

The Dr. Mack Henry Jones
Department of Political Science at
Clark Atlanta University
Presents:

October 24-26, 2024

2024 Conference on the Atlanta
School of Black Political Science:
Celebrating 50 Years
Challenging the Canon



Clark Atlanta University



Thomas Cole Research Center for Science and Technology

Dear Conference Participants and Guests,

On behalf of the faculty, students, and staff of the Dr. Mack Henry Jones Department of Political Science, I am honored to welcome you to Clark Atlanta University as we convene our inaugural *2024 Conference on the Atlanta School of Black Political Science:*

Celebrating 50 Years of Challenging the Canon. Slightly over five decades ago, CAU's parent graduate institution, Atlanta University, received a major financial gift for the purpose of establishing a truly unique doctoral program in political science at one of the nation's leading HBCUs. The conference activities that will unfold over the next three days is the culminating event of the 50th Anniversary celebrations that began with the departmental naming ceremony in honor of Dr. Mack Henry Jones.

The purpose of the 2024 Conference is to use the occasion of the 50th Anniversary to celebrate, commemorate, and advance the traditions of what we call "the Atlanta School" that emerged in the latter decades of the 20th century. The conference will specifically explore the many scholarly themes, national and international political impacts, and institutional accomplishments of the Atlanta School. In addition to the manuscripts, papers, and panel discussions on Black political science that will be presented during the conference, we also hope you will enjoy the reunion reception, live musical session, and special recognitions we have planned for you. Most important, I hope you will be a part of a collective effort to continue the important intellectual and political accomplishments of our beloved department.

Welcome back to Atlanta!



"Biton" Kurt B. Young,

Associate Professor and Chair

Dr. Mack Henry Jones Department of Political Science



Program At-A-Glance

Thursday, October 24, 2024

1:00 PM

OPENING OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE

1:30 PM - 2:45 PM - Panel I

3:00 PM - 4:30 PM - Panel II

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Reception at Reverb Hotel

89 Centennial Olympic Park Dr NW, Atlanta, GA 30313

Friday, October 25, 2024

9:00 AM - 9:40 AM Breakfast

9:45 AM - Keynote Speaker

10:45-12:00 Panel III

Lunch

1:15 PM - 2:30 PM Panel IV

2:45 PM - 4:00 PM Panel V

5:00 PM - 8:00 PM - *Karamu Celebration! Live Music & Food*

Saturday, October 26, 2024

9:00 AM - 9:40 AM Breakfast

9:45 AM - Keynote Speaker

10:45 AM - 12:00 PM Panel VI

Light Refreshment Break

12:30 PM - 1:45 PM Two Concurrent Panels - Panel VII and Panel VIII

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM - *Closing Luncheon*

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Friday, October 25, 2024

9:45 am



Mamie E. Locke, PhD, a 1984 graduate of Atlanta University, has been a member of the Virginia State Senate since 2004, representing the 23rd District. She is also Professor of Political Science and Dean of the School of Liberal Arts at Hampton, Virginia. Dr. Locke was elected to the Hampton, Virginia City Council in 1996. The Council chose her as Vice Mayor in 1998 and Mayor in 2000. As a member of the National Conference of Black Political Scientists, she served on the Executive Council and as its 23rd President.

Saturday, October 26, 2024

9:45 am



Georges Nzongola-Ntalaja is a professor emeritus of African Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he taught from 2007 to 2024. He took a 2-year professional leave of absence to serve his country, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), as its ambassador to the United Nations in 2022 and 2023. He returned to Chapel Hill to teach during the second semester of the 2023-2024 academic year. He served as President of the African Studies Association from 1987-1988. As a scholar, Professor Nzongola has published over fifty articles, books including *The Congo from Leopold to Kabila: A People's History* (London and New York: Zed Books, 2002), which won the Best Book Award in 2004.

Thursday, October 24, 2024 (9:00 AM – 1:00 PM)

All Conference Participants and Guests are Welcome to Attend

The AFRICAN HERITAGE STUDIES ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

Thomas Cole Research Center for Science and Technology

9:00 Procession, Libations, National Anthem and Prayer

Welcome to African Heritage Studies Association, Darlita Moyé, President

10:00 Keynote Address: Professor James Smalls

AHSA Panels (Conference Room)

Friday, October 25, 2024 (5:00 PM – 8:00 PM)



**2024 CONFERENCE ON THE ATLANTA
SCHOOL OF BLACK POLITICAL SCIENCE**

Come Celebrate with Us

**ENTERTAINMENT & THE COMMON
GROUND
COLLECTIVE**

FRIDAY OCT. 25, 2024
@CLARK ATLANTA UNIVERSITY
THOMAS COLE RESEARCH CENTER
FOR SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
TIME 5:00PM-8:00PM

FREE ENTRY
LIVE MUSIC & DANCE
FOOD & DRINKS
JOY & HAPPINESS

For more Information
blackpolitics2024@cau.edu

 CLARK ATLANTA UNIVERSITY
DR. MACK HENRY JONES
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

 **Davis Bozeman**
LAW

Thursday October 24, 2024

1:00 PM – 50th Anniversary Conference Opening (Auditorium)

Welcome - Dr. Mack H. Jones Department of Political Science, Kurt Young, Chair

Welcome - Provost and Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs Charlene Gilbert

Welcome - Institutional Advancement Director of Development Francesca Frederick

Statement of Acknowledgement from The United Methodist Church

The Black College Fund has been a stalwart supporter of several initiatives at Clark Atlanta University, a United Methodist-related institution, for many years, and this conference is made possible due to the resources provided by our community of alumni, dedicated staff, and University partners.

Statement of Thanks to The United Methodist Church

The Dr. Mack H. Jones Department of Political Science want to publicly acknowledge and thank The Black College Fund and The General Board of Higher Education and Ministry of the United Methodist Fund for its significant investment in this conference.

1:30- 2:45 - Panel I (Auditorium)

Student Roundtable “The Future of the Dr. Mack Henry Jones Department of Political Science: Our Role as Emerging Political Scientists Born Out Of A Legacy, Stepping Into An Ever-Shifting Political Climate.”

Moderator: Tiffany Williams - Doctoral Student, Clark Atlanta University

Nykia Greene-Young - PhD Candidate, Clark Atlanta University

Cindy Peters - PhD Candidate, Clark Atlanta University

Fredrick Parham - M.A. Candidate

3:00-4:30 Panel II (Auditorium)

Atlanta School Presidents: Reflections and Discourse on Being an HBCU President

Moderator: Joseph Jones, Clark Atlanta University

Dorothy Cowser Yancy-Johnson C. Smith University & Shaw University

Joseph Silver-Alabama State University

Joseph Jones-Arkansas Baptist College

Said Sewell-Morris College

Nathaniel Jackson- Mary Holmes College

5:00 - 7:00

All Are Welcome To Join Us

Reception at Reverb Hotel

89 Centennial Olympic Park Dr NW, Atlanta, GA 30313

Friday, October 25, 2024

9:00-9:40 Breakfast (Atrium 2nd Floor)

9:45 Welcome and Conference Overview, Kurt Young (Auditorium)

Introduction of Speaker: Elsie Scott, Howard University

Keynote Address: Mamie Locke, Virginia State Senator

10:45-12:00 Panel III (Auditorium)

The Contributions of the Department of Political Science, Atlanta University/Clark Atlanta University to the National Conference of Black Political Scientists

Moderator-Shiela Harmon Martin

Larry Moss (1978-1979)

Elsie Scott (1980-1981)

Joseph (Pete) Silver (1990-1992)

William Boone (1994-1995)

12:00-1:10 Lunch – (Atrium 2nd Floor)

1:15-2:30 Panel IV (Auditorium)

“Freedom is Something People Take:” Navigating a Changing World Through the Atlanta School of Black Political Science in the 1990s

Moderator: Lee C. Jones, Clark Atlanta University

“A Legacy of Contemporaneous Political Analysis: A Tribute to the Mack H. Jones Department of Political Science at Clark Atlanta University,” - Lee C. Jones, Clark Atlanta University

“Formation of a Black Consciousness through the lens of Cress-Welsing and Du Bois” – Christopher Bass, Clark Atlanta University

“The 1997 Pan-Africanism Conference: Reflections on a Sankofa Moment” – Kurt B. Young, Clark Atlanta University

“Black Studies and Political Science: CAU’s Merging of the Two” – Afia Zakiya, Independent Scholar

“The AU to the Rescue: The Miseducation and Resurrection of Ricky Jones” – Ricky L. Jones, University of Louisville

“The Rise of the Black Consciousness Movement in the 1990s: Reflections of an Atlanta Renaissance in the AUC” – Jarrod Grant, Clark Atlanta University

2:45-4:00 Panel V (Auditorium)

“Groundings” Of Clark Atlanta University and Its Impact

Moderator- Jarod Grant, Clark Atlanta University

“The Study of 'The Africas' in the Atlanta School of Political Inquiry” - Hashim Gibrill, Clark Atlanta University”

“The Diasporic Nationalism of the Department of Political Science at CAU” - Maziki Thame, University of West Indies, Mona Campus and Kurt Young, Clark Atlanta University

“Intergenerational Discourse: Black Political Science and the AU/CAU Experience” - Kelly Harris, University of Pennsylvania

“Reimagining Political Science through Ujamaa: The Atlanta School’s 50-Year Legacy of Scholarship and Inclusive Epistemologies” - Amartey Rashid Laryea, Howard University

5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

KARAMU!

Come Fellowship with us as we Celebrate Fifty Years of Scholarship in the

Mack H. Jones Department of Political Science and each other!

Live Music provided by Mausiki Scales and The Common Ground Collective

(Bring Your Dancing Shoes)

Food

Open Mic – Words of Expression About the Occasion

Author Shout Out! Recognition of Publications

Saturday, October 26, 2024

9:00-9:30 Breakfast- Atrium 2nd Floor Thomas Cole Hall

9:45 Welcome and Conference Overview, Claudia D. Nelson, Coppin State University

Introduction of Speaker: Ife Williams, Delaware Community College

Keynote Georges Nzongola-Ntalaja, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

10:45-12:00 Panel VI (Auditorium)

The Contours, Contradictions and Contributions of Creating a Black Social Science: Dr. Mack H. Jones and The Atlanta School in Shaping Approaches to Africana Knowledge for Liberation

Moderator: Hashim Gibrill, Clark Atlanta University

Reflections on Mack H. Jones and the shaping of Africana Knowledge for Liberation - Kelly Harris, University of Pennsylvania

“I am a Son of Mack Jones: The Atlanta School and the Institutionalization of Africana Political Thought.” - Kwasi Densu, Florida A & M University

Free Yo Mind! The Atlanta School and Mack Jones’ Decolonized Knowledge, Worldview and Liberatory Black Power Politics. - Afia Zakiya, Independent Scholar/AIDIKI

Systems of ‘Repression and Underdevelopment Abroad’ Mack H. Jones, the Atlanta School, and the Pan-African Synthesis.” - Kurt Young, Clark Atlanta University

12:00-12:30 Light Refreshment Break

12:30-1:45 – Two Concurrent Sessions – Panel VII and Panel VIII

Panel VII - Resistance (Conference Room)

Moderator Ife Williams

“Rebels At the Gate: The Oilfields Workers Trade Union (OWTU) in the Era of George Weekes” - Godfrey Vincent, Wilberforce University

“WEB Dubois Precursor of The Complete Reparations Movement: An Evolving Collective Culture Model and Methodology” - Reggie Muhammad, Clark Atlanta University

“The Status of State and Local Reparations Movements: The Missing Links to Passing HR 40” - Sheila Flemming, Rhode Island College

Panel VIII - CAU Scholars Confronting Diasporic Challenges (Auditorium)

Moderator: Claudia D. Nelson

“The Underdevelopment of Health in the African American Community: Social Justice and Racial Equity What Say You?” - Noble A-W Maseru, University of Pittsburg

“Environmental Racism: Some Concerns” - Modibo Kadalie, Autonomous Research Institute for Direct Democracy & Social Ecology

“Re-envisioning Africana Political Thought Through Recentering the Land Question: Political Economy or Political Ecology in the Post-Anthropocene Era?” - Kwasi Densu, Florida A & M University

2:00-4:30 Closing Luncheon (Atrium 2nd Floor)

Mistress of Ceremony: Shiela Harmon Martin

Remarks by Patricia Rodney, Walter Rodney Foundation

Presentation “The Institute of the Black World and the AU Department of Political Science: Images in the Sankofa Tradition” – Susan J. “Sue” Ross, Photogriot – An Atlanta-based Artist/Cultural Worker uses photography to document the social, political and cultural experiences of the African American community.

Remarks by Former Chairpersons of the Department

Closing Remarks Kurt Young

50TH ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS

Christopher Bass, PhD – Clark Atlanta University
William Boone, PhD – Clark Atlanta University
Kwasi Densu, PhD – Florida A & M University
Jarrod Grant, PhD – Clark Atlanta University (PCM)
Nykia Greene-Young, PhD Candidate – Clark Atlanta University
Hashim Gibrill, PhD – Clark Atlanta University (PCM)
Nathanial Jackson, PhD – Clark Atlanta University
Joseph L. Jones, PhD – Clark Atlanta University
Lee C. Jones, PhD – Clark Atlanta University
Amartey Rashid Laryea, Doctoral Student – Howard University
Mamie E. Locke, PhD – Virginia State Senator
Shiela Harmon Martin, PhD – University of the District of Columbia (PCM)
Kelly Harris, PhD – University of Pennsylvania
Ricky L. Jones, PhD – University of Louisville
Modibo Kadalie, PhD – Autonomous Research Institute for
Direct Democracy & Social Ecology
Noble A-W Maseru, PhD – University of Pittsburg
Larry Moss, PhD – Therrell Magnet Center for Law & Government
Claudia D. Nelson, PhD – Coppin State University (PCM)
Georges Nzongola-Ntalja, PhD – University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
Fredrick Parham, M.A. Candidate – Ujamaa Vice President, Clark Atlanta University
Cindy Peters, PhD Candidate – Clark Atlanta University
Patricia Rodney, PhD – The Walter Rodney Foundation
Elsie L. Scott, PhD – Ronald W. Walters Leadership and Public Policy Center (PCM)
Said Sewell, PhD – Morris College
Joseph “Pete” Silver, Sr. PhD – Alabama State University, Silver & Associates
Maziki Thame, PhD – University of the West Indies - Mona
Ife Williams, PhD – Delaware County Community College (PCM)
Tiffany K. Williams, Doctoral Student – Ujamaa President, Clark Atlanta University (PCM)
Dorothy Cowser Yancy, PhD – Johnson C. Smith University & Shaw University
Kurt “Biton” B. Young, PhD – Clark Atlanta University (PCM)
Afia Zakiya, PhD – Independent Scholar and Researcher/ Founder, AIDIKI

PCM - Planning Committee Members

