

Special Thanks

We must express our appreciation for the great support that has been given to the association for this conference by the faculty, graduate students, and staff of the University of Memphis Philosophy Department. We would specifically like to thank Department Chair Dr. Deborah Tollefsen and Vice Provost of Graduate Studies, Dr. Karen Weddle-West, who helped fund this Second Ida B. Wells Philosophical Conference. Finally, we thank our tireless and timeless advisors Dr. Bill E. Lawson, Distinguished Professor of Philosophy and Dr. Robert Bernasconi, Lillian and Morrie Moss Professor of Philosophy.

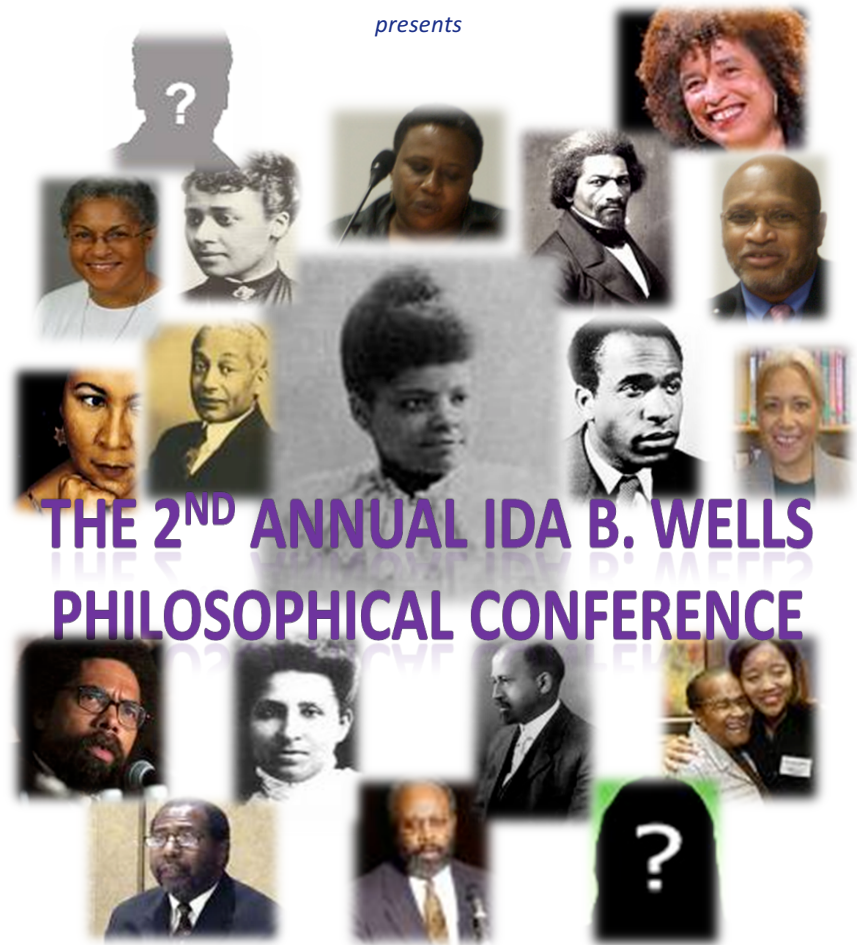
THE UNIVERSITY OF
MEMPHIS.

Department of Philosophy

With

The Ida B. Wells Association

presents



THE 2ND ANNUAL IDA B. WELLS PHILOSOPHICAL CONFERENCE

OCT 31, 2008 @ 3:00- 5:00PM
NOV 1, 2008 @ 10:00AM- 6:00PM
BRISTER RM 220

WELCOME!

The Ida B. Wells Association, along with the Philosophy Department of the University of Memphis, is pleased to welcome you to the Second Annual Ida B. Wells Philosophical Conference. The Ida B. Wells Association was founded seven years ago by graduate students to bring together, through the inclusion of different academic perspectives, the philosophical scholarship of the past, present and near future. There are two main goals of the Ida B. Wells Association and this conference. First, we hope this year's conference will further discussion of philosophical issues arising from the African American experience. Second, we hope that this conference will provide a context in which undergraduates and recent graduates can be mentored in their philosophical aspirations.

The Philosophy Department of the University of Memphis has been an ideal space for the Ida B. Wells Association to achieve its goals. This was made apparent when the Council of Graduate Studies honored the University of Memphis with its prestigious Peterson's Award for Innovation in Promoting an Inclusive Graduate Community in recognition of the Philosophy Department's success in recruiting and graduating African American graduate students. No other department in the country has come close to our record of graduating six African American doctoral students in five years, with another nine currently pursuing their Ph.D.

This year we are honored to have Professors David Mariott and Brad Stone to share their expertise and experiences with a new generation of Memphis students and a select group of African American undergraduates and recent graduates drawn from around the country.

We know that this conference will be an opportunity for philosophical engagement and we look forward to your participation.

Contact List

Special Guests

David Marriot	<i>marriott@ucsc.edu</i>
Brad Stone	<i>BStone@lmu.edu</i>
Timothy J. Golden	<i>tjgolden@memphis.edu</i>

Participants

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Organizers

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Avril Abiodun	<i>afuller1@memphis.edu</i>
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Robert Bernasconi	<i>rbernsn@memphis.edu</i>

4:00 – 5:30 KEYNOTE ADDRESS

“Fanon, Hegel, Freud”

David Marriot is Associate Professor of History of Consciousness at University of California Santa Cruz. Marriot’s interests are literary theory, psychoanalysis, black cultural theory and philosophies of race, the literary and visual cultures of modernism. He is the author of *On Black Men* (Columbia, 2000) and *Haunted Life* (2007).

5:30 – 7:00 RECEPTION & FAREWELL (801 Bayou Cove)

PRE-CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES

Thursday, October 30, 2008

7:30 Dinner with Bill & Renee Lawson

Friday, October 31, 2008

10:20-11:15 African American Philosophy Visit

11:30 – 12:45 Meeting with Graduate Student Advisor

12:45 – 2:30 Ida B Wells Association Luncheon

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

(All sessions will take place in Brister 220)

Friday, October 31, 2008

3:00 – 5:00 OPENING SESSION

“Ignorance, Innocence, and Responsibility in Baldwin and Levinas”

Brad Elliot Stone is Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, California. His research is in contemporary Continental philosophy, especially Heidegger and Foucault. Stone was a Fulbright Scholar at the Casa Museo Miguel de Unamuno in Salamanca, Spain, during the 1998-1999 school year. He completed his doctorate at the University of Memphis in 2003 and has published book chapters and essays on Foucault, Heidegger, Spanish philosophy, and pragmatism.

5:00 RECEPTION (2909 Central Avenue)

8:30 LIVE MUSIC AND DANCING (LEVEL II NIGHT CLUB
5020 AMERICAN WAY #2)

Saturday, November 1, 2008

10:00 – 11:00 GRADUATE STUDENT PRESENTATION

“Nominal God or Noumenal Reality: Epistemological Problems of Religious Pluralism”

Timothy J. Golden is a second year Ph.D. student in the Philosophy Department at the University of Memphis. He earned a B.S. degree in Criminal Justice and an M.A. in Philosophy at West Chester University in Pennsylvania. He also has a J.D. from the Thurgood Marshall School of Law at Texas Southern University. Golden is a member of the Pennsylvania Bar, where he practiced criminal law and civil litigation for twelve years. His philosophical interests are religious knowledge in the work of Kant, the concept of God in Kant's theory of moral action, and affinities between the ethics of Kant and Aristotle.

11:15 – 12:30 SESSION A

“We Are Not All Crooks; Assumed Guilt against Blacks in the Media”

Stephanie Duncker is a recent graduate from Florida State University and a 2008 Iris Marion Young Scholar. She received her undergraduate degree in Philosophy and Humanities with a concentration on 20th century studies. Dunker will pursue an advanced degree in Philosophy with concentrations on philosophy of language, philosophy of mind, media and cultural studies.

“Nagging Mothers and Fallen Empires: Grotesques in the Work of Flannery O’Connor and William Faulkner”

Candice Ivory is a recent graduate of the New School University, with concentrations in literature, jazz, and contemporary music. Currently, she is working on a creative non-fiction work that explores her family history. Ivory is interested in exploring the connections between race theory, the philosophy of religion, social philosophy, and Southern culture; her other philosophical interests include metaphysics. Ivory is a professional musician. She is the composer and featured performer on two recordings: Path-Undefined (The Path, Volume I) and Questography (The Path, Volume 2).

12:30 – 2:30 Lunch

2:30 – 3:45 SESSION B

“Are mixed-race children really plighted?”

Michael Hunter is a graduate student of philosophy at Texas Tech University. He received his undergraduate degree from University of California Berkeley in Sociology and minored in Philosophy. His philosophical interests are Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Biology, Philosophy of Social Science, Ethics, Metaphysics, Philosophy of Race, Rationality, Bioethics, Social Theory, Philosophy of Time and Philosophy of Physics. Hunter plans to earn a dual M.D./Ph.D. in hopes that his work will be seen as beneficial to professionals and the general public.

“Cultivating our Mother’s Garden”

Jameliah Inga Shorter is a Religion and Philosophy major at Paine College. After graduation, she will pursue a Ph.D. in philosophy to become a college professor. Shorter's philosophical interests are Black Feminism, Existentialism, African American and Africana Philosophy. Her awards include Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellow, Rutgers Institute for Diversity in Philosophy 2008, and Presidential Scholar.