March 5, 2014

Dear Symposium Attendee:

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the fifth Discerning Diverse Voices Communication & Information Sciences Research Symposium. We are glad you are here either as a participant or just an observer. Your participation in this annual event is a strong indication of your own commitment to the ongoing effort of reflecting the reality of an increasingly diverse society. This event, in particular, is targeted at reflecting such diversity in the area of academic research.

I vividly remember preparing and presenting at the very first Discerning Diverse Voices symposium in 2010. Not only was it an opportunity to share my research, but do so in a collaborative way that involved colleagues in at least one other department on the University of Alabama campus. While Discerning Diverse Voices is an event sponsored by the College of Communication and Information Sciences, the participants come from across our UA campus and from other places around the state and nation.

As assistant dean and the College's chief diversity officer, I see this annual event as one of the highlights in the College's ongoing efforts to reflect inclusiveness. Graduate and undergraduate students in our various classes gain experience in presenting their research outside of the traditional classroom. At the same time, the culture for research on diversity continues to grow each year.

Sincerely,

George L. Daniels, Ph.D.
Assistant Dean for Administration
March 5, 2014

Dear Symposium Attendee:

In the College of Communication and Information Sciences, we’re fortunate to have faculty, staff and students who embrace all aspects of diversity in society.

We are offering more classes than ever before focusing on the rich variation in age, ethnicity, race, income, class, ability, gender, sexual orientation and geographic origin present in today’s global environment. Through service-learning classes, students are working with area organizations to reach underserved groups. Faculty are researching wide-ranging topics and sharing what they’ve learned throughout the country and the world. Our outreach efforts from our professional media partners such as WUAL-FM and WVUA-TV and through programs like the Multicultural Journalism Workshop have worked to shed light on the rich tapestry of cultures and outlooks in our communities.

As you can tell, the Discerning Diverse Voices symposium is one of many efforts by the College each year to fulfill our diversity mission. I’m grateful to Dr. George Daniels and the members of the College’s Diversity Forum for their efforts to make this event a success. And I’m grateful to you for your participation. I hope you have a wonderful symposium today.

Sincerely,

Jennifer D. Greer
Interim Dean
Discerning Diverse Voices:
Communication and Information Symposium on Diversity

Schedule of Sessions

TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2014 (Reese Phifer Hall, Room 222)

6:30 p.m.        A Radio Hero’s Perspective
This program on Birmingham’s Black Radio History (1942-1963) spotlights the Early Life and Times of WENN Radio Announcer Paul “Tall Paul” White. The program is presented by Bob Friedman, Project Director and Founder of the Birmingham Black Radio Museum Project.

Moderator: Dr. Robert Riter, School of Library and Information Studies

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 2014 (205 Gorgas)

8-8:30 a.m.      Continental breakfast, registration, and set up for poster session

8:30 – 9:30 a.m. POSTER SESSION

Ashton Morrow, Sex and Cooking Chops: A Content Analysis of two Food Network Shows to Develop an Understanding of Gender Roles and Dominance as Portrayed by the Media, Graduate Student, Department of Advertising and Public Relations

Tatiana Martyshchenko, Manipulating Cultural Identities of Bicultural Individuals, Graduate Student, Department of English

Blake Schneider, Sex, Drugs, and Rock N’ Roll, Graduate Student, Department of Communication Studies

Reginald Allison, Race, Gender, and Reality Television: A Content Analysis of Catfish: The TV Show, Graduate Student, Department of Telecommunication and Film

Emma Yi, Constructed Japanese Culture in American Films, Graduate Student, Department of Communication Studies

Yilan Liao, Look Inside the Culture: An Understanding of China’s One Child Policy, Graduate Student, Department of Communication Studies

Holly Banning, Japanese Interment and Minority Identity Development, Graduate Student, Department of Communication Studies

Jackie Brodsky, Information Technology Learning in Sexagenerian+: Social Supportive Interactions, Doctoral Student, College of Communication and Information Sciences

Megan Whitten, A Comparative Analysis of Cross-Cultural News Media Framing of “Little Boy” and Fat Man,” Graduate Student, Department of Communication Studies

Yizhi Zhang, Language Dominance in Intercultural Communication, Graduate Student, Department of Communication Studies
Ariel Fink, *Examining the Role of Hispanic Women in Television*, Graduate Student, Department of Advertising and Public Relations

Yiyi Yang, *Chinese Students’ Perceptions About Mental Health Problems in an International Context*, Graduate Student, Department of Communication Studies

Kendall R. Mays, *Reporting Rift: Crime News Involving Racial Minorities in Local Broadcast TV*, Graduate Student, Department of Journalism

Jamie Wallmeyer, *Uncovering the Impact of Culture on Campus*, Graduate Student, Department of Communication Studies

9:30-9:45  WELCOME & OFFICIAL OPENING SESSION

Jennifer Greer, Interim Dean, College of Communication & Information Sciences

George L. Daniels, Symposium Coordinator

9:45 – 10 a.m.  Break

10 – 10:50 a.m.  Concurrent Research Paper Session 1

**Diversity: Library Science, Literature and Listening**

(Gorgas Library Room 532)

John T. F. Burgess, *Non-Transgressive Ethics and The Promotion of Diversity in the Information Professions*, Instructor, School of Library and Information Studies

Scott A. Morton, *Puerto Rico in Academic Scholarship: A Literature Review*, Doctoral Student, College of Communication and Information Sciences

Rita Jones, *Cultural Silence of the Civil Rights Era: America, Are We Listening Now?*, Graduate Student, Communication Studies

Moderator:  Jamon Smith, Department of Journalism

10 – 10:50 a.m.  Concurrent Research Paper Session 2

**Diversity and Representation**

(Gorgas Library Room 537)

Yiyi Yang, *Gendered Portrayals of Mental Health and Mental Illness in Popular Magazines in the United States*, Graduate Student, Department of Communication Studies

Colin Whitworth, *(Not) Just Like the Other Horses: Marginalization Rhetoric in Tennessee Williams’ The Glass Menagerie*, Graduate Student, Department of Communication Studies


Moderator:  Caroline Parsons, Department of Communication Studies
10:50 – 11:00 a.m. Break

11:00 – 11:50 a.m. ROUNDTABLE: UA Culture and Diversity: Enhancing Understanding via Intra and Interdisciplinary Dialogue

Participants/Initial Presentations:
Meredith Bagley, Faculty Department of Communication Studies, University of Alabama (Co-Convener)
Presentation: “Concordance versus Hegemonic Strategies for Change”

Mary Meares, Faculty, Department of Communication Studies, University of Alabama (Co-Convener)
Presentation: “Intercultural Sensitivity and Organizational Change”

Adam Sharples, Doctoral Student, Communication & Information Sciences
Presentation: “Civility Versus Freedom of Speech”

Mary Sellers Shaw, UA Honors College; Sarah E. Tooker, Undergraduate Student, Communication Studies; Haley White, Undergraduate Student, Communication Studies
Presentation: “A Campus Culture: Addressing Diversity Issues in the University Greek System”

Katie Gianturco, Undergraduate Student
Presentation: “Analyzing Dr. Bonner’s Framing Strategies Around Diversity”

12:00 – 12:50 p.m. Lunch provided for all participants

LUNCH SCREENING: Radio and Civil Rights Projects
“Bloody Tuesday”
Pamela Tran, Faculty, Department of Telecommunication and Film

“Civil Rights Tourism”
Stan Ingold, Alabama Public Radio

“Meet Alabama's First Black Athlete”
Rich Robinson, Student, Department of Telecommunication and Film

Moderator: Pat Duggins, News Director, Alabama Public Radio

12:50 – 1:00 p.m. Break

1:00 – 1:50 p.m. PANEL SESSION: Discerning Black Women’s Stories: On Resilience, Survival and Hope
Moderator: Robin Boylorn, Department of Communication Studies, University of Alabama

Panelists:
Hunter Coward, Graduate Student, Department of Communication Studies
Presentation: “Comfortable is Comforting”
Michael Forst, Graduate Student, Department of Communication Studies
Presentation: “Slaying the Queer Monster”

Katy Gunn, Graduate Student, Department of English
Presentation: “Solid Figures: The Voice(s) of a Black Female Teacher in a White Southern School”

Bria Harper, Undergraduate Student, Department of Gender & Race Studies
Presentation: “Leap of Faith”

Arielle Latiolais, Undergraduate Student, Department of Communication Studies
Presentation: “What was Salvaged from the Wreck”

Keondria Williams, Undergraduate Student, Department of Communication Studies
Presentation: “If you only knew the half”

1:50 – 2:00 p.m. Break

2:00 – 2:50 p.m. PANEL SESSION: Mediated Representations of Muslim Women at Alabama

Presenters: Rachel Raimist, Co-Producer and Director of ASWAT: Voices of Muslim Women
Maha Marouan Co-Producer and Director of ASWAT: Voices of Muslim Women
Tiffany Reese, Editor of ASWAT: Voices of Muslim Women

2:50 – 3:00 p.m. Break

3:00 – 4:15 p.m. RESEARCH SESSION: GLBT-Q Identity & Closet Politics

Andrew C. Billings, Leigh M. Moscowitz (College of Charleston), Coral Marshall, Natalie A. Brown, Traditional and Social Media Frames Surrounding the NBA’s Jason Collins

Bijie Bie “Sorry, But I Cannot Get Married” Chinese Homosexual Men’s Coming Out Narratives, Doctoral Student, Communication and Information Sciences

Leah DiNatale, Towards a Queer Coalitional Politics: Community, Identity and the Trope of the Closet, Graduate Student, Department of English

Adam Sharples, Anchoring the Closet: A Sociological Analysis of Journalism and Sexuality, Doctoral Student, College of Communication and Information Sciences

Moderator: Kirk Walter, Capstone Alliance, University of Alabama
Respondent: Tony Adams, Northeastern Illinois University

4:15 – 4:30 p.m. Break
4:30 – 5:30 p.m.  KEYNOTE ADDRESS: “Narrating the Closet”

Tony Adams, Northeastern Illinois University, author of
*Narrating the Closet: An Autoethnography of Same Sex Desire*

Moderator:  Robin Boylorn, Department of Communication Studies, University of Alabama

5:30 – 6:30 p.m.  Book Signing
Dr. Tony Adams is the Graduate Director and Assistant Professor in the Department of Communication, Media and Theatre at Northeastern Illinois University where he also holds a joint appointment in the Department of Women and Gender Studies. He teaches and conducts research on interpersonal and family communication, qualitative research, communication theory, and sex, gender, and sexuality.


He co-edited, with Stacy Holman Jones and Carolyn Ellis, *The Handbook of Autoethnography* (2013), and he recently completed two forthcoming books: *On (Writing) Families: Autoethnographies of Presence and Absence, Love and Loss* (co-edited with Jonathan Wyatt) and *Autoethnography* (co-authored with Carolyn Ellis and Stacy Holman Jones).
As an outgrowth of its Diversity Plan, adopted in 2008, the Communication and Information Sciences annual diversity research symposium was first organized in the spring of 2010. The daylong event was a major step toward achieving the fifth objective of the College’s plan, “to provide diversity through research, service and public events.” Additionally, the first symposium was designed as a University-wide event to showcase the College’s identity as a place where diversity research is conducted. Faculty from the Departments of English and (what is now) Gender and Race Studies also participated.

In 2009, a core group of faculty from the College’s five academic schools and departments formed the Communication and Information Sciences Diversity Forum. Along with an annual workshop dedicated to diversity teaching in the fall, the diversity research symposium was developed as a signature college-wide event each spring that would feature scholarship produced by both students and faculty inside and outside the College.

Held in the Ferguson Forum of the Ferguson Student Center, the first edition of what has become known as “Discerning Diverse Voices” included about 30 paper and poster presentations along with three panels. The concurrent sessions featured both undergraduate and graduate student work alongside the research and perspectives of faculty. Of particular note was a culminating panel session “Lifting as We Climb: Black Women Mentoring and the Scholarly Enterprise.” The inclusion of a black woman-centered panel has been addressed in each of the three symposia since 2010.

Robert Hedges, a Paralympian and UA graduate student in sport management, presented his research on the 2012 London Paralympics at the 2013 symposium. It was one of the first presentations on issues of disability at a Discerning Diverse Voices symposium.
In 2011, the symposium was held in Gorgas Library's newly-renovated primary public event venue. It also expanded to include a co-branded session with “J-Day,” sponsored by the Department of Journalism. The panel discussion on reporting of cold cases of the civil rights era featured panelists from three Southern states.

By 2012, the C&IS Diversity symposium included its first keynote address. Dr. Mark Orbe, Professor of Communication and Diversity in the School of Communication at Western Michigan University, presented a lecture, “Diversity Matters, Barack Obama and The Media,” based on research from his book Communication Realities in a “Post-Racial” Society: What the U.S. Public Really Thinks of President Barack Obama. Orbe’s address was organized by faculty in the Department of Communication Studies. The practice of having a keynote speaker continued with the fourth Discerning Diverse Voices symposium in 2013, which featured Birmingham News Reporter Barnett Wright, who had recently published the pictorial book 1963: How the Birmingham Civil Rights Movement Changed America and the World.

Wright’s address to a standing-room-only crowd at Gorgas Library made front-page news in the local newspaper. The event was a highlight of the yearlong “THROUGH THE DOORS” celebration of the 50th anniversary of the integration of the University of Alabama. The 2013 symposium also was the first to expand to two days.

While the first two Discerning Diverse Voices events were focused primarily on the University of Alabama campus, the third and fourth such events drew more participants from around the Southeast.

As we sponsor the fifth Discerning Diverse Voices Symposium this year, the C&IS Diversity Forum membership has grown with at least four new faculty members. Submissions from students and faculty are as high as they’ve ever been and the interest in research on diversity and inclusiveness continues to grow.
C&IS Diversity Research Award
Call for Submissions

The College of Communication and Information Sciences Diversity Forum is a cross-disciplinary initiative dedicated to embracing research and creative activity addressing the intersection of diversity in all forms of communication and information. Toward that goal, the Forum is proud to announce the Third Annual C&IS Diversity Research Awards, which recognize one faculty/staff and one student research paper or creative activity. The top award winner in each category will receive a $100 award.

Conference or convention papers presented and research articles, original work or other creative activities published between April 1, 2013 and March 31, 2014 are eligible for submission. Only one submission may be submitted by a single person. Submissions with a faculty/student co-author will be considered for the faculty/staff award. Only submissions completed by one or more undergraduate, masters, or doctoral student authors will be considered for the student prize. All submissions should be sent as a Microsoft Word or PDF document by email attachment to cisdiversityaward@gmail.com. For the purposes of blind review, no identifying information should be included on the attached document. Instead, authors should include their name, paper title, status (faculty/staff/graduate student), history of the manuscript, e-mail address, and phone number in the BODY of the message.

The deadline for submissions is midnight CDT on Friday, April 4, 2014. Award winners will be announced at the College-wide faculty meeting on April 25, 2014.

For more information on the C&IS Diversity Research Awards, contact Dr. Mary M. Meares at mmmeares@ua.edu.
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College of Communication and Information Sciences

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C&IS Diversity Forum

Jamie Naidoo
School of Library and Information Studies

Laurie Bonnici
School of Library and Information Studies

George L. Daniels
Journalism

Mary Meares
Communication Studies

Caryl Cooper
Advertising and Public Relations

Robin Boylorn
Communication Studies

Janis Edwards
Communication Studies

Meredith Bagley
Communication Studies

Miriam Sweeney
School of Library and Information Studies

Andy Billings
Telecommunication and Film

Jason Black
Communication Studies

Jamon Smith
Journalism

Scott Parrott
Journalism

Bob Riter
School of Library and Information Studies