ANNUAL REPORT 2013-2014

The W.E.B Du Bois
Fannie Lou Hamer Institute
for Academic Achievement

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LEADERSHIP

The DuBois-Hamer Institute for Academic Achievement is operated under the umbrella of the office of the Dean, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences and is directed by Dr. Cedric D. Hackett, Assistant Professor in the department of Africana Studies since fall 2012. The Institute is abetted in its efforts by volunteer support from faculty of the Africana Studies Dept., key student support services and CSUN students who are committed to "giving back" to their communities.
“And yet not a dream, but a mighty reality, a glimpse of the higher life, the broader possibilities of humanity, which is grant to the man who, amid the rush and roar of living, pauses four short years to learn what living means”

~W.E.B. DuBois
ABOUT THE INSTITUTE

The DuBois-Hamer Institute for Academic Achievement (DHIAA), under the inspiration of W.E.B. DuBois and Fannie Lou Hamer, promotes academic excellence and strives to increase the recruitment and retention of students from economically disadvantaged communities to the CSUN campus. W.E.B. Du Bois was the first black man to receive a doctorate from Harvard University in 1895 and Fannie Lou Hamer was a former Mississippi sharecropper who became a powerful political activist in the 1960s. Founding director, Dr. Barbara Rhodes established the institute in the spring of 1997. Her vision of a university-community based partnership to provide academic and emotional support to CSUN students continues to be a strategic goal of DHIAA and the College of Social & Behavioral Sciences.

MISSION

The mission of the DuBois-Hamer Institute for Academic Achievement (DHIAA) is to promote student success through community and campus partnerships. We will cultivate active and collaborative partnerships with faculty, staff and students across the CSUN campus community; work with local groups and organizations in Los Angeles County; and provide service to cultural and educational institutions in the community.

FIVE APPROACHES

The DHIAA’s approach to ensure that African-American and other marginalized students’ community needs and educational priorities are met include:

1. Mentoring Program
2. Target Outreach/ Programming
3. Community Engagement Opportunities
4. Focused Retention Efforts
5. Social Development thru the promotion of Ethnic specific pedagogy.
ALIGNING MISSION/VALUES/STRATEGIC THEMES/MAJOR PRINCIPLES

- Alliances with the Community. We seek partnerships with local schools, community colleges, businesses, government and social agencies to advance the educational, intellectual, artistic, civic, cultural and economic aspirations of our surrounding communities.

- We will create a community of shared values in which faculty, students, staff, administrators and alumni will experience personal satisfaction and pride in our collective achievements.

- Academics Matter
  - Students Matter
  - Community Matters

- To complement the University’s efforts to address the needs of African American students

- To ensure that African American students have the necessary skills to achieve academic excellence and make a contribution to their community.

The DuBois-Hamer Institute for Academic Achievement promotes student research and involvement in experiences that promote their scholarly development and prepare them for graduate school.

Development Leadership
Engagement Culturally Relevant
Unity Target Uplift Racial
Pedagogy Spiritual Opportunities
Mentoring Outreach Engaging
Community Scholarship Programming
IN THE MIRROR:
Building Social Emotional Capacity in the Lives of Young African American Children

The topic addressed issues of social and emotional development in young African American children (e.g. birth to 5 years old) as it relates to mental health in the 21st century. Key components of the lecture included the significance of early parent-child relationships, the impact of trauma, and the effects of racial socialization.

WHITSETT ROOM, CSUN
NORTHRIDGE, CALIFORNIA
SEPTEMBER 26, 2013

CO-SPONSORS:
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COLLEGE OF SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
RESEARCH & GRADUATE STUDIES
PATHWAYS TO INCLUSIVE TEACHING AND LEARNING EXCELLENCE IN THE 21ST CENTURY

This presentation highlighted a mixture of instructional styles, critical thinking within the context of ethnic and cultural studies, alternative approaches to epistemology, and an ongoing multicultural/multiethnic dialogue within the academy. Dr. White discussed the synergy created by combining four major teaching and learning strategies. He also facilitated discovery and rediscovery of fascination with the learning process, activated internal motivation to pursue life-long learning and encouraged students to actively participate in the betterment of society.

UNIVERSITY STUDENT UNION, CSUN
NORTHRIDGE, CALIFORNIA
OCTOBER 31, 2013

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UNIVERSITY STUDENT UNION, INC.
ASSOCIATED STUDENTS
Student engagement is an important indicator of student success. This presentation examined current research and literature regarding the academic experiences of African American males in higher education and the factors that hinder and support their levels of engagement on campus. Very little is known about how the socio-cultural context of African American males directly shapes their engagement experiences. Foster discussed how African American male students’ learning is being impacted by their engagement experiences through highlights of a phenomenological investigation into the experiences of African American male students in engaging in educationally purposeful activities.
Sponsored Lecture Series

Maurice Arrington, M.A.
Adjunct Professor, Kinesiology
California State University, Northridge

Understanding the History and Liberating Experiences of African American Male Student Athletes

This presentation educated participants about the historical subjugation and exploitation of African American male student-athletes throughout slavery, the civil rights era and in intercollegiate athletics. Several African-American male student-athletes have used these exploitative practices to their advantage. A review of how selective African-American male student-athletes utilized their status as a platform to raise the social consciousness on issues of social justice and equality in the African American community and society as a whole was also discussed.

University Student Union, CSUN
Northridge, California
March 26, 2014

Co-Sponsors:
Africana Studies
College of Social & Behavioral Sciences
Research & Graduate Studies
University Student Union, Inc.
Associated Students
SPONSORED LECTURE SERIES

MANIFESTING GREATNESS: THE 21ST CENTURY RELEVANCE OF CULTURAL EDUCATION FOR BLACK CHILDREN

This timely event featured educational expert, Ms. Moya Ojarigi, founder of Inner Child Artistry, a learning facility designed for preschoolers of color. Ms. Ojarigi discussed the connection between cultural education and success. She also provided useful tools for facilitating the individual gifts of our children.

WHITSETT ROOM, CSUN
NORTH RIDGE, CALIFORNIA
MAY 29, 2014

CO-SPONSORS:
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“Our course of action must lie neither in passively relying on persuasion nor actively succumbing to violent rebellion, but in a higher synthesis that reconciles the truths of two opposites while avoiding the inadequacies and ineffectiveness of both.”

MLK
LIVING WORD COMMUNITY CHURCH’S CULTURALLY BASED ALGEBRA CAMP (CBAC) SUMMER 2014

CBAC is a six-week program that meets four days a week for 5 hours a day and provides an intense and enjoyable educational environment where students in grades 1st – 12th are challenged with culturally appropriate math instruction and exercises. Other activities include racially inspiring lectures and dialogues on relevant current events. K-12 students are exposed to Africana scholars and authors in an effort to increase their knowledge of African American history.

BLACK HOUSE, CSUN
NORTHRIDGE, CALIFORNIA
JUNE 16-JULY 25, 2014

CO-SPONSORS:
AFRICANA STUDIES
OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT OF STUDENT AFFAIRS
BLACK MALE INITIATIVE

BLACK MALE INTELLECTUAL SPACE

One ever feels his twoness - an American, a Negro; two souls, two thoughts, two unreconciled strivings; two warring ideals in one dark body, whose dogged strength alone keeps it from being torn asunder.

W. E. B. Du Bois

Creating Black Male Intellectual Space is an experiential learning program designed to promote academic achievement in African American males at California State University, Northridge (CSUN). While African American males are targeted due to their lowest retention rates, graduation rates, and highest attrition rates, all males are encouraged to participate in our focus groups.

The purpose of Intellectual Space is to develop and evaluate a culturally responsive mentoring program by providing engagement activities concerning racial and ethnic identity development, health and awareness, leadership, and developing learning strategies to increase college completion.
TuBois-Hamer Co-Sponsored Events

Bi-Annual Men of Color Enquiry & Student Research Poster Session

The Bi-Annual Men of Color Enquiry & Student Research Poster session provides an opportunity for students, from the Africana Studies 325: The Black Male in Contemporary Times, to showcase their research on Black men in a poster format. The campus community is invited to participate in the event. These co-curricular experiences compliments the course content and is considered a high impact practice.

The event was held November 26, 2013
DuBois-Hamer Co-Sponsored Events

Bi-Annual Men of Color Enquiry & Student Research Poster Session

This inquiry-based learning approach allows students to become actively involved in the learning process and gives them the opportunity to engage in course material.

The event was held
March 26, 2014
The 1st annual Silent Auction and Recognition ceremony raised $500, which included donated items from the Matador Bookstore, Student Recreation Center, PF Chang’s, Food 4 Less, etc.

A special tribute to Emeritus Professor Rosentine Bennett Purnell was presented by Professor Monica Turner, who performed a creative dialogue of the late instructor.
### DuBois-Hamer Support & Sponsors

#### Faculty Associated with Institute
- Dr. Marquita Gammage
- Dr. Aimee Glocke
- Dr. Sheba Lo
- Dr. Theresa White

#### College/University Sponsors
Associated Students/Instructionally Related Activities
- College of Social & Behavioral Sciences
- Research & Graduate Studies
- Africana Studies
- University Student Union, Inc.

#### Advisory & Community Board Members
- Dr. Virginia Hathaway
  Young Black Scholars
- Dr. Chris Holmes
  University Counseling Services
- Ms. Shante Morgan
  University Advancement/Black Alumni Association
- Moya Ojarigi
  Inner Child Artistry Leadership Academy