, Beverly Lutz, Raphaella Nau, and Diane Fujino, chair.

Our full-time editor, Dr. Rose Elfman, continues her stellar work as the managing editor of the CBSR’s two journals, while also heading up the Center’s website redesign. Jonathan Gomez, graduate student researcher, facilitated the CBSR’s work at the Los Prietos Boys Camp, helped to develop the Transformative Pedagogy Project, and has given talks on the CBSR’s engaged scholarship projects at the MCC’s Social Justice Conference and SBCC’s Just Mercy book series, among other venues. Owing to the excellence of his work, he will continue with our Center in 2016–17. We appreciate the ongoing support that we receive from the Office of Research, the Dean of Social Sciences, and the Chancellor’s office, as well as the ongoing grants management and IT support from ISBER. My thanks go to George Lipsitz, Claudine Michel, Nadège T. Clitandre, Rose Elfman, Mahsheed Ayoub, Rosa Pinter, and Sojourner Kincaid Rolle for contributions to this report.

In closing, I wish to dedicate this Annual Report to former CBSR director Cedric Robinson, whose passing on June 5, 2016, left a huge void for those working within the Black Radical Tradition. I end with the words I wrote on behalf of the Center and posted on our website:

“The world shines a little dimmer today. We will miss Cedric Robinson, a towering intellectual who taught us to think imaginatively and expansively about the forces of racial capitalism and the ferocity of the Black radical tradition. Professor Robinson helped to develop our Center for Black Studies, serving as Director from 1978 to 1987. We extend our condolences and love to Elizabeth and Najda and to all those in Cedric’s orbit, those close and those far who were profoundly influenced by his fierce intellect, political commitments, and humanizing ways.”

Professor Diane C. Fujino, Director
Center for Black Studies Research
September 13, 2016
Engaged Scholarship Initiative and Grants

We see our work as part of the Black Radical Tradition, which understands racism as systemic and institutionalized and recognizes the resilient and creative responses of ordinary people that produce new ways of knowing the world.

Democratic Education and the Public Humanities

In developing our Community Alliance on Democratic Education, the CBSR hosted a weeklong symposium in February 2016, featuring Black Arts poet and organizer Kalamu ya Salaam and innovative Harvard professor Doris Sommer. The work was supported by a small grant from the UCSB Interdisciplinary Humanities Center awarded to Diane Fujino and Esther Lezra and a grant awarded last year from the UC Center for Collaborative Research for an Equitable California. Kalamu ya Salaam brought the work of the Students at the Center in New Orleans to the Santa Barbara campus and community in meetings on campus with (each separately) the CBSR; the Transformative Pedagogy Project; and the English Department’s Literature and the Mind, headed by CBSR professor Julie Carlson; and off campus with (each separately) the Los Prietos Boys Camp and the Don’s Net Café, a leadership development and social entrepreneurial program at Santa Barbara High School. He also made a public presentation at the UCSB MultiCultural Center and engaged in a Community Dialogue at La Casa de la Raza. Students at the Center (SAC), a writing and digital media program, connects predominantly Black and also Vietnamese students in New Orleans’s only two remaining public high schools to histories that are not written down as part of the traditional archives but rely on storytelling to bring them into existence—stories about incarceration, unnatural disasters, and the history of racism in New Orleans. The work of SAC shows the transformative power of writing, of story circles, and of not just consuming knowledge but collectively producing new knowledge on race and resistance through democratic methods of participatory education.

Drawing from her work as director of the Cultural Agents Initiative at Harvard and her book The Work of Art in the World, Professor Doris Sommer explored her efforts to create a public humanities, taking seriously the ways in which civic participation depends on the aesthetic judgments and imagination that art inspires. At her public presentation at the MultiCultural Center and a Public Humanities Dialogue and Planning Meeting held at the Center for Black Studies Research, participants shared the multiple projects already taking place at UCSB and Santa Barbara and were motivated by the imaginative possibilities for pedagogy, research, and community-based practices.
This work has already engendered productive outcomes. Emerging from the partnership between the CBSR and SAC are George Lipsitz's article “Education for Liberation, Not Mainstream Socialization: The Improvisation Pedagogy of Students at the Center in New Orleans,” in Ajay Heble, Mark Laver, eds., *Improvisation and Music Education: Beyond the Classroom* (London: Routledge, 2016) and the CBSR's forthcoming publication of SAC's *Go to Jail* book. Sommer's visit inspired the Interdisciplinary Humanities Center to call a campus-wide meeting to advance their own work on community-engaged arts and pedagogy.

We continued the second year of the CBSR's **Transformative Pedagogy Project** (TPP), an experiment in pedagogy for facilitating democratic participation, reading, and critical discussion around issues of race and social justice. Our group, which consists primarily of undergraduate students but also includes graduate students and faculty, met weekly throughout the winter quarter and for part of spring 2016 to read and discuss critical texts. Our pedagogy is rooted in the story-circle dialogues of the Students at the Center in New Orleans and recognizes the power in witnessing and reflecting on the impact of the spoken word through methods developed by CBSR scholar Chela Sandoval in her SWAPA project. From its inception, the TPP has been committed to engaging the community in our pedagogical projects. This year, the TPP offered an ethnic studies course at the Los Prietos Boys Camp, hosted Poor Magazine and their story circle–based theatre and writing program, and participated in poetry workshops and other projects with El Centro, La Casa de la Raza, and other community groups in Santa Barbara.

**Black Freedom Struggles**

October 2016 represents fifty years since the formation of the Black Panther Party in Oakland. The CBSR is organizing a series of programs to discuss the history and continuing relevance of the 1960s to today's freedom struggles. This coming fall, a Public Events Curatorial Grant from the UC Consortium for Black Studies in California awarded to CBSR faculty Felice Blake and Diane Fujino will enable us to host multiple programs examining the role of art in social justice struggles through the legacy and ongoing work of former Panther artists. The art exhibit, “50 Years and Counting: The Revolutionary Art of the Black Panther Party,” featuring the artwork of *Emory Douglas*, former Minister of Culture of the Black Panther Party, and *Akinsanya Kambon*, pan-African artist and former Panther, will run throughout the fall quarter at the MultiCultural Center. Douglas and Kambon will also deliver a major talk on campus and facilitate an art workshop and activist dialogue in partnership with La Casa de la Raza. In February 2016, *Sekou Odinga*, recently released from prison after thirty-three years, and *Hank Jones*, another former Black Panther political prisoner, spoke to the ideas of “Prisons, Black Panthers, and Abolition Democracy.” In May 2016, CBSR director Diane Fujino led a discussion following the screening of the new documentary *The Black Panthers: Vanguard of the Revolution* at the MultiCultural Center.
Prisons, Policing, and Racialized Violence

In every state and across the nation, Black people are disproportionately imprisoned, policed, and subjugated to racialized violence. Along with Texas, California has the distinction of being the state with the highest numbers of people in prison. This year, we continued our work at the Los Prietos Boys Camp (LPBC), a residential program for teenage boys under the jurisdiction of the Santa Barbara County Probation Department. With leadership and instruction by Jonathan Gomez, CBSR graduate student researcher, and in collaboration with Freedom 4 Youth and Santa Barbara City College, we developed and implemented the first college-credit Chicano-Black Studies course for the high school youth housed at LPBC in winter and spring 2016. This course emerged from the pilot program at LPBC initiated by the CBSR in 2015. The former and current Santa Barbara poet laureates, Chryss Yost and Sojourner Kincaid Rolle, both CBSR Advisory Committee members, are working with the youth of the LPBC to develop and publish a book of poetry reflecting their experiences of imprisonment, race, and other issues. Chryss Yost received a County of Santa Barbara Community Arts Enrichment Grant from the County Arts Commission and the Santa Barbara Bowl Foundation to support publication of this project.

In another way, New Orleans is “ground zero” for the carceral state—it is the city with the highest prison rates in the state, in a state with highest prison rates in the nation, in a nation with the highest prison rates in the world. The CBSR will publish Go to Jail featuring the writings of predominantly Black high school students—work supported by a small grant from the International Institute for Critical Studies in Improvisation awarded to George Lipsitz. In addition, the latest issue of the Center’s journal Kalfou frames policing in Ferguson in the context of structural racism in housing, transportation, and taxation policies and also invites discussions around building social movements.

Race and Environmental Justice

CBSR postdoctoral fellow Dena Montague, in collaboration with the Black Engineering Society, continued to design and build a solar-powered egg incubator to support sustainable economic development in communities in Burkina Faso in West Africa. The CBSR hosted Boureima Kabre, founder of Burkina Énergie & Technologie Appropriées and co-founder (with Montague) of EnergieRich, to speak at UCSB on the issues of environmental and economic justice in Burkina Faso. His talk was part of a US tour that included meetings with the Executive Leadership of the National Society of Black Engineers from the United States and Ghana, an engineering professor at Stanford, and the Center for Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems (CASFS) at UC Santa Cruz.

Haiti Neighborhood Redevelopment Project

This project brings UCSB faculty and students together with Haitian students, scholars, and activists to examine community development in Haiti in the aftermath of the 2010 earthquake. For more, see the “Haitian Studies” section below.

Other Grants

CBSR Advisory Committee member Eileen Boris received a grant from the UCLA Institute for Research on Labor and Employment to develop a study on care work that relies on participatory action research and partnerships with community-based organizations to examine domestic labor among immigrant and Black women workers. Under the auspices of the CBSR, Celeste-Marie Bernier and George Lipsitz, with Esther Lezra, applied for a large grant with the National Endowment for the Humanities to develop a three-week
summer institute for scholars and teachers to study Black visual cultures with a particular focus on the call-and-response relationships between the development, history, practices, and traditions of African American art making in the United States and across the African Diaspora.

In short, through the CBSR’s Engaged Scholarship Initiative, we are developing meaningful relationships with community-based organizations, activists, and artists to examine the knowledge emerging from race-based social justice movements and to create egalitarian collaborations that build the alternative institutions and communities called forth by Dr. W.E.B. Du Bois’s concept of abolition democracy.
Carrefour-Feuilles Neighborhood Redevelopment Project

The Carrefour-Feuilles Neighborhood Redevelopment Project (CNRP) was conceived in 2013 to support development in the underserved community of Carrefour-Feuilles, located in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. Collaborators of the project, which is organized by CBSR Haitian Studies Coordinator and global studies professor Nadège T. Clitandre, have worked consistently to bridge scholarship, public service, and community engagement. After a transformative cross-cultural research and community-based exchange trip to post-earthquake Haiti in June 2015, which offered UCSB undergraduate and graduate students an opportunity to engage with Haitian students and residents of Carrefour-Feuilles, the collaborators of the project and participants of the trip worked together with the two videographers (Enrique Villa and Daisha Jimenez) who documented the trip to produce a four-minute video. It took six months to finalize the promotional video, which was released in January 2016 and is available for viewing on YouTube and the Center’s website. (Here is the link to the video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4bkP5RWdCGQ). The intention of this video is to visually highlight the experiences of the students in order to raise awareness about the project, promote the Center’s work in Haiti, and obtain further funding to continue this important and meaningful work. Collaborators of the project are currently working on an extended documentary that links the efforts of the redevelopment project at CBSR with UCSB’s commitment to public service, the Center’s recent focus on engaged scholarship, and the on-the-ground development efforts in Haiti, wherein the Center has been a strong supporter since long before the earthquake in 2010. The documentary will be framed around the larger dialogue at the Center about historical and contemporary racial, social, developmental, and economic challenges facing communities throughout the African Diaspora. A focus on Haiti continues to provide, as it has for the past twenty years, a specific context and case study necessary to this dialogue at the heart of the Center’s mission. Professors Claudine Michel and Nadège T. Clitandre, the Principal Investigators of this project, are developing a grant proposal for extramural funding.

The redevelopment project was formed partly due to a longstanding relationship with Bibliothèque du Soleil, a community library in the Carrefour-Feuilles neighborhood. This year for the first time, as a result of Bibliothèque du Soleil’s funding constraints, the Center generously offered, through donations from friends of the Center, the necessary funds needed to organize the library’s tenth annual summer camp program, which annually
receives about one hundred members of the community’s youth population. During the capstone presentations to parents, family, friends, and the community at large on Sunday, August 28, organizers and participants of the program generously thanked UCSB, Drs. Charles Nicholson and Judy Hamilton, and the Center for Black Studies Research in particular for their sustained support.

Haiti Flag Week 2016

In collaboration with Sakpase California, Cali Haitians, and the Haitian community of Los Angeles, this year’s ninth annual Haiti Flag Week series commenced with a celebration honoring Haitian Flag Day at Hollywood Park Casino in Inglewood, CA. Hosted by Haitian American artist-activist Ella Turrene and comedian Rich Pierre Louis, the event highlighted the contributions members of the Haitian community in LA make to promote Haitian culture in California.

At UCSB, a performance by Haitian American artist, singer-songwriter, producer, and guitarist Paul Beaubrun was well received by students, who asked a multitude of questions ranging from the status of Haitian artists in the music industry to the artist’s experience in Haiti during the earthquake in 2010. Because Beaubrun’s powerful performance, words, and charisma captivated the students, the Center hopes to invite Beaubrun back in 2017 for Haiti Flag Week’s tenth anniversary.

The series concluded with a talk by Dr. J. Cameron Monroe, associate professor in the anthropology department at UC Santa Cruz, on archeological discoveries at Henri Christophe’s Palace of Sans Souci in Cap-Haitien. With over seventy students in the audience, Monroe enthusiastically welcomed a standing-room-only crowd. It was the first time that Monroe presented on this new research project on Sans Souci, which is designated a UNESCO world heritage site, as well as the results of the on-site geological survey and archeological testing that took place in the summer of 2015. Monroe has recently received a grant from National Geographic for this important and timely work. The Haiti Flag Week series, which began in May 2008, is hosted by CBSR and organized by Professor Nadège T. Clitandre. Co-sponsors of this year’s events include Haiti Soleil, the Multicultural Center, and SakPase California.
KOSANBA Conferences

The CBSR houses the Congress of Santa Barbara (KOSANBA), a scholarly association for the study of Haitian Vodou and culture established at an international meeting held at UCSB in 1997. In conjunction with the twenty-seventh annual conference of the Haitian Studies Association, KOSANBA’s eleventh international conference, Trees Take Us to the Gods: Vodou and Environment, was successfully held on October 20–21 at the University of Montreal and La Maison de la Culture. A special closing session was organized to honor the loss of two of the most important Vodou scholars: founding member Ati Max-G. Beauvoir (August 25, 1936–September 12, 2015), the elected Ati National and head of the Vodou community, and Karen McCarthy Brown (August 12, 1942–March 4, 2015), KOSANBA board member and distinguished scholar of religion (see http://www.research.ucsb.edu/cbs/projects/haiti/kosanba/index.HTML). In celebration of its twentieth anniversary, KOSANBA will hold its next conference at UCSB on April 28–30, 2017, under the theme Vodou for the 21st Century: Ancestry, Modernity, Autonomy, organized by CBSR faculty Claudine Michel.

Haitian Studies Association (HSA)

The link between the CBSR and HSA continues to remain strong. The CBSR once again supported the emerging scholars’ breakfast event at the twenty-seventh annual meeting of the Haitian Studies Association in Montreal, Canada. The CBSR continues to maintain close ties with both senior scholars and emerging researchers whose work engages with Haiti on various platforms that link with the Haitian Studies projects housed at UCSB (see https://www.umb.edu/haitianstudies). CBSR looks forward to again supporting the emerging scholars’ event this November 2016 in Cap-Haitien. There will be special outreach efforts to allow many local university students the opportunity to participate in a large-scale international conference.

Haitian Studies Publications

See section under Center Journals and Books.
Kalfou: A Journal of Comparative and Relational Ethnic Studies

We are pleased with the partnership we formed with Temple University Press, which is publishing the CBSR journal Kalfou. This year, Kalfou has reached a new level of distinction, impact, and influence. The publication particularly of the 3.1 issue in 2016 marks a turning point for this journal—its elevation to a new level of recognition and renown. The issue features an extraordinary article about structural racism in Ferguson, Missouri, by Walter Johnson of Harvard University. Widely acknowledged as the foremost historian of the relationship between capitalism and slavery in the nineteenth century, Johnson here turns his attention to the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, connecting the controversy over the killing of Michael Brown in 2014 to decades and centuries of policies about housing, transportation, taxation, and policing. This article contains the core argument of Johnson’s book in progress on this topic. It is a tremendous coup for our journal to be the venue he selected for its publication. This issue also contains other extraordinary articles including Jody Rios’s analysis of the embodied dimensions of repression and resistance in the Ferguson uprising, as well as a panel discussion bringing Ferguson street activists Tef Poe, Jamala Rogers, and Percy Green in dialogue with Professor Robin Kelley of UCLA and George Lipsitz, editor of Kalfou. Also featured in this issue is a stunning analysis of the impact on community health of hospital building and expansion by universities in Baltimore and Little Rock, written by public health scholars Lawrence Brown, Ashley Bachelder, Marisela Gomez, Alicia Sherrill, and Imani Bryan. Rounding out the issue are a thoughtful engagement with Native American autobiography by Argentinean scholar Márgara Averbach, an impassioned description of mentoring university students of color by University of Florida scholar Paul Ortiz, and a memoir written by Tareian King about her displacement from her New Orleans high school in 2005 because of the effects of Hurricane Katrina. This issue establishes the journal as a unique scholarly resource; it fulfills the potential we envisioned for it as an ethnic studies journal organized around a comparative and relational approach.

The volume with the Ferguson pieces was successful in part because of the credibility established by the previous issue, which featured a piece on art made by Black women in Britain by the celebrated European–American studies scholar Celeste-Marie Bernier, a piece on transnational filmmaking by UCSD professor of history Luis Alvarez, an analysis of activism at the crossroads of race and gender by distinguished UCSB feminist studies scholar Eileen Boris, and an original and generative article about the role of national citizenship in the administration of the US–Mexico bracero program between 1942 and 1966 by UCI historian Ana Rosas. That issue also featured a timely, important, and widely noticed provocation about the Black Lives Matter movement by Robin Kelley, a bracing reflection on scholarly expert witnessing by Pitzer College anthropologist Susan Phillips,
an exploration of the mural art in Los Angeles coordinated by Norma Montoya by UCSB graduate student Jonathan Gomez, and a provocative piece on K–12 teaching by Milton Reynolds of the Facing History and Ourselves organization. One year ago, Kalfou was a promising but unproven journal. Today it is a widely respected focal point for original and generative new scholarship on social identities and power.

**Journal of Haitian Studies**

The Journal of Haitian Studies (JOHS) published volume 21, no. 2 (Fall 2015) and volume 22, no. 1 (Spring 2016). The journal’s strong print and electronic circulation indicate the wide interest in the journal as well as the broad array of scholars who submit their work to JOHS. The journal published its largest issue to date, a special issue commemorating the first US Occupation of Haiti (1915–1934), with contributions by leading scholars such as Alex Dupuy, Robert Fatton Jr., Mary Renda, Brenda Gayle Plummer, and Matthew Smith as well as strong emerging scholars. The volume on this significant event that changed the course of Haiti’s modern history was guest edited by Jeffrey W. Sommers, Ermitte St. Jacques, and Patrick Bellegarde-Smith. The spring 2016 issue included important articles on performative resistance, unsilencing gender and sexuality, language sovereignty, and the challenges of decentralization, as well as a rare piece by agro-economist Alex Bellande (this coming year’s keynote speaker at the twentieth Haitian Studies Association meeting in Cap-Haitien), on international trade and environmental concerns created by the exportation of various types of woods throughout the course of Haiti’s history. http://www.research.ucsb.edu/cbs/publications/johs/.

**Onward! Series (published by the CBSR and the Haitian Studies Association)**

Publications of two books in the CBSR’s Onward! Series are forthcoming this fall. First, the CBSR will publish the reissue (with a new preface) of a rare short biography of Charlemagne Péralte, a hero of the Caco resistance movement who lost his life and was literally “crucified” by the US marines in the fight against the Occupation. Second, we will publish a co-edited volume with essays in both French and English, *Remembrance: Sorrow, Hope, Recovery / Re-mémoire: Chagrin, Souvenir, Espoir*, which chronicles experiences and reflections of women from many different perspectives after the 2010 Haiti earthquake.

**KOSANBA Publications**

Last year we announced the publication of LeGrace Benson’s volume *Arts and Religions of Haiti: When the Sun Illuminates under the Cover of Darkness* by Ian Randall, a leading publisher in Jamaica. The book came out during this cycle of review. The project, which took shape during Dr. Benson’s residency at CBSR as a visiting scholar, resulted from many years of field research in Haiti and in all the major collections of Haitian arts, including the Waterloo Museum, the Davenport Museum, the Milwaukee Museum of Art, the French National Archives, and the Vatican Museum. Benson’s elegantly crafted and thoroughly researched book fills an enormous gap in the literature. It offers a fresh and original approach that does justice to both the art and the worldview behind these extraordinary productions. The book takes an inclusive view of the religions of Haiti from 1492 (including
such faiths as Vodou and Roman Catholicism but also Taino beliefs, Judaism, Islam, and the range of Protestantism), placing the study in historical perspective while also situating Haitian paintings in the modern, international world. Art studies typically take a cursory look at religion as a prevalent theme in Haitian paintings, but none offer the depth of analysis found in this volume. The book takes an all-encompassing position on what constitutes “religious” art and restores the dignity and agency of the artists. Benson is vice president of KOSANBA and the current president of the Haitian Studies Association. The volume appeared under the auspices of KOSANBA and CBSR.

Another co-edited volume, *God in Every Woman*, which discusses gender and sexuality in Haitian Vodou, was completed in 2015 but got expanded this year with the addition of six new original articles and is scheduled to appear soon. Funds from various donors are supporting the translation into French of Karen McCarthy Brown’s seminal text *Mama Lola: A Vodou Priestess in Brooklyn*, 3rd edition, University of California Press, 2011. Award-winning author Évelyne Trouillot is completing the translation this fall. We expect simultaneous publications of the volume in 2017 in Haiti, Canada, and France. Funds continue to be sought for a Kreyòl translation of the book. A special issue of the *Journal of Haitian Studies* will be published in collaboration with KOSANBA in 2017 to mark the twentieth anniversary of the founding of the organization. A number of scholars who are members of the KOSANBA research project are preparing original essays for the volume. We will also accept submissions from the general membership and other authors.

**Other Publications**

Claudine Michel has published “Epilogue: Kalfou Danje. Situating Haitian Studies and My Own Journey within It,” in Alessandra Benedicty-Kokken, Kailama L. Glover, Mark Schuller, and Jhon Picard Byron (eds.), *The Haiti Exception: Anthropology and the Predicament of Narrative* (Liverpool: Liverpool University Press, 2016). The editors of the volume describe the piece as “an unprecedented presentation of the evolution of Haitian Studies in the United States and in Haiti.” The piece also historicizes the many contributions of CBSR to the development of the field.
“Suffering and Sunset: World War I in the Art and Life of Horace Pippin”

November 5, 2015 | 4:00 p.m. | Center for Black Studies, 4603 South Hall

Professor Celeste-Marie Bernier traces the life story of Horace Pippin, a self-made artist and World War I soldier who transformed his combat service into canvases and autobiographies with emotive power, psychological depth, and haunting realism. Bernier illustrates Pippin's status as a groundbreaking African American painter who not only suffered from but also staged many artful resistances to racism in a white-dominated art world.

PANEL DISCUSSION
“Race and Representation: Visual Images of the African Diaspora”

November 6, 2015 | 1:00 p.m. | Center for Black Studies, 4603 South Hall

Moderator: George Lipsitz | Panelists: Earnestine Jenkins and Bill Lawson, University of Memphis; Celeste-Marie Bernier, University of Nottingham; Esther Lezra, Global Studies, UCSB.

“Prisons, Black Panthers, and Abolition Democracy”

February 1, 2016 | 6:00 p.m. | MultiCultural Center Theater, UCSB

A conversation with Sekou Odinga and Hank Jones, moderated by Nia Mitchell of the Black Student Union, Professor David Pellow of the Global Environmental Justice Project, and Professor Diane Fujino of the Center for Black Studies Research. Former Black Panthers and political prisoners Sekou Odinga and Hank Jones speak about prisons, violence against Black communities, and Black liberation struggles—a conversation that connects today's prisons and policing to Black reconstruction through a focus on Abolition Democracy. This was the CBSR's 2016 Clyde Woods Memorial Lecture.
Shirley Kennedy Memorial Lecture
“The Dialectics of Motion: Praxis Makes Revolution”
Kalamu ya Salaam, Students at the Center, New Orleans
February 16, 2016 | 4:00 p.m. | UCSB MultiCultural Center Theater
Poet, writer, filmmaker and arts administrator Kalamu ya Salaam presents a lecture on the pedagogy of Students at the Center (SAC), a writing and digital media program resisting neoliberal education in New Orleans public high schools.

“Community Dialogue on Democratic Education with Kalamu ya Salaam”
February 17, 2016 | 6:00 p.m. | La Casa de la Raza, 601 E. Montecito Street, Santa Barbara
Organized by UCSB Center for Black Studies Research and La Casa de la Raza.

“The Lost Promise of the Humanities: Art, Theater, and Participatory Democracy”
Doris Sommer, Director of Cultural Agents Initiative at Harvard University
February 19, 2016 | 1:00 p.m. | UCSB MultiCultural Center Lounge
Building on the extraordinary intervention made in scholarly and civic life by Doris Sommer’s *The Work of Art in the World*, this talk explores her efforts to create a public humanities, taking seriously the ways in which civic participation depends on the aesthetic judgments and imagination that art inspires. With examples ranging from the artistic intervention by Bogotá mayor Antanas Mockus to reduce violence, to the creative use of books and literature in Lima, to her Cultural Agents project at Harvard, Sommers challenges us to rethink the promise of the humanities as an engagement with the world.

Sommer’s recent work makes a major contribution to what we at the Center for Black Studies Research have been calling “engaged scholarship”: a form of practicing the humanities that brings together social actors, activists, artists, and our communities as researchers, teachers, and students.

“Public Humanities Dialogue and Planning Session with Doris Sommer”
February 19, 2016 | 3 p.m. | UCSB Center for Black Studies, 4603 South Hall
Discussion on how the work Doris Sommer has recently produced on the civic humanities can be engaged by and be useful to the practice of engaged scholarship in the humanities at UC Santa Barbara.
“Getting from internal Colony to Subprime Haven to Circular Economy in Racialized Space: The Logic of Reinvestment vs. the Globalization of Accumulation”

Gary Dymski (University of Leeds) and Melody Chiong (UC San Diego)

February 25, 2016 | 12:00 noon | Center for Black Studies, 4603 South Hall

This presentation focused on two issues in current policy debate: first, how to renew the economic fortunes of communities disproportionately affected by the subprime and foreclosure crises; second, how to “localize” city and regional economies to make them more sustainable and resilient. The second topic, which leads to the idea of a “circular economy,” has received enormous global attention; indeed, “circular economy” was featured as a key element in taking on global warming in the November 2015 Paris climate summit (COP21). Yet the first topic remains off the political map. However, the two topics are linked: contemporary efforts to create localized or circular economies echo debates in the 1970s over whether the political economic fortunes of African American and Chicano/Latino inner-city areas in the United States could be stabilized by internalizing cash flows in the community. Dymski and Chiong’s research shows how understanding the logic of reinvestment is crucial for developing truly inclusive approaches to regional development in the post–subprime crisis period.

“Decolonization and Degentrification Community Dialogue”

May 6, 2016 | 5:00 p.m. | El Centro, 629 Coronel Place, Santa Barbara

An interactive workshop with Poor Magazine/Prensa POBRE, a grassroots arts organization based in Oakland. This workshop covered issues of poverty, houselessness, migration, false borders, criminalization, disability, eldership, and indigenous resistance.

“What is the Future of Appropriate Technology?”

Boureima Kabre, Founder/Director of Burkina Energy and Appropriate Technology (BETA)

May 17, 2016 | 2:00 p.m. | UCEN State Street Room, UCSB

Boureima Kabre is the founder and director of Burkina Energy and Appropriate Technology (BETA), a locally run social enterprise promoting sustainable energy access in rural communities of Burkina Faso, West Africa. BETA has successfully installed over 4,000 solar panels and lamps in rural areas of Burkina Faso. Kabre discussed his efforts to launch local production of renewable energy products as a means of greater economic and gender empowerment in rural communities.
“Paul Beaubrun in Performance: Roots, Rock, and Reggae”
May 17, 2016 | 3:30 p.m. | UCSB MultiCultural Center Theater

Beaubrun, a noted singer-songwriter, producer and guitarist from an eminent and treasured Haitian family of entertainers, performed at the MultiCultural Center to an enthusiastic audience, launching UCSB’s ninth annual Haiti Flag Week. Beaubrun’s music fuses Haitian roots, rock, and reggae to create a soulful sound, with influences from artists as diverse as Boukman Experyans, Fela Kuti, Sade, Angelique Kidjo, Emeline Michel, Jimi Hendrix, and Bob Marley. He is said to embody the “Zing” spirit—a captivating energy and ability to uplift people, to embrace one’s past while living in the present moment and looking forward to the future with hope and determination.

“The Three Phases of San Souci: Recent Archaeological Discoveries at the Palace of Henry Christophe”

Lecture given by J. Cameron Monroe, Anthropology Department, UC Santa Cruz
May 19, 2016 | 3:30 p.m. | SSMS Conference Room 2135, UCSB

The royal palace of Sans Souci was a key component of royal power strategies in the fledgling state that emerged from the Haitian Revolution. Despite the site’s central role in the production of historical memory in Haiti, negligible archaeological work has been carried out to study the building chronology or organization of space. In 2015, an international team initiated geophysical survey and archaeological testing with this goal in mind. Professor Monroe introduced the preliminary results of this fieldwork, revealing a history of settlement extending to the colonial era and providing new insights on the foundations and legacies of this UNESCO World Heritage site.
Cosponsored Events

Inhumanist Biopolitics: Prehensive Gendering in Occupation
Professor Jasbir K. Puar | October 28, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. | McCune Conference Room
2015 Hull Lecture on Women and Social Justice

Dark Matters: On the Surveillance of Blackness
Professor Simone Browne | November 29, 2015 at 3:00 p.m. | SSMS 2315
Sponsored by the Center for Information Technology & Society and Film and Media Studies

WALK WITH US – Commemorative Walk to Kick Off 2016 Martin Luther King, Jr. Events
January 15, 2016 at 12:00 p.m. | The Eternal Flame on the UCSB campus lawn
Organized by the Martin Luther King Jr. Committee of Santa Barbara in collaboration with UCSB Alumni Affairs, the Center for Black Studies Research, and the Department of Black Studies

Malik Seneferu: From the Hill and Beyond
Artist Malik Seneferu | February 2, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. | MCC Lounge
MultiCultural Center event

Racialized Paths to Proletarianization: Myths about Black Economic Competition, Cheap Labor, and White Vulnerability
Professor Tiffany Willoughby-Herard | February 3, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. | HSSB 4041
Sponsored by IHC and History Department

Black Citymakers: How the Philadelphia Negro Changed Urban America
Professor Marcus Hunter | February 11, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. | MCC Lounge
MultiCultural Center event

Rising Higher in Affirmation and Connection
Keynote, Stephanie R. Grant | April 9, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. | Fess Parker Doubletree Resort
Annual African American Women’s Luncheon

Theatre of the Poor/Teatro de los Pobres: Decolonization and Degentrification Seminar
Workshop | May 6, 2016 at 12:00 p.m. | MCC Theater
MultiCultural Center event
The Black Panthers: Vanguard of the Revolution
Documentary Film | Cup of Culture | May 11, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. | MCC Theater
MultiCultural Center event
Post-film discussion led by CBSR Director Diane Fujino

Pilipino Culture Night
Performance | May 7, 2016 | Campbell Hall

Black Graduation
June 11, 2016 | Campbell Hall
Student Research, Outreach, and Mentorship

Student Research and Engaged Scholarship Projects

The CBSR has provided opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students to develop research projects and participate in engaged scholarship initiatives in at least five ways. First, in winter and spring 2016, a dozen undergraduate students, along with a graduate student and three professors, participated in the Transformative Pedagogy Project’s weekly story-circle dialogue session examining the history of Black freedom struggles, generative pedagogical approaches, and critical race studies. Second, several other students, many with Freedom 4 Youth, participated in the CBSR’s Chicano-Black studies curriculum at the Los Prietos Boys Camp. Third, undergraduate students participated in the CBSR project, initiated by Dr. Dena Montague in collaboration with the UCSB Black Engineering Society, to develop solar-powered egg incubators for use in Burkina Faso, West Africa. Fourth, the Center hosted a mock job talk for doctoral student Nathalie Pierre on her dissertation on statecraft in Haiti. Fifth, the CBSR is providing mentorship to doctoral student Jonathan Gomez as he helps to develop the Center’s engaged scholarship initiatives. Finally, we provided mentorship and employment to several undergraduate students. We appreciate Ashley Baker, Mariah Boyd, Brianna Gomez, Kasandra Martinez, Jordan Mitchell, Sally Oh, and Unique Vance for helping us to develop various research and public initiatives at the Center.

Student Outreach and Support

Diane Fujino, Nadège T. Clitandre, and Dena Montague have represented the CBSR in the UCSB Black Resource Committee, formed last year to develop and coordinate services to support and enhance the academic and holistic experiences of Black students. CBSR scholars have also made presentations and otherwise supported Student Affairs’ Clyde Woods Scholar program, designed to provide undergraduate students with academic opportunities that integrate the work of campus departments and faculty in research and mentoring to prepare students for graduate or professional school admission. We further collaborated with the Black Student Union on several projects, including the program “Prisons, Panthers, and Abolition Democracy.”

Anita Mackey Scholarship and Service Awards

The Anita Mackey Service Awards recognize an undergraduate and a graduate student for their outstanding scholarship and social justice work in the past academic year. This year we honor two undergraduate students, Nia Mitchell and Javae Valentine, and graduate student Jonathan Gomez.

Nia Mitchell created her own Interdisciplinary Environmental Justice major that integrates environmental studies, Black studies, and anthropology. As the Political Chair of BSU, she worked in coalition on the successful campaign to win a $25 million UC divestment from private prisons. She traveled to Ferguson as part of BSU’s Alternative Spring Break. She has spoken at UC Regents meetings, served as Environmental Justice Chair of the AS Environmental Affairs Board, worked with SCORE and Students for Justice in Palestine, and participated in the CBSR’s Transformative Pedagogy Project.
Javae Valentine, B.A. in Black studies, worked as a research assistant with Dr. George Lipsitz to study the Black Girls Matter and Say Her Name campaigns. Javae served as co-chair of Black Grad and Leadership Development Chair of BSU at UCSB; before that, she was treasurer of the BSU at Marymount College. She is also active in the Olive Tree Initiative, and was a conscientious member of the CBSR’s postdoc search committee.

Jonathan Gomez, PhD candidate in sociology and with an emphasis in Black studies, combines scholarly study with imaginative ways of working as a Chicano poet. His dissertation examines the work of Chicano muralists and punk rockers in creating social identities, social spaces, and collaborations that resist neoliberal encroachment. He has been instrumental in developing engaged scholarship initiatives on campus and in the community, working in Santa Barbara with Just Communities, El Centro, and others, and in Oakland with Poor Magazine. With the CBSR, he is developing the Transformative Pedagogy Project and offered the first Chicano/Black Studies course for college credit at the Los Prietos Boys Camp.
In accordance with its public mission, the Center facilitates engagement between the campus and the African American community in Santa Barbara through events, partnerships, and the documentation of local histories. This year marked the expansion of previous efforts and the development of new collaborations.

In September 2015, the CBSR community outreach coordinator Sojourner Kincaid Rolle and recent Fielding graduate Cheri Gurse launched Heart to Heart: Race Talk, a small group committed to an open and personal discussion of race. The group’s participants, which include UCSB affiliates as well as other members of the local community, were selected with an eye toward racial, cultural, and gender diversity. A central focus of the Heart to Heart talks is art that explicitly invites exploration of a social justice theme; members attended and promoted attendance to campus lectures and performances. Although the group was originally envisioned as a four-session project, it has continued to meet monthly.

The Freedom 4 Youth program continues to develop collaborations between UCSB student mentors and the Los Prietos Boys Camp. After conducting poetry-writing workshops, the group collected poems from participants and is working to publish them as an anthology.

The Center for Black Studies Research has been a strong supporter of the annual Martin Luther King Day celebration, which draws over 2,000 participants to the annual holiday observance and ancillary events throughout the year. This affiliation produced a particularly significant event this year as the kick-off for MLK Day 2016 was held on campus: “Walk With Us” was a gathering and lunch honoring the newly installed murals commemorating the 1968 takeover of North Hall by Black students. Participants included members of the local clergy as well as campus leaders such as Chancellor Henry Yang and the Center’s own Claudine Michel. Alumni speakers included some of the original student activists who participated in the takeover as well as Black Studies department chair Jeffrey Stewart. Conversation among the activist alumni led to the planning of a more formal reunion and dedication in the autumn of 2016.

Another important aspect of the Center’s relationship with the MLK Committee is its support of the annual Essay and Poetry Contest, which awards cash scholarships to K–12 students in Santa Barbara schools. One of this year’s winners in the essay category had
a special connection to the campus: Kundai Chikowero is the daughter of UCSB history professor Mhose Chikowero (and new CBSR Advisory Committee member) and UCSB librarian Angela Chikowero. In subsequent months, Kundai along with another essay winner, Michelle Yee, read their winning work at the Granada Theater screening of *The Great Debaters* and the Santa Barbara Anti-Defamation League’s annual volunteer event.

As the current poet laureate of Santa Barbara as well as the Center’s community outreach coordinator, Sojourner Kincaid Rolle works to develop and nurture relationships with individuals and organizations throughout Santa Barbara. She was invited to compose a welcoming poem for the incoming Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, Margaret Klawunn, and another for the Forty-Year Anniversary Dinner held by the UCSB Women’s Center. She was the kickoff author for the College of Creative Studies’ Literature Symposium in January and was invited to address the County Board of Supervisors at its annual Proclamation for Black History Month.

Other community events the Center supported included the 5th Annual Luncheon of the African American Women of Santa Barbara County, which featured commercial airline pilot Stephanie Grant as well as State Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson as speakers, and the MultiCultural Center’s program “Standing on the Place Where Langston’s Ashes Reside: An Evening with Poet Laureate Sojourner Kincaid Rolle,” which formed part of the annual Santa Barbara tribute to Langston Hughes. The Center has long been an active supporter of both events.

This year saw the passing of two campus figures who contributed greatly to the Center’s work: professors Cedric Robinson and Otis Madison. Recognizing the important role that the University plays in preserving the history of the African American community, the Center has continued the practice of documenting local voices through its Santa Barbara Video Project and the StoryCorps audio project, both of which are in the editing phase and will soon be available for sharing through the Center’s website.
Grants Received

Felice Blake and Diane Fujino, “50 Years Strong: The Black Panther Party and Arts Activism”

UC Consortium for Black Studies in California, $5,000.

Expressive culture comprises a crucial public sphere for Black people. Black artists have used the creative arts as a means of convening a town meeting that cannot meet anywhere else. They recognize cultural work as one of the few endeavors where it is possible to forge imaginative and ideological critiques of white supremacy and its extensive effects on Black people. Equally important, their work provides visionary approaches to activism and social transformation that illuminate the richness and complexity of Black social life. This project proposes to bring two former Black Panthers to UCSB in order to further the Center for Black Studies Research’s work on art and activism in this fiftieth anniversary of the Black Panther Party. Emory Douglas, former BPP Minister of Culture, travels internationally connecting to grassroots organizations shaping activism through art. Akinsanya Kambon, former Lieutenant of Culture for the Sacramento BPP chapter and creator of the Black Panther Coloring Book, is a powerful pan-African sculptor and visual artist who continues to promote artistic expression and socio-political education. Our proposed public event would bring together these artists, their work, and their engagement in art, education, and activism for a public lecture, exhibition, and workshop on arts activism.

Eileen Boris, “Carework: Beyond the Dichotomy of Public and Private”

UCLA Institute for Research on Labor & Employment, $15,000.

Home care and domestic work remain among the poorest paid occupations, with large segments of these workforces excluded from labor protections and the right to organize. Taking off from Eileen Boris’s previous research into the historical relationship between domestic work and home care, this project investigates the paradox of our contemporary moment: a carework economy, in which commodified social reproduction is essential to the maintenance of capital as well as people, has brought care workers and cleaners together in a shared sector, but law and social policy pulls them apart based on their relationship to the private and public organization of care. Workers and their organizations have responded by creating vibrant coalitions, but we still lack a robust portrait of the similarities and differences between home care and other kinds of domestic workers—especially state-funded home care workers represented by unions and elder care workers belonging to domestic worker and ethnic associations—who may be from the same neighborhoods, families, or ethnic groups or even the same people who move from one part of the carework economy to another. This project turns to participatory action research (PAR) to circumvent some of the problems inherent in reaching a low-waged, predominantly women of color and often immigrant workforce in an informal sector of the economy. It will partner with ethnic and occupational
associations composed of such workers and their friends, families, and co-ethnics to reach into their communities in a way closed to most academic and government researchers due to barriers of class, language, and immigrant status.

George Lipsitz, “Students at the Center Book Launch”


Students at the Center (SAC) is an innovative educational enrichment program that connects classroom learning to the needs and aspirations of the Black communities that its students come from and return to. It uses the “story circle” improvisation pedagogy developed initially by the Free Southern Theatre in its work with the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee in the 1960s freedom movement in U.S. southern states. This student-centered, interactive, and collaborative pedagogy infused with an ethic of co-creation operates by having students read prepared paragraphs on assigned readings, pick two respondents to start a discussion, and then author (and authorize) a collective understanding of how to connect the readers to their situated experiences. Part of the program pedagogy requires the students to participate in social movement activism in their community in organizations working to acclimate returning ex-offenders to the community, to combat environmental racism, and to promote gender justice. The funding from this proposal will help in the promotion and distribution of the book Go to Jail, a volume of student writings about the impact of the criminal justice system on their lives authored by young people who have participated in the improvisation pedagogy classes conducted by Students at the Center in McDonogh #35 and McMain high schools in New Orleans. We will convene a book launch in New Orleans featuring the student-writers, their teachers, and local artists and activists.

Diane Fujino and Esther Lezra, “Democratizing Education: Creating Racialized Spaces of Community Building through Critical Pedagogy, Improvisation, and the Public Humanities”

UCSB Interdisciplinary Humanities Center, $2,000.

This project examines the crucial work of critical pedagogy, improvisation, and art in democratizing education by creating participatory modes of citizenship and community building. We seek to develop new knowledge about the ways in which community groups use art, improvisation, and alternative pedagogies as repositories of collective memory, as sites of political mobilization, and as mechanisms for calling communities into being through performance. Realms of artistic activity that are often relegated to the lower status of community-based art making to us represent instead efforts at art-based community making. This builds on our Engaged Scholarship initiative at the Center for Black Studies Research to develop epistemologies and methodologies based on egalitarian partnerships among scholars, artists, and activists. Through this IHC grant, we propose bringing two speakers for a week-long symposium on democratic education, improvisation, and art in February 2016: the high school pedagogy and community outreach of poet, filmmaker, and music producer Kalamu ya Salaam, co-director of Students at the Center in New Orleans, and distinguished literary scholar Doris Sommer speaking about how she implements her call to revive the humanities through her Cultural Agents pedagogy at Harvard.
CBSR Funding Awards


*Clave y Coro* is a qualitative postdoctoral research project that examines intersections of structural oppression, expressive culture, and community engagement in 19th- and 20th-century Cuba to illuminate the manifold ways these entwined factors impact Black lives in the new millennium. In this study, I employ cultural geographer Clyde Woods’s blues epistemology theory as a framework for examining the ways Afro-Cuban *rumba* music and dance traditions, Yoruba-derived cultural practices, and underground hip-hop continue to build an ethos of decoloniality, survival, and resistance within predominantly Black communities in crisis following the so-called “special period” of economic collapse that plagued Cuba throughout the 1990s. Borrowing Woods’s terminology, I theorize these grassroots mechanisms of empowerment as *rumba* epistemologies. Namely, I endeavor to highlight how *rumba* epistemologies have overwhelmingly been advanced by Black feminist community activists. Undaunted by state censorship, outspoken female leaders direct critical attention to the resurgence of racism in the context of the drastic socio-economic changes occurring in post-special period revolutionary Cuba and advocate for change at the dawn of this new era of immense transition. I am particularly interested in how such Black feminist initiatives help remedy racial discrimination through social action and engagement at the local level, while problematizing Latin America’s steadfast “racial democracy” narrative at the ideological level. Thus, the project incorporates a comparative analysis of Colombia, Brazil, and select regions of the African diaspora in the Americas.


This research investigates lived and textual archives of theatrical interpretations of violence in Southern California communities. Black performance in millennial Los Angeles is a provocation to examine affect, memory, trauma, mourning, creativity, resilience, and grace. I research the spaces between tragedy and transcendence, love and loss defined and navigated in Black urban artistic production. Los Angeles has become a field of danger for young people of color who exist within or along the edge of certain class status, neighborhoods, and social practices of belligerence. This study examines the ways Black Angelenos and others have used practices of performance and community organization to negotiate the pressures of knowing and experiencing home as a crucible of violence. Again (or perhaps continually) framed as presenting or experiencing life as “a problem,” attention to Black urban populations attends overwhelmingly towards the instrumental possibility of “fixing” the problems, sociologically, politically, or otherwise. Empathizing with this impetus and understanding the goals of activists, scholars and local politicians, I seek to locate justice and peace in the city by investigating how Black urban subjects’ art making inflects personal, expressive, and community identity and meaning making. In performance, life, love, and justice are interpreted on art makers’ own terms. Performance heightens affective circulation, creates community, and theorizes identity. In doing these things, Black creative artists and performers also theorize space, feeling, violence, and humanity itself in writing, dance, and drama.

The Haiti Sustainable Development Research Collaborative seeks funding support to develop an interactive and dynamic multimedia database for the Carrefour-Feuilles Neighborhood Redevelopment Project. The database will be used to highlight the mutually beneficial relationship and bidirectional process between the community of Carrefour-Feuilles, Haiti, and the University of California, Santa Barbara. Such a database will include reflections and research papers by the UCSB participants of the first research trip to Haiti as well as documented testimonies of local residents in Carrefour-Feuilles who express the economic and social challenges they face post-earthquake. These testimonies affirm the particular challenges and restraints for intellectual growth and civic engagement among the youth in the community. They are also critiques to the current structure of NGOs and humanitarian aid work in Haiti. Such accounts are crucial to the core objectives of the Haiti Sustainable Development Research Collaborative and its project. The collaborative also seeks funding support to hire an undergraduate research assistant who will investigate how various global communication technologies can make this database more accessible and user-friendly for educational and promotional purposes in both Haiti and elsewhere. The long-term objective is to house this developing database at Bibliothèque du Soleil, the library in the community of Carrefour-Feuilles, and the Center for Black Studies Research at UCSB. The collaborative hopes that ultimately this database will stimulate interest from UCSB to make Bibliothèque du Soleil a sister library. This small grant will establish the database and help further these objectives.


What are creative ways to increase the participation of Black students in STEM fields, foster conversations and partnerships between humanities, social science and STEM fields, and design renewable energy products for viable use in rural communities in West Africa? Funding is requested to sustain a project that was initiated in winter quarter 2014, which provides an opportunity for underrepresented groups in STEM fields to design and develop innovative renewable energy products, requested by local communities, that advance opportunities to establish durable renewable energy and technology access in Africa and the United States. Innovative engineering is necessary to address challenges related to energy access and environmental challenges. Many of these challenges are particularly pressing in low-income neighborhoods and in the developing world. Yet African Americans and Latinos represent only 7% of the entire science and engineering workforce and African Americans represent just 1% of technology startup founders. This project provides an opportunity for underrepresented groups in STEM fields to become engineering innovators. The process of designing and building products allows them to learn about challenges of domestic and international development while designing and building products that will strengthen civil society, provide increased opportunities for education, and reduce the transmission of CO₂.
The Center for Black Studies Research is located in South Hall 4603. Our total assigned square footage is 1,459. We occupy a total of seven offices designated to accommodate the current staff.

### The Center for Black Studies Research

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2015–2016 Publications Issued by: Center for Black Studies Research

BOOKS

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JOURNAL ARTICLES

REFEREED: N/A

CONTRIBUTED:


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Kasandra Martinez, undergraduate student, Office and Project Assistance
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Sally Oh, undergraduate student, Office and Project Assistance
Unique Vance, undergraduate student, Office and Project Assistance
# Statistical Summary for: Center for Black Studies Research

## 1. Academic personnel engaged in research:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Faculty</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Researchers (including Visiting)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Scientists</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialists</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postdoctoral Scholars</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate Researchers</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## 2. Graduate Students:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Employment</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employed on contracts and grants</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed on other sources of funds</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participating through assistantships</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participating through traineeships</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (Special Student Status)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## 3. Undergraduate Students:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Employment</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employed on contracts and grants</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed on other funds</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of volunteers, &amp; unpaid interns</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## 4. Participation from outside UCSB: (optional)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Participation</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academics (without Salary Academic Visitors)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## 5. Staff (Univ. & Non-Univ. Funds):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Technical</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative/Clerical</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## 6. Seminars, symposia, workshops sponsored

- Count: 12

## 7. Proposals submitted

- Count: 5

## 8. Number of different awarding agencies dealt with*

- Count: 5

## 9. Number of extramural awards administered

- Count: 3

## 10. Dollar value of extramural awards administered during year**

- Value: 22,000

## 11. Number of Principal Investigators***

- Count: 4

## 12. Dollar value of other project awards ****

- Value: 50,000

## 13. Number of other projects administered

- Count: 1

## 14. Total base budget for the year (as of June 30, 2016)

- Value: 94,765

## 15. Dollar value of intramural support

- Value: 2,000

## 16. Total assigned square footage in ORU

- Value: 1,459

## 17. Dollar value of awards for year (15-16 Total)

- Value: 74,000

---

* Count each agency only once (include agencies to which proposals have been submitted).

** If the award was open during the year, even if for only one month, please include in total.

*** Number of PIs, Co-PIs and Proposed PIs (count each person only once.)

**** Other projects - such as donation, presidential awards, fellowships, anything that isn’t core budget, extramural, or intramural.