



Our vision is a university community that consistently and enthusiastically fosters, supports and celebrates the achievement of Black employees at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

CBC June Updates “News You Can Use”

CBC Activities

“Walking on Wednesdays (WOW)” – Need an excuse to avoid another late night at the office? Meet and make friends each Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. WOW will gather in the lobby of Woollen (next to Carmichael Arena). Join us as we take gingerly stroll through the beautiful Gimghoul Road (or wherever we feel the need to wander) community chatting about life and the happenings of the day before heading home to eat and sleep. ;) First walk: June 13th. Inclement weather decision made at 3:00 p.m. Contact cbcchair@unc.edu for more details.

CBC HOSPITALITY

Who is new on campus? No one should ever feel isolated. We want to know if there are new hires (faculty, staff, administrators, coaches, post-docs, etc.) or retirements in your unit or department. We wish to welcome them to the university. Send information and your good news to: cbcinfo@unc.edu

Non-CBC Events and News

- ***18th National Health Equity Research Webcast -***
http://www.sph.unc.edu/media/webcasts.html?webcast=2012-06-05_wc1800sd2012

Cedric M. Bright, M.D., F.A.C.P. (Moderator)

Director, Office of Special Programs and Assistant Dean for Admissions, UNC School of Medicine and 112th President, National Medical Association

Speakers: "Social Determinants of Health Disparities: Moving the Nation to Care about Social Justice" - Camara P. Jones, M.D., M.P.H., Ph.D.

Social Determinants of Health and Equity, Division of Epidemiologic and Analytic Methods for Population Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

"Diabetes Among American Indians: A Case Study in Moving from Health Disparities to Health Equity" - Ronny A. Bell, Ph.D., M.S.

Professor, Wake Forest School of Medicine and Co-Director, Maya Angelou Center for Health Equity

"Addressing social determinants through Community-based Participatory Action Research for Community and System change" - Aida L. Giachello, Ph.D.

Professor, Department of Preventive Medicine, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine

- **Thursday June 14 – 6:30 p.m. (Ackland Art Museum) - Discussion of Toni Morrison's 1973 novel *Sula*. Co-facilitated by Dr. Rebecka Rutledge Fisher, Asst. Professor of English & Comparative Literature. RSVP to: acklandRSVP@unc.edu**
- The Southern Historical Collection (SHC) in UNC's Wilson Library invites you to participate in the ***African-American Family Documentation Initiative***. Help us tell all our stories. Here are ways to help: Place family records in the archive for preservation and research. Tell others (friends, family, churches, and local organizations) about the Initiative. Raise awareness of the importance of collecting and preserving our history by hosting events and meetings. Make a donation. Also included in the initiative is the exhibit ***Southern Roots. Enduring Bonds: African American Families in North Carolina***, on view in the Southern Historical Collection (4th floor) through July 1. <http://www.lib.unc.edu/blogs/afam/index.php/african-american-family-documentation-initiative/>
- **The Carolina Club**, the dining and social Club for UNC employees, is conveniently located in central campus on Stadium Drive. The deadline for UNC Employees to join The Carolina Club with no initiation fee and receive a

\$100 dining credit has been extended through June 15th. To learn more about the Club and the benefits of membership, please contact our Membership Director, Vandora Davis '92, at 962-0021 or at vandora.davis@ourclub.com and visit us online at <http://www.carolina-club.com>

- **The Carolina Women's Center** is moving into new offices within the Sonja Haynes Stone Center this July. The CWC will be closer to campus in an effort pursue collaborations with other departments and units on campus. <http://womenscenter.unc.edu/>
- **Carolina Homecoming Weekend** - Nov. 8-11th. If you have not done so already, please take a minute to put this year's Black Alumni Reunion on your calendar. Continue to watch your email for event updates.
- Friday, June 8th (7:30 p.m. at Health Touch, Durham) - **Mama Juggs: The Award Winning Breast Health Show** - <http://www.mamajuggs.com> - Written and performed by Anita Shontel Woodley. Mama Juggs is an intimate performance about women's health and living with breast cancer by channeling the voices of proud African-American women within her family as they struggle with bra stuffing, breastfeeding and last stage breast cancer - all in the context of the social and economic adversity of the Oakland projects. She plays three different characters without the help of costume changes or scene breaks. Woodley wrestles with these issues through a diversity of theatrical styles, including a cappella Negro spirituals, comedy, straight talk, improvisation, and audience interactions. Woodley is an award-winning journalist for WUNC-FM's The Story with Dick Gordon.
- Saturday, June 9th (11:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at the North Carolina Museum of History, Raleigh) - **Healthy Tailgating Cooking Demo, Samples, & Book Signing**. Learn to make easy, tasty snacks with organic, local ingredients at the Celebrate North Carolina Sports event. Linda Watson, author of Wildly Affordable Organic, will talk about making Spicy Black-Eyed Peas, Black Bean Salad with Tomatoes and Roasted Corn, and Chocolate Sweet-Potato Snack Cake. Taste samples and get free recipes. Buy or bring her cookbook for her to sign. Sessions start at 11:30, noon, 12:30, 1:30, 2:00, and 2:30. Free to the public!

A timely and positive response to the negative scrutiny of the African and Afro-American Studies department -

My African Studies experience:

Like Wade Hargrove, chairman of UNC-Chapel Hill's Board of Trustees, I read the recent report of academic fraud at my alma mater with a mixture of disappointment and dismay and outrage. These feelings were compounded by the fact that I am a proud graduate of the Department of African and Afro-American Studies, which was the target of the probe.

When I entered college I was intent on majoring in philosophy and European history. I knew some German and studied a bit of ancient Greek with an eye toward graduate work examining currents in Continental thought. But as I delved deeper into my studies I realized that many of the best scholars who were producing some of the most exciting research worked in the field of black studies. After a few classes the prolific professors and academic rigor of the African and Afro-American Studies Department persuaded me to change my focus.

It is surreal to read a portrayal of my department that breaks so radically from the experience of most graduates. In African and Afro-American Studies I was challenged and mentored. I was alerted to academic conferences and encouraged to attend. I was urged to submit original research papers to scholarly journals. And on several occasions I was invited to dinner with leading historians from places such as Germany or Japan who specialized in the surprising connections between their nations and black America. It was a heady time.

It also is difficult to fathom the abuses described in the report occurring in my classes. To pass off a plagiarized paper to Professor Kenneth Janken one would first have to find a piece of writing with which he is not familiar. That is no small task. And there were many times when I turned in a 10 page paper to Professor Reginald Hildebrand and received 11 pages in comments, questions and corrections. Absentee teachers they were not.

The most painful part of UNC's academic fraud investigation is that a single person, former department chair Julius Nyang'oro, has tarnished the reputation of an entire academic unit of the university. And the report makes this point clear: no other professors or instructors were involved in the scandal.

The other tragedy is that like the Trojan Paris looking for the weak heel of Achilles, there are those who will use one man's transgressions to attack the entire enterprise of black studies. These questioners rarely jab at other centers of interdisciplinary scholarship such as European or Security Studies. But the truth is without bringing together lines of research from across the academy we would not have books that mix history and memoir like Tim Tyson's "Blood Done Sign My Name," or works that complicate our understanding of medical ethics like Rebecca Skloot's "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks," or nuanced examinations of our heroes like Henry Wienczek's "An Imperfect God: George Washington, His Slaves, and the Creation of America."

While not all of these writers work in African-American studies, they all owe a debt to the field.

I did not often encounter Julius Nyang'oro during my days at UNC (apparently, neither did his students). But if his careless, and possibly criminal, actions make a single student doubt the value of a degree in African and Afro-American Studies then it will be difficult for me to forgive his sins. I can promise this to any young scholar who engages with my former professors: You are tapping a rich vein of knowledge. Indeed, for any ability I possess to reason or write today, much of the credit is due to my undergraduate department. Only the mistakes have been mine.

Adam Linker is with the N.C. Justice Center.

<http://www.newsobserver.com/2012/06/02/2104848/my-african-studies-experience.html#storylink=cpy>

Luke Visconti answers THE question again...

Luke Visconti's Ask the White Guy column is a top draw on DiversityInc.com. Visconti, the founder and CEO of DiversityInc, is a nationally recognized leader in diversity management. In his popular column, readers who ask Visconti tough questions about race/culture, religion, gender, sexual orientation, disability and age can expect smart, direct and disarmingly frank answers.



Question: I'm a 21-year-old white male. Why does it seem like I must apologies (sic) for it? I'm not racist, sexist, nor feel any kind of discrimination towards anyone. I respect individuals based upon their character and merit. My parents and extended family share the same attitude and just a few generations ago my family were immigrants to this great country. Why does it seem that many people, like those behind this website and the hypersensitive groups at my University, make the assumption that I have some sort of advantage or I am

given a better opportunity or even that I am prejudice because I'm a white male. I would not really notice race or feel uncomfortable around certain other races if I didn't sense the animosity coming from the other direction.

It's hard out there for everyone, my peers and I will have the same opportunity to achieve success, no matter what race or sex or religion or however else you people categories individuals. It will be based upon our character and merit... that is unless this "diversity" stuff keeps holding all of us back. So I ask again, why does it seem like I must apologies for being a white male?

Answer: If you have a passion in life and are sensitive enough to what is going on around you, patterns emerge to give you clarity. Today, I received your email; yesterday, I was speaking at a conference for the construction trade where I apologized to the mostly non-white crowd when I told them that they, the oppressed, were the ones who had to lead their companies out of oppressive behavior. ... Some non-white people do "play the race card." However, I'll point out that white people "play the race card" every day of

their lives. They may not know it, but they do. Such is the privilege of being white in this country.

The Legacy of Slavery & Racism

The legacy of slavery has benefited every white person in this country—directly and personally. In a very gross analogy, if you run a series of foot races over 300 years but prevent 13 percent of the participants from learning how to run for 180 years and then give them concrete sneakers for another 80 years—but allow them full access for 40 years—it will take the 13 percent quite a few races to be competitive because the other 87 percent advanced their skills by practice and repetition.

Life is not a foot race, but it is a fact that the average white person would not economically benefit from switching places with an average Black person (Black households average one-tenth the household wealth of white households. Click the image above to view additional factoids). If you believe all people are created equal, there has to be a reason for this—and there is: racism.

The core aspect of your ignorance is the assertion that you did not have “some sort of advantage” or that you were “given a better opportunity.” You are profoundly wrong in that statement.

The animosity you sense being directed at you is due to your behavior, which is shaped by profound lack of knowledge and perspective on how our current national situation has come to pass. You dismiss the very thing that shapes your entire life: white privilege. The fact that you think you can describe your life in absence of racial terms is the pinnacle of white privilege.

Read more - http://diversityinc.com/diversity-management/ask-the-white-guy-diversity-and-inclusion-apologize/?utm_source=Genius&utm_campaign=newsletterLuke&utm_medium=DI&utm_content=2012-05-29&mgs1=56b182VZy6

- DPAC - <http://www.dpacnc.com/events>

Sunday, June 17th - Multiple Grammy® award-winner and R&B chanteuse, Anita Baker, is renowned for her soaring alto vocal range, Baker launched her career in 1986 with "Rapture" which won her two Grammy® Awards. She recorded a number of hit singles, including that album's title track and "Sweet Love". She is ranked among VH1's 100 Greatest Women in Rock 'n' Roll. Her newest album, 21st Century Love, is scheduled for release in 2012.



Renew/Join the Caucus at <http://www.unc.edu/cbc/joinform.html>

cbcinfo@unc.edu 919.843.0336

Your CBC Leadership Team

Shandra Jones – Kenan-Flagler Business School

Ursula Littlejohn – Kenan-Flagler Business School

O.J. McGhee – School of Public Health

Verita Murrill – Human Resources

Nakenge Robertson – FPG Child Development Institute

Deborah Stroman – Exercise and Sport Science



New Ambassadors for 2012-13: Aaron Dodson, Morgan Johnson, Kristina Redd, and Taylor Walker.

***"In every community, there is work to be done. In every nation, there are wounds to heal.
In every heart, there is the power to do it."***

M. Williamson