Restorative Justice and Societal Repair: 
Global Racism and Reparations 
A Symposium 

February 21, 2020 Boston University, 9:00 AM– 4:00 PM 
Event Space at the Howard Thurman Center for Common Ground 
808 Commonwealth Ave, Brookline, MA

PROGRAM

9:00 - 9:20 AM Registration & light refreshments
9:20 – 9:30 Welcome by Dr. David Chard, Dean Ad Interim, BU Wheelock College of Education and Human Development
9:30 – 9:40 Introductory remarks by Dr. Angela Onwuachi-Willig, Dean, BU School of Law
9:40 – 9:45 Introduction of Keynote Speaker, Dr. Linda Heywood, BU Professor of History and African American Studies
9:45 – 10:30 Keynote Address by Sir Hilary Beckles, Vice Chancellor, University of the West Indies, Kingston, Jamaica, President of CARICOM.

10:30 – 10:40 Coffee Break

10:40 – 12:10 Roundtable I

Topic: Globalization, Racialism & Reparations: Contentious Past, Fractious Present
The struggle for reparations for the trafficking, enslavement, and colonization of African people, with their attendant legacy of racial oppression and inequality, has a long and varied history.

Objectives of this Roundtable:
• Consider reparations as an international movement that is (and has always been) a vibrant focus of African-descended people.
• Underscore how reparations and restorative justice cover more than just historical slavery.
• Explore links between historical oppression and injustice and race/racism today.

10:40-11:40 Presentations

Dr. Nicola Frith, University of Edinburgh (Scotland/UK), Co-Founder/Co-Director of the International Network of Scholars and Activists for Afrikan Reparations (INOSAAR)
Dr. Jemadari Kamara, Professor of Africana Studies and Chair of the Centre for African, Caribbean, and Community Development (CACC) UMass/Boston
Ms. Yvette Modestin, Poet/Activist, Founder/Exec. Director, Encuentro Diaspora Afro, Boston, MA
Ms. Sophia Parnell, (GRS ’20) MA Student in African American Studies, Boston University

Moderator: Dr. John Thornton, Professor of History and African American Studies, Boston University

11:40-12:10 Q & A

12:10- 1:30 Lunch Break
1:30 – 3:00 Roundtable II
Topic: What Might Restorative Justice & Societal Repair Mean in the 21st century?

In 2013, the general assembly of the United Nations declared 2015-2024 the International Decade for People of African Descent (IDPAD or “the Decade”), with the themes and goals of Recognition (the right to equality and non-discrimination), Justice (access to justice) and Development (the right to development and measures against poverty).

Objectives of this Roundtable:
- Engage the UN themes by exploring what the right to equality and non-discrimination would mean/entail.
- Consider how access to justice for all as a reparative action might be achieved.
- Explore how the right to development and measures against poverty might be achieved

1:30-2:30 Presentations

Ms. Susan X. Jane, Principle, Navigators Consulting and Founding Director of Communications & Media Literacy Program, Former Wheelock College
Dr. David Lyons, Professor Emeritus of Law and Philosophy, Boston University School of Law
Dr. Daivi Rodima-Taylor, Research Associate and Lecturer, Boston University Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies
Ms. Meredith McDuffie(CAS’20), Boston University

Moderator: Dr. Paula Austin, Assistant Professor of History and African American Studies, Boston University

2:30 -3:00 Q & A

3:00 - 3:15 Break

3:15 – 3:45 Proposed Next Steps
Moderator: Dr. Michael Birenbaum Quintero, Chair and Associate Professor of Musicology & Ethnomusicology, Boston University

3:45- 4:00 Closing Remarks
Dr. Joyce Hope Scott, Clinical Professor of African American Studies, Boston University