Conference Program and Presenters

10-11 AM
Opening of the Conference-Welcome and Acknowledgements
Sal Miramontes and Gustavo Martinez-Padilla (Intercultural Student Services)

Dr. Joy DeGruy
Opening Keynote: “African American Multi-Generational Trauma and Healing”

Biography: Dr. DeGruy holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Communications; two master degrees in Social Work and Psychology; and a PhD in Social Work Research. With over twenty years of practical experience as a professional in the field of social work, she gives a practical insight into various cultural and ethnic groups that form the basis of contemporary American society. Through lectures, workshops, seminars and special guest appearances, Dr. DeGruy has shined a light on the critical issues affecting society. Those who have experienced Dr. DeGruy in person, can tell you that they have been “stimulated, enlightened and inspired.” Dr. DeGruy’s seminars have been lauded as the most dynamic and inspirational currently being presented on the topics of culture, race relations and contemporary social issues. Her clients have included academic institutions such as Oxford University, Harvard University, Columbia University, Fisk University, Smith College, Morehouse College, University of Chicago, and Portland State University where she is currently an Assistant Professor. She has also presented to federal and state agencies such as The Federal Bureau of Investigation; Probation and Parole agencies; Juvenile Justice Judges Association; and Police agencies. Major corporations and companies such as Nordstrom, Nike, the NBA Rookies Camp, and the renowned G-CAPP program, all have experienced Dr. Joy’s expertise and charisma. Dr. DeGruy’s workshops go far beyond the topic of cultural sensitivity; she also provides specialized clinical work in areas of mental health and ecological resilience.

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Dr. Joy is the acclaimed author of Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome—America’s Legacy of Enduring Injury and Healing, and the newly released, Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome: The Study Guide. In P.T.S.S.: The Study Guide, Dr. Joy revisits the topics she covers in P.T.S.S. and provides a detailed mapping of how you can begin the change process in your personal life, employment, family and in your community. She illustrates how—
with thoughtful self-exploration—each of us can evaluate our behaviors and replace negative and damaging behaviors with those that will promote, ensure and sustain the healing and advancement of African Americans.

11-11:30 AM

Victoria Burton
“Blended a History in Red and Black: Cultural Memory and the Legacy of Native American and African American Peoples”

**Biography:** Victoria Burton is an Undergraduate Senior in Wildlife and Animal Sciences at OSU. Her research interests include the intersectionality of race and ethnicity, multiculturalism, and identity formation.

11:30 AM-12 PM

Gail Woodside
“Ten Minutes: Viola Cordova, Western Science, and Traditional Ecological Knowledge”

**Biography:** Gail Woodside is a master’s student in the Department of Rangeland Ecology and Management and is an Advanced Diversity Pipeline Graduate Fellow. She received the Outstanding Masters Student of the Year 2009, the Thomas R. Bunch Scholarship for Excellence in Rangeland Stewardship 2009, the Ironman Alumni Award CH2M Hill 2007-2008, the OSU Alumni Additional Award 2007-2008 and the Altrusa Award 2008.

She has been invited to present at the Society for Range Management Conferences 2009 and 2010 and the Native American Longhouse Advisory Board 2008. She has been nominated for the Oregon Woman of the Year 2007-2008 Award, as well as the following: Presidents Showcase for Academic Excellence - Graduation 2008, Past President of American Indian Science and Engineering Society 2007-2008, and Past President of Native American Student Association 2007-2008.

12-12:30 PM **Lunch Break**

12:30-1 PM

Gennie Thi Nguyen
“Mourning in Exile: Vietnamese-American Displacement after the War”

**Biography:** Gennie Nguyen is a doctoral student in cultural anthropology at the University of Oregon. She volunteers for the DisOrient Film Festival in Eugene and is a member of the Asian Pacific American Networks of Oregon. Her research interests includes post-colonial methodologies, gender, intergenerational trauma, historical trauma, Viet Nam and overseas Vietnamese (Viet Kieu), public policy, coalition building, environmental racism, social memory, and social movements. She is also a co-founder of the Alliance of Graduate Students for Diversity, which provides support for graduate students from diverse backgrounds at the University of Oregon.

1-2 PM

Cambodian Student Association
“The Oral History Project: Healing from the Cambodian Genocide”

2-2:15 PM **Coffee Break**

2:15-2:45 PM

Philipp Kneis
“The Resilient Elder: The Aged Trickster in Native American Literature”

**Biography:** Philipp Kneis studied American Studies and History at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. His research concerns American film and television, politics, Native American Studies and aging. He teaches classes in American Studies and History at Humboldt University and the University of Potsdam. Other interests are poetry and photography (at pjkx.com).

2:45-3:15 PM
Linda Richards
“Disrupting and Restoring Hozho: Nuclear Colonialism and the Navajo Nation”


In 2009 she co-taught a Special Topics course on nuclear history; collaborated with the OSU Nuclear Engineering and Radiation Health Physics program to collect oral histories of nuclear scientists; toured the Hanford Nuclear Reservation with the Oregon Department of Energy; and she presented her research at the Oregon History Conference, the Columbia History of Science Group, the First World Congress of Environmental Historians in Denmark and the University of Toronto’s international Nuclear Industry Research Group. In 2010 she was an invited presenter with the Thoreau Society at the Philadelphia Modern Language Association Conference.

In recent years she has participated in the annual Hiroshima Nagasaki commemorations held in Ashland Oregon, the Indigenous Uranium Mining Ban Summit, the US Social Forum, the World Peace Forum, and the Global Network international meeting in Darmstadt, Germany.

Linda has a BS in Science/Math with a Peace Studies minor from Southern Oregon University as well as a Masters in Non Profit Management. In 2007 she was awarded the Outstanding Citizenship Award by U.S. House Oregon Representative Greg Walden and the SOU Outstanding Universidad de Guanajuato Graduate Student Award as well as the Outstanding Non-Profit Management student for her collaborative work with Major Travis Lee of the Oregon National Guard to improve access to services and education for veterans.

3:15-3:45 PM
Spirit Brooks
“Re-Remembering My Roma/Sinti Family: The Personal Impact of Genocide”

Biography: Spirit Brooks holds a Master’s in Interdisciplinary Studies, Anthropology and Women Studies (OSU,1997). She received her Bachelor of Science in Political Science from the University of Oregon (1992). Currently, she is a 1st year Master’s student in the College Student Services Administration Program. Her research interests include: Native American student retention, multicultural issues, social justice, and critical theory.

3:45-4 PM Honoring the Work and Life of Dr. Lani Roberts

4-5 PM
Dr. Andrew Jolivette
Closing Keynote:
“Indigenous and LGBT Communities of Color: Healing the Soul Wound Through Cultural Memory”

Biography: Andrew Jolivette (Opelousa/Atakapa-Ishak) Ph.D., is an accomplished educator, writer, speaker, and social/cultural critic. His work spans many different social and political arenas - from education reform and cultural representation in Native America to community of color identity issues, critical mixed-race movement building, LGBT/Queer community of color identity issues and gay marriage, and AIDS disparities within Indigenous and people of color communities.
Jolivette is an associate professor in American Indian Studies, Educational Leadership, and Critical Race and Resistance Studies at San Francisco State University. He recently completed a Ford Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship through the National Academy of Sciences.

He is a mixed-race studies specialist with a particular interest in Comparative Race Relations, the Urban Indian Experience, People of Color and Popular Culture, Critical Mixed Race Studies and Social Justice, Creole studies, Black-Indians, and mixed-race health disparities. He has been an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Sociology at the University of San Francisco and a Researcher with the University of California, San Francisco on issues of racial violence among African American and Latino/a youth in the Bay Area.

Jolivette is the author of two books, Cultural Representation in Native America (AltaMira Press), which is a part of the Contemporary Native American Communities Series and Louisiana Creoles: Cultural Recovery and Mixed Race Native American Identity (Lexington Books, January 2007).

He is currently working on two new books, Mixed Race Gay Men and HIV: A Community History where he will explore how race and sexuality intersect to create social and sexual risk. His forthcoming book, Obama and the Biracial Factor: The Battle for a New American Majority, seeks to understand the impact of President Obama’s biracial identity on the election campaign of 2008, on Obama’s first 100 days in office, and what his historic election might mean for the current battle for a new American majority.


In the fall of 2005, he gave a keynote address for World AIDS Day where he disclosed his HIV/AIDS positive status. According to Jolivette:

“I wasn’t sure if I should disclose my status in this way here today. I spoke with a colleague about it and he said, How will disclosing impact you? Will it benefit you? Are you giving anything up? I thought to myself, as a gay man of color, I have a responsibility to disclose. This is a very personal decision, but in communities of color we lack faces to make this pandemic real. If you’ve never known someone living with AIDS, now you do. You know my story and in sharing it I hope that others will know that they can live with this. They can have a career, a family, they too can find love again. Over the last three years I have learned AIDS is not me. I am me. AIDS is only one other part of my life.”

Jolivette is a Creole of Opelousa, Choctaw, Atakapa, Cherokee, French, African, and Spanish descent. As a descendant of the Creoles of Louisiana, Dr. Jolivette is personally and professionally aware of the impact of Hurricane Katrina on issues of race and ethnicity in the United States. Professor Jolivette currently serves as the tribal historian for the Atakapa-Ishak Nation located between southwest Louisiana and southeast Texas.

He has done work with the Agape Foundation, which works for peace in both national and international contexts and is working with the Louisiana Creole Heritage Center on a Creole Ethnicity and Heritage Bill for the 2010 census. Jolivette recently served on the San Francisco Human Rights Commission’s Special Task Force on the Status of Native Americans. As a former Middle School Dean, Jolivette is familiar with the current movement for small school reform in public education. He is the board president of Speak Out - the Institute for Democratic Education and Culture, a current board member of the GLBT Historical Society in San Francisco, and the former board president of iPride, an organization for mixed heritage and transracially adopted youth and their families.

7 PM Tribute Dinner at the Memorial Union Ballroom, sponsored by the Centro Cultural Cesar Chavez

Conference Web Site: oregonstate.edu/dept/indian/events_2010genocide.html