

14 spring 2002

C A A R

Collegium for African American Research

News letter

WELCOME TO WINCHESTER 2003

We are already looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible in Winchester next year. The fifth biennial conference is set for the middle of April, the week before Easter, and you could not be choosing a better time to visit us. Our location is right next to the Cathedral (a thousand years old) in a city which is two thousand years old, and you can take the coach direct from London Heathrow to the conference starting point: the Winchester Guildhall. If you are coming from Continental Europe, you can get Eurostar direct from Paris and Brussels to Waterloo and then take a mainline train from Waterloo to Winchester--sixty-five minutes. (For more details, see the website below.) When the conference is over you'd do well to holiday in and around Old Hampshire--Keats Country, Austen Country, Hardy Country. Tess was hanged in our jail just across the hill from King Alfred's.

REGISTRATION: Conference registration and accommodation can be made at <http://www.redconference.co.uk/caar/home.htm>. The contact person and conference manager is Ms Nicky Matthews, The Red Conference Agency, 4 Earle House, Winnall Manor Road, Winchester SO23 0NA England
<nickym@redconference.co.uk> 011-441-962-842-377.

PROGRAM: Our outline program looks something like this:

SUNDAY, APRIL 13, 2003

WINCHESTER GUILDHALL

0900--1700: REGISTRATION
1000--1200: CONFERENCE OPENING AND CAAR BIENNIAL MEETING
1230--1400: LUNCH
1400--1600: WORKSHOPS
1600--1630: COFFEE/TEA
1630--1800: WORKSHOPS
1800--2000: GUILDHALL RECEPTION

MONDAY, APRIL 14, 2003

KING ALFRED'S COLLEGE

0900 REGISTRATION
0900--1100: WORKSHOPS
1100--1130: COFFEE/TEA
1130--1230: KEYNOTE SPEAKER: FRITZ GYSIN--"Jazz and Fiction: African American Grace Notes."

Fritz Gysin, a founding member of CAAR, is one of Europe's leading scholars on the relationship of African American fiction to African American musical forms, particularly to jazz. He is the author of *The Grotesque in American Negro Fiction* and has published and lectured extensively in the field.

1230--1400: LUNCH
1400--1600: WORKSHOPS
1600--1630: COFFEE/TEA

1630--1800: WORKSHOPS
1800--1900: KAC RECEPTION
1930--2130: "EQUIANO" AT THE JOHN STRIPE THEATRE, KAC

TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 2003
KING ALFRED'S COLLEGE

0900--1100: WORKSHOPS
1100--1130: COFFEE/TEA
1130--1230: KEYNOTE: GARY YOUNGE--"The African Atlantic: The Making Of Black Diasporas."
Gary Younge, a leading Afro-Caribbean commentator, is a political and cultural columnist for the London Guardian, he will next year be the Guardian's New York Correspondent. He is the author of No Place Like Home and numerous essay on Britain's race relations.
1230--1400: LUNCH
1400--1600: WORKSHOPS
1600--1630: COFFEE/TEA
1630--1800: WORKSHOPS
1930--2130: CONFERENCE BANQUET AT KAC

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 2003

1000: DAY EXCURSION: STONEHENGE

We are planning to make strong contacts through the conference with Britain's Afro-Caribbean and other Black communities, and we are asking participants to think of creating panels which can take the best advantage of Europe's most ethnically diverse country.

The Winchester Conference will be the occasion for the unveiling of The African American Research Library's first online electronic scholarly edition: Clotel; or. The President's Daughter by William Wells Brown. This, the first African American novel, was published in 1853 in London where Brown was exiled by the Fugitive Slave Act. We are proud to announce this publication.

Joining me on the Local Committee are John Bentley, Michelle Codrington, Nicky Matthews, Carol Smith, and Alasdair Spark. We are working hard and cheerfully to make 2003 a memorable occasion for CAAR, and we extend you a right, royal welcome.

Chris Mulvey
Conference 2003 Secretary

**THE AFRICAN ATLANTIC:
THE MAKING OF BLACK DIASPORAS
KING ALFRED'S COLLEGE, WINCHESTER, ENGLAND
THE COLLEGIUM FOR AFRICAN AMERICAN RESEARCH (CAAR)
APRIL 13 TO 16, 2003
CALL FOR PAPERS**

This conference will seek to take the longest and widest perspectives, viewpoints, and positions that speakers, panels and contributors can bring to the notions of the African Atlantic and the Black Diaspora. It will focus on the old triangle of Africa, the Americas and Europe as in previous conferences. However, by pulling back and out, other coasts and other worlds come into view. The Pacific of cities, states and provinces stretching from Alaska to Tierra del Fuego is a boundary of the Black Diaspora which calls for our examination, exegesis, evocation.

There is also a triangle created by the Americas, Asia and Africa. Are there diasporic links to be made across the Pacific to the Africa of Ethiopia, Somalia, Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique?

And what of the diaspora that goes beyond geography? Is African American expansion on-line and into the net a replication of African American experience in the Americas or are new ways of being and of seeing on offer? What kind

of space is black Cyberland? Who lives there? Who is making this diaspora? Where are they taking black music, art, language, politics?

Millennial promises of peace, reconciliation and harmony have been soured by continuing political, social and ethnic fracture. Where are Civil Rights Movements to go now? Has the Durban Racism Conference shown a way forward or a way nowhere? Reparation or Repossession? Is Globalization simply an extension of American Imperium; are we also witnessing the African Americanization of World Culture?

We are planning to make strong contacts through the conference with Britain's Afro-Caribbean and other Black communities, and we ask that you think of creating panels which can take the best advantage of Europe's most ethnically diverse country.

As in the previous CAAR conferences, the program committee welcomes papers that approach African-American Studies from an interdisciplinary and comparative perspective. Workshops should have no more than eight slots. Since CAAR encourages international cooperation, we would ask that workshop organizers either recruit some of the participants from countries other than their own or leave at least half of the slots open.

Proposals should be as short and to the point as possible (no more than one page). All proposals should include title of paper/workshop, a brief abstract, and should include your name, affiliation, address, telephone number, and email address. Please send your proposals by EMAIL (with the text of the proposal included in the email, NOT as an attachment).

The deadline for proposals is 1 September 2002.

Please send proposals to:
Carl Pedersen
President of CAAR
University of Southern Denmark
email: carp@hist.sdu.dk

THE COLLEGIUM FOR AFRICAN AMERICAN RESEARCH

<http://www.hum.sdu.dk/projekter/CAAR/index.html>

CAAR Newsletter 14, Editor's Note, May 27, 2002

This is the first issue of the CAAR Newsletter sent to you electronically. I edited it as a word document, so please excuse the outlay that is not so nice as before. My first priority was a format I hope most of you can open. If you can read this, there is obviously no need to get back to me. If, however, you hear of someone who has problems with this, please direct him/her to me and I will send out a printed version.

This issue of the Newsletter contains the important information about the next conference, the Call for Papers, the Treasurer's Letter, the dues form, information about a conference in Muenster and about the African Diaspora Press Project. Originally it meant to include two invitations to conferences: to the 12th International Conference "Moving Beyond the Great Narrative: The Challenge of the Postmodern in American Literature," April 23-25, 2002, at Minsk State Linguistics University – European Humanities University, Minsk; and to the 7th Belarusan Student Conference on American Studies, April 26-27, 2002, at Vitebsk State University – European Humanities University, Minsk, both of which organized by CAAR member Professor Yuri Stulov. Both, however, already took place by now and, I am sure, went well.

To make the Newsletter more interesting to you I ask for contributions. It would be interesting, for example, to have reports about African American Studies at specific departments, their problems, goals, curricula, etc. I would also like to include specific syllabi. Please send in book news and book reports. I would also like to start an "Academic Traveller" column. Which university archive or library was particularly rewarding? Whom do you contact where? This and all other items that might interest your colleagues in African American Studies can be included in the next issue of the Newsletter.

The Newsletter will be published three times in two years. One issue will come out after our biennial conference. One issue will be published after the board meeting in the in-between years (some time in April or May of this year). One issue will precede the conference and contain all relevant information.

With my best regards, Hanna Wallinger.

Symposium "Crossing Boundaries: African American Boys and Young Men in the Inner City, and Migrant Boys and Young Men in Major European Cities -- A Transnational and Transcultural Symposium"

Department of English, University of Muenster, Germany
June 12-16, 2002

In 1996, The National Taskforce on African American men and boys, a distinguished group of black community leaders and scholars in the United States, published the seminal study *Repairing the Breach*. In it, the Task Force made critical points and recommendations. One of the most important ones was that African Americans in inner-cities must organize to help themselves; grassroots democracy is the tool to bring about change in their communities. They must build on the vital, but often latent, human resources existing within the community -- and in the process achieve a renewed ethic of the community.

Inspired by the information made available in *Repairing the Breach*, CAAR decided to bring together African American scholars with European specialists in European migrant cultures and communities, to see if a joint international comparative research project would be possible. With a grant from the Village Foundation, the American association established to help realize the goals formulated in *Repairing the Breach*, a group of scholars assembled in March last year in Sardinia to explore the possibilities. One of the outcomes was that a second meeting was organized for the "Crossing Boundaries" project. This symposium, funded by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG), the University of Muenster, and the State of Nordrhein-Westphalia, will be held at the English Department of the University of Muenster from Wednesday, June 12, 2002 through Sunday, June 16, 2002.

The symposium is part of a long-term project "Crossing Boundaries". The final goal of the project is to design an integrated plan of action, transnational and transcultural in scope and perspective while, at the same time, responding to unique situations and needs, that will improve the condition and future perspectives of young men in black and immigrant communities at both sides of the Atlantic.

The gender focus on young men and boys is chosen to highlight and analyse the specific situation and problems with which vulnerable young males from black and immigrant communities often are confronted. This hub is selected, however, in the full understanding that forms of patterned behaviour associated with, among other things, street violence delinquency, drug misuse and addiction, and generally various forms of expression of an oppositional youth culture, have an enormous impact on gender relations and on the position of youth of both sexes.

During our meetings in Muenster, we suggest that the focus on the relationship/interaction between institutions of the host communities and migrant community activities. What kind of activities can we identify within local migrant communities (please focus on one major city; one migrant community) that try to tap the sources available within a specific culture, and how does the institutionalized host community respond to these activities? These questions are chosen for the symposium, because here a comparative approach, and especially the trans-Atlantic perspective, makes sense.

The following scholars have agreed to present their work at the symposium:

Theron Cook (The Village Foundation, USA)
Dr. Gerard Ferguson (New York University, USA)
Prof. Jacob Gordon (University of Kansas, USA)
Prof. Tamar Horowitz (Ben Gurion University, Israel)
Dr. Flip Lindo (University of Amsterdam, Netherlands)
Prof. N. R  thzel (Umea University, Sweden)
Prof. B. Rommelpacher (Alice-Salomon Fachhochschule, Germany)
Prof. C. de Wenden (Centre of International Studies and Research, France)
Prof. Ann Phaenix (Open University Milton Keynes, England, pending)
Prof. P. Bowman (University of Illinois, USA, pending)

CAAR members interested in attending the symposium, please write to the local organizer for further information:

Prof. Dr. Maria I. Diedrich
Department of English: American Studies
University of Muenster
Johannisstr. 12-20
D 48143 M  nster
Germany
diedri@uni-muenster.de
Tel. +49 251 832 4296
Fax: +49 251 832 4652
The conference fee will be \$ 50.

The African Diaspora Press Project needs your help.

I am hoping that CAAR members, with their interest in Afro-American life and history, will also have information on African migrants in their own countries that they can share with me. Africans are present in nearly every country on the planet and have been producing newspapers, magazines, newsletters since the 19th century. Unfortunately these publications are little known in libraries. The Project seeks copies of contemporary titles, and citations to older ones, so that they can be included in our ongoing, online international bibliography. This vast project will always depend on the interest and cooperation of scholars as well as the editors, publishers, writers who produce contemporary materials. Details are available at <http://mendota.english.wisc.edu/~danky/diaspora/index.html>

Assistance is available to cover postage costs. Please send copies or queries to:

James P. Danky
Project Director
African Diaspora Press Project
261 Hwy. 138 South
Stoughton, WI 53589

The 2002 Report of The African American Research Library

--Prepared for the BORDEAUX Meeting, March 24, 2002

1. **THE FIRST STAGE.** The first stage in the implementation of the AARL Project is the on-line publishing of an electronic scholarly edition of *Clotel*; or, *The President's Daughter* (London, 1853) by William Wells Brown. This title is fully funded and scheduled for posting in November 2002.

2. **THE SECOND STAGE.** The second stage is the completion of the programming and production of an electronic scholarly edition of a book of poems. *Poems on Various Subjects, Religious and Moral* (London, 1773) by Phillis Wheatley is the selected title. Initial funding for this title has been received and the work on it is started with an aim for a completion in November 2004.

3. **THE THIRD STAGE AND ITS FUNDING.** It is proposed that the third stage be a controlled expansion of the list of titles with the involvement of other scholars in the role of editors. Funding for this stage is being sought from the British Academy and the Arts and Humanities Research Board (UK) which have funded the first two stages.

4. **THE NEXT AARL TITLES.** It is proposed that the following be edited and published as electronic scholarly editions:

Olaudah Equiano. *The Interesting Narrative*. London, 1789.

Frederick Douglass. *My Bondage and My Freedom*. New York, 1855.

Frances E. Watkins Harper. *The Sparrows Fall*. N. P: 18-?.

Charles W. Chesnutt. *House Behind the Cedars*. Boston, 1900.

James Weldon Johnson. *Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man*. Boston, 1912.

The five titles identified for the third stage are chosen because of their significance in the history of African American culture, their current importance to African Americanists, and their unexploited richness of textual variation.

5. **AARL TITLE EDITORS.** It is proposed that the AARL Editorial Committee will appoint an appropriate scholar to edit each title.

6. **MANAGEMENT OF THE AARL TITLES.** Direction of the series is overseen by the General Editors reporting to the Editorial Committee of The African American Research Library. The Chair of the Editorial Committee is charged with co-ordinating the work of the teams responsible for 1) title editing; 2) electronic text preparation; 3) bibliographical description.

7. **TITLE EDITING.** It is proposed that the title editors be expected: 1. To advise the AARL Editorial Committee and its consultants on the textual history of the title and the locations of the relevant versions; 2. To write a general introductory commentary on the work and its author (about 25,00 words) and to supply chronologies, textual introductions to versions, commentary on textual variants, source identifications, and bibliographies; 3. To write explanatory notes in the form of line by line annotations; 4. To identify support materials in the form of visual, textual and other items to supplement the edition appropriately.

8. **ELECTRONIC TEXT PREPARATION.** The text preparation will be undertaken by a team headed by Professor David Seaman at the Electronic Text Center of the University of Virginia Library.

9. **BIBLIOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION.** Bibliographical description will be undertaken by a team headed by Professor Michael Winship of the Department of English of the University of Texas at Austin. The description will provide a physical analysis of the characteristics of extant editions of the title as well as assess and analyze variations between impressions within editions.

10. EXPANDING AARL'S READERSHIP. It is proposed that the new titles be available at no cost. Though the project is designed with researchers in mind, it is not designed to be limited to them, and the texts will present themselves in a reader-friendly form accessible and helpful to undergraduate and high-school users. The complexities and reserves of the websites will be discovered by those who wish to drill down.

11. AARL BIBLIOGRAPHICAL TOOLS. Each title with its fullness of texts, range of textual apparatus and variant information will represent a sophisticated tool for the teaching of bibliographical skills making the collection of titles valuable to a wide range of students of literature.

12. A SELF-ENRICHING LIBRARY. The publishing of these titles will provided an enhanced research resource in terms of the multi-versioned richness of each title. Consideration is being given to the titles being embedded in a database which maximizes linkings and cross-referencing to create a self-enriching library growing with each additional title.

13. ON-LINE PUBLICATION. Editions will be posted for public access at the University of Virginia Library on an AARL Website and as part of the Library's electronic text collection.

14. OTHER FORMS OF PUBLICATION. Editions will be exportable as E-Books, and print-on-demand capabilities are being considered.

15. AARL GENERAL EDITORS. Professor Maria Diedrich of Münster University;
Professor Henry Louis Gates, Jr. of Harvard University; Professor
Christopher Mulvey of King Alfred's, Winchester.

16. AARL EDITORIAL COMMITTEE. Professor William Andrews of the University of North Carolina--Chapel Hill; Professor Anthony Badger of Cambridge University; Dr Andrew Brown of Cambridge University; Dr James P. Danky of Wisconsin State Historical Society and the University of Wisconsin--Madison; Professor Maria Diedrich of Münster University; Professor Henry Louis Gates, Jr. of Harvard University; Professor Darlene Clark Hine of Michigan State University; Professor Christopher Mulvey of King Alfred's, Winchester; Professor Peter L. Shillingsburg of the University of North Texas.

17. AARL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE. Dr Thomas Battle of the Moorland-Spangarn Library; Dr Roger Bruns of the National Archives; Ms Adrienne Cannon of the Library of Congress; Dr Donald E. De Vore of the Amistad Research Center; Dr Howard Dodson of the Schomburg Center for Research at the New York Public Library; Professor Maryemma Graham of the University of Kansas; Professor Fritz Gysin of Bern University; Professor Patricia Hills of the American Studies Association (US) and Boston University; Professor Susan Hockey of University College, London; Professor Paul Lauter of Trinity College, Hartford; Mr. Steven Cameron Newsome of the Smithsonian Institution; Professor Nell I. Painter of Princeton University; Professor Carl Pedersen of Southern Denmark University; Professor David Seaman of the University of Virginia.

18. THE 2003 EDITORIAL COMMITTEE MEETING. The next meeting of the AARL Editorial Committee will be held at the CAAR Conference at King Alfred's, Winchester in April 2003.

Christopher Mulvey March 18, 2002

Treasurer's Letter

Dear Colleagues, CAAR Members and Friends,

Thanks to a strong attendance at last year's conference in Cagliari, good fund-raising, and faithful members like yourselves, the CAAR treasury is stable and solvent and able to sustain the projects we have undertaken recently. Unfortunately, one of the casualties of the recession and the re-directing of government funding has been the Village Foundation, whose collaboration and support we so looked forward to. This throws us back into the position of depending on our members for day-to-day support. And while our new fund-raiser, Sabine Bröck, has started the year off with great plans, these are very much in the initial phase and the little chicks are not peeping just yet. To stretch the metaphor, Sabine is still weaving the basket; the eggs have yet to be laid.

All this to say, dear friends, that it's time to forward your CAAR dues for the year 2002, so as to enable us to keep up with the Newsletter and plan the Winchester conference, without impinging too much upon the sanity of your board members. In keeping with the new economic situation in Europe, we also feel that in addition to keeping our account in Euros we should now, as a Europe-based association, calculate CAAR dues in Euros (60), thereby happily avoiding so many bank fees and general hassle. This should make things easier for a lot of people, not to mention your treasurer!

With seven books in the FORECAAST series, and more in the pipeline, four international conferences, a revitalized newsletter and website, and recognition in many international fora, CAAR continues to make its presence felt worldwide. But an organization is only as good as its members and we need your continued support. Please fill out the form and return it to me at your earliest convenience. (Just to let you know that in case you opt for fax, it comes straight into my office with no problematic detours.) A heartfelt thanks from all of us at CAAR, Justine Tally

Our Bank data for transfers and international checks is as follows (Please be sure to send me a copy of the transfer so I can keep track):

COLLEGIUM FOR AFRICAN AMERICAN RESEARCH
Banco Central Hispanoamericano, S.A.
9613-Herradores, 47
38201 La Laguna, Tenerife, Spain
Bank: 0049
Branch: 0275
D.C.: 11
Account nE: 2010708385
Swift Code: CENTESMM

Bank transfers cost CAAR up to 20% of your dues, so if you can, please pay by credit card, by filling out the following form and returning it to me:

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COLLEGIUM FOR AFRICAN AMERICAN RESEARCH

Membership dues for 2002 (€60)	_____
Student Membership for 2002 (€12)	_____
Unwaged members/Members from countries with unconvertible currencies (€12)	_____
Donation to Travel Fund for non-funded colleagues	_____
Donation to CAAR	_____
TOTAL	_____

Name: _____

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Card Number: _____

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Signature: _____

Justine Tally: jtally@ull.es

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