



Crossing Boundaries, Building Connections

- Faith, Scholarship, Activism
- Social Location, Social Differences, Social Justice
- Africa, Europe, the Americas



2017 Conference

Transatlantic Roundtable on Religion and Race
with Howard University's Andrew Rankin Memorial Chapel

Religion, Race, and Contested Globalization



June 28-30, 2017
Washington, DC
Venue: Howard University, Blackburn Center

Social Media Hashtag:
#religionandrace



Conference Schedule At-A-Glance

Mon-Tue, June 26-27: Pre-Conference Program

June 26 8:00 a.m., Leave from Washington area pickup points for Baltimore immersion activities
June 27 8:00 Breakfast and tour, National Museum of African American History and Culture

Wednesday, June 28: Conference Program

8:00 a.m. Registration
9:00 Invocation (The Rev Waltrina N. Middleton, Assoc. Dean Andrew Rankin Memorial Chapel)
Musical Selections
Welcome (The Rev. Dr. Bernard L. Richardson, Dean, Andrew Rankin Memorial Chapel)
9:15 Framing the Context (Professor R. Drew Smith, Co-Convener)
9:30 Plenary Panel 1: Contested Publics and Social Bridge-Building in the Global South
11:00 Break
11:15 Plenary Panel 2: Gender and Generational Oppression in Global Perspective
12:45 Lunch
1:30 Concurrent Panels 01 and 02
3:00 Break
3:15 Concurrent Panels 03 and 04
4:45 Adjournment
Dinner on your own (campus purchase option available)
7:00 Evening worship service, Andrew Rankin Memorial Chapel

Thursday, June 29:

9:00 a.m. Artistic Presentations
9:15 Plenary Panel 3: Global Diversities, Divisions, and Intersections
10:45 Break
11:00 Concurrent Panels 05 and 06
12:30 Lunch
1:30 Plenary Panel 4: U.S. Immigration Policies and Contested Reform
3:00 Break
3:15 Small group dialogues: "Making Connections across the Boundaries"
4:00 Plenary: Dialogue Reports
5:30 Adjournment

Friday, June 30:

9:00 a.m. Artistic Presentations
9:15 Plenary Panel 5: Organizing, Activism, and Black Religion in Trump's America
10:45 Break
11:00 Concurrent Panels 07 and 08
12:30 Lunch
1:15 Plenary Panel 6: Activating Pan Africanism: Cross-National Social Empowerment Initiatives
2:15 Concurrent Panels 09 and 10
3:45 Break
4:00 Plenary Panel 7: Educational Bridge-Building across National and Religious Boundaries
5:15 Plenary: Strategy Discussions and Final Overview
6:00 Benediction

PANELS AND PANELISTS

Plenary Panel 1: Contested Publics and Social Bridge-Building in the Global South

The Honorable Dickson Ogwang, Charges D'Affaires, Embassy of Uganda (Responses to social conflict in Uganda)
Dr. Elias Opongo, Hekima Institute of Peace Studies, Kenya (Regional conflict and contested refugee rights in Kenya)
Dr. Peter Awojobi, UMCA Theological College, Nigeria (Christian-Muslim conflict in northern Nigeria)
Professor T. Derrick Mashau, University of South Africa (Backlash against immigrants in South Africa)
Dr. Zekeh Gbotokuma, Morgan State University (Migrations from Global South to the Global North)

Plenary Panel 2: Gender and Generational Oppression in Global Perspective

Dr. Harold Dean Trulear, Howard University (Country comparisons on incarceration and family/church impact)
Barrister Joy Ogbonnaya, Pleasant Gathering Nigeria (Western value imposition and youth misdirection in Nigeria)
Mr. Michael Okoro, New York University (Globalization, identity formation, and the African child)
Ms. Kimberly Gonxhe, Pittsburgh Seminary (Ideological oppression of black women in the U.S. and Kenya)
Mr. Itumeleng Mothoagae, Univ. of South Africa (South African students, Black Lives Matter, and protest politics)

Plenary Panel 3: Global Diversities, Divisions, and Intersections

Mr. Irving A. Williamson, U.S. International Trade Commission (International economic relations and diplomacy)
Professor Gastón Espinosa, Claremont McKenna College (Latino/a Christianity and social bridge-building)
Dr. Aurélien Mokoko Gampiot GSRL-CNRS Paris, France (Black identity and religious conflict in France)
Mr. Eminike Ubani, Pleasant Gathering, Nigeria (Multi-religious, multi-ethnic problems in Nigeria)
Dr. Michael McCormack, University of Louisville (Building global interfaith relations at the Muhammad Ali Center)

Plenary Panel 4: U.S. Immigration Policies and Contested Reform

Dr. Angelique Walker-Smith, Bread for the World (Facilitator)
Dr. Nana Afua Brantuo, Black Alliance for Just Immigration
Ms. Marcia Johnson-Blanco, Esq., Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law
Bishop Jose Garcia, Bread for the World

Plenary 5: Organizing, Activism, and Black Religion in Trump's America

Dr. Donn Worgs, Towson University (Facilitator)
Mr. Dominic Moulden, ONE DC
Ms. Roz Pelles, Moral Mondays/Repairers of the Breach
Rev. Heber Brown, Pleasant Hope Baptist Church, Baltimore
Mr. Jamye Wooten, Baltimore United for Change

Plenary Panel 6: Activating Pan Africanism: Cross-National Social Empowerment Initiatives

Dr. Ron Daniels, Institute of the Black World 21st Century (Facilitator)
Mr. Don Rojas, Institute of the Black World 21st Century (Work of CARICOM and Natl. Afr. Amer. Reparations Comm.)
Prof. James Early, Regional Articulation of Afro-Descendants in Latin Amer. & Caribbean (Organizing in Columbia)
Mr. Kambale Musavuli, Friends of the Congo (Crisis in the Congo and the destabilizing role of Ugandan Pres. Museveni)
Ms. Emira Woods, Institute for Policy Studies (The vision and mission of Africa risings)

Plenary Panel 7: Cultural and Educational Bridge-Building across National and Religious Boundaries

Dr. Errol Henderson, Penn State University (Racial and religious diasporas as international actors)
Mr. Syed Uddin-Ahmed, St. John's University (Teaching the diversity of Islam in world history)
Rev Ronald Nathan, Ransom AMEZ Church, England (Toward postcolonial theological studies in the UK and Caribbean)
Professor Rothney Tshaka, University of South Africa (Boundary crossing through online and distance learning)

CONCURRENT PANELS

Panel 01: Critiques of Theologically-Framed Subjugations

Dr. Forrest Harris, Vanderbilt University (Racial, religious and ethnic representation within political discourse)
Professor Mokhele Madise, University of South Africa (Historical constructions of race in South Africa)
Dr. Arlean Wells, Union Theological Seminary (Biblical reflections on the imaging of women)
Dr. Susan Smith, Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference (American racism and sacred texts)
Dr. William Ackah, University of London (Struggles for place and space in London's black diasporic communities)

Panel 02: Systems and Structures of Collective Racial-Ethnic Negation

Mr. Syed Uddin-Ahmed, St. John's University (Ethnic cleansing in Burma)
Dr. Tshepo Lephakga, University of South Africa (Poverty and social death in South Africa)
Rev. Themba Ngcobo, University of South Africa (Human dignity and landlessness in South Africa)
Dr. Johnny B. Hill, Clafin University (Theological responses to American white nationalism and neo-fascism)

Panel 03: Latino/a Cross-Racial Coalition-Building

Rev. Michael Mata, Azusa Pacific University
Ms. Aleksandra George, Earthjustice
Mr. Jose Gaona, American University
Ms. Gail Walker, Interreligious Foundation for Community Organization
Professor Gastón Espinosa, Claremont McKenna College

Panel 04: African and Diasporic Religious Expansions

Dr MC Neluvhalani and Prof M Masoga, Univ. of Venda (Migration theory in southern Afr. in historical perspective)
Dr. Andre Johnson, University of Memphis (Bishop Henry McNeil Turner as 19th century globalist)
Dr. Jose Pimienta-Bey, Berea College (Moorish Science Temple and black cultural and religious identity)
Dr. Gabriel Aina, UMCA Theo. College Nigeria (Global impact of Nigeria-based Gospel Faith Mission International)

Panel 05: Religion and Reflections on Violence

Mr. Syed Uddin-Ahmed, St. John's University (1971 Bangladesh genocide by the Republic of Pakistan)
Dr. Errol Henderson, Penn State University (Slave revolts as precedent for Black Lives Matter)
Professor Katie Day, Lutheran School of Theology, Philadelphia (Church responses to gun violence in the USA)
Rev. Godwin Akintola, University of South Africa (Religious violence in Nigeria)

Panel 06: African American Military Intellectuals in the Quest for Freedom

Dr. Le'Trice Donaldson, City University of New York (Racial activism by an early 20th century U.S. military officer)
Dr. Andre Johnson, University of Memphis (Intellectual trajectories and military chaplaincy of Henry McNeil Turner)
Dr. George White, Jr., City Univ. of New York (Black chaplaincy, soldiers, and World War II citizenship struggles)

Panel 07: Theology, Social Resources, and Justice

Dr. Philip Ayodele, UMCA Theo. College, Nigeria (Socio-economic impact of Christ Apostolic Church, Nigeria)
Dr. Tamelyn Tucker-Worgs, Hood College (Spatial injustice, religious landscaping, and the Baltimore uprising)
Dr. Scott Hagley, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary (Contextual theology and neighborhood flourishing)
Rev. Dumisani Methula, University of South Africa (Economic justice in South Africa)
Rev. Kenokeno Mashabela, University of South Africa (Applications of black liberation theology in South Africa)

Panel 08: Religion and Political and Social Policy Engagement

Dr. Donn Worgs, Towson University (Black preachers and intersections of morality and public policy)
Mr. Roger Bauman, Yale University (Factors impacting black church responses to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict)
Ms. Pamela Price, Balm in Gilead (Religious responses to African American health problems)
Dr. Ronald Peters, Presbyterian Church, USA (Recidivism, alienation, and urban community-building in the U.S.)

Panel 09: Black Trauma, Consciousness, and Counter-Narratives

Prof. LDM Lebeloane, University of South Africa (Decolonizing the school curriculum in South Africa)
Dr. Eva Shaw-Taylor, Global Organization for Women and Youth (Black religiosity, self-worth, and identity)
Rev. James Okalo Ekwang, Children of the Nations, Uganda (Ministry to Ugandan youth affected by war & conflict)
Prof. Leah Fitchue, Virginia Union Univ./Ms. Ebony Fitchue, Howard Univ. (Black male youth and invisible harm)
Minister Ericka Elion, Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference (Racial trauma, social restoration, and spiritual healing)

Panel 10: Social Distance, Divisions, and Bridge-Building

Professor Elijah Baloyi, University of South Africa (Enduring divisions in South Africa and reconciliation prospects)
Dr. Hunter Farrell, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary (Global South networks between churches and NGOs)
Bishop-designate Dr. Paul Murray, One Way Church Intl. (Religious commonalities across religious difference)
Dr. Paul Oyeleye, UMCA Theo. College Nigeria (Philosophical foundations for religious peacemaking in Nigeria)
Dr. Charles Brown, Payne Theological Seminary (Structural dynamics of human rights enforcement)

2017 TRRR Conveners and Advisors

R. Drew Smith (USA); William Ackah (United Kingdom); Bernard Richardson (USA) Waltrina Middleton (USA) Yolanda Pierce (USA)
Stephanie Boddie (USA); Jamiye Wooten (USA); Yolande Cadore (USA); Althea Legal-Miller (UK); Itumeleng Mothoagae (South Africa);
Ronald Nathan (Trinidad); Rothney Tshaka (South Africa); Iva E. Carruthers (USA); Mokhele Madise (South Africa);

2017 Collaborating Institutions

