

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 (CACCD) 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

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