

AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES PROGRAM

Allison Blakely

Professor of History, George and Joyce Wein Professor
of African American Studies, and Director of African American Studies

Cynthia Becker

Associate Professor of History of Art & Architecture

Ruha Benjamin

Assistant Professor of Sociology

Mary Anne Boelcskev

Senior Lecturer in African American Studies and
Director of Undergraduate Studies

Laurence Breiner

Professor of English

Linda Heywood

Professor of History and African American Studies

Patricia Hills

Professor of History of Art & Architecture

Gene Jarrett

Professor of English

Ronald Richardson

Associate Professor of History

John Stone

Professor of Sociology

John Thornton

Professor of History

Adelaide Cromwell

Founder of the African American Studies Program
and Professor Emerita of Sociology

James Teele

Professor Emeritus of Sociology

Staff

Deirdre James

Program Administrator

Janjay Innis

Office Assistant

Boston University

**African American Studies Program
Graduate School of Arts & Sciences**

*Commencement
Ceremony
2013*

Saturday, May 18, 2013

at 4:00 p.m.

138 Mountfort Street

Brookline, MA 02446



African American Studies Program Graduates

Master of Arts in African American Studies

Richard Edward Bailey, Master of Arts in African American Studies
Defended Major Paper: “The New Negro and The African Blood
Brotherhood: New Directions in Black Radicalism”

Shakora Kai Fernandez, Master of Arts in African American Studies
Defended Major Paper: “Race and Social Networking:
Presentations of Race in Internet Memes”

Naeemah Ayisha Kitchens, Master of Arts in African American Studies
Defended Major Paper: “The Black Revolving Stage: Richard Pryor
and the Decodifying of Black American Humor”

Shelby Renee Walton, Master of Arts in African American Studies
Defended Major Paper: “Understanding the Culture of Slave
Commodification 1820-1860”

Minor in African American Studies

Ashley Lisenby, Major in Journalism, Minor in African American Studies
Hannah Sager, Major in English, Minor in African American Studies
Kiera Vinson, Major in Political Science, Minor in African American Studies

Please join us after the ceremony for refreshments
in celebration of our graduates.

Program of Events

Welcome

Allison Blakely, Professor of History, George and Joyce Wein Professor
of African American Studies, Director of African American Studies

Presentation of African American Studies Program Alumni and Friends Essay Prize

Mary Anne Boelcskev, Senior Lecturer in African American Studies
and Director of Undergraduate Studies

Undergraduate Prize - Kesia Ryan -Webster, College of Arts and Sciences
Graduate Prize - Shelby Walton, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences

“Swing Low Sweet Chariot” - An American Negro Spiritual sung by **Melissa Hall**

Introduction of Convocation Speaker

Allison Blakely, Professor of History , George and Joyce Wein Professor
of African American Studies, and Director of Graduate Studies

Convocation Address

Charles Terrell, Ed.D., Founder of Cross Creek Associates

Presentation of Gifts to Undergraduate Minors

Mary Anne Boelcskev, Senior Lecturer in African American Studies and
Director of Undergraduate Studies

Ashley Lisenby, Major in Journalism, Minor in African American Studies
Hannah Sager, Major in English, Minor in African American Studies
Kiera Vinson, Major in Political Science, Minor in African American Studies

Presentation of Diplomas

John Thornton, Professor of History and African American Studies and Director
of Graduate Studies

Richard Bailey, Master of Arts in African American Studies
Shakora Fernandez, Master of Arts in African American Studies
Naeemah Kitchens, Master of Arts in African American Studies
Shelby Walton, Master of Arts in African American Studies

“Lift Every Voice and Sing” - Poem composed by James Weldon Johnson, 1899
and set to music by John Rosamond Johnson, 1900, sung by **Melissa Hall**