

Kelly
Miller
Smith
Institute
on Black
Church
Studies

Vanderbilt Divinity School

presents
National
Black
Church
Studies
Consultation:
Preparing
Prophets
& Priests
for the
Black
Church
Tradition
in the
Twenty-First
Century



January 31 – February 2, 2007

Consultation Schedule

Wednesday, January 31

Vanderbilt Divinity School Refectory

- 7:00 p.m. Greetings**
James Hudnut-Beumler, Dean of the Vanderbilt Divinity School
Forrest E. Harris Sr., Director of the Kelly Miller Smith Institute
Alton B. Pollard III, Emory University
Candler School of Theology
- 7:15 p.m. Lecture: Henry Mitchell**
- 8:00 p.m. Reception**
Honoring Henry and Ella Mitchell

Thursday, February 1

Bishop Joseph Johnson Black Cultural Center

- 9:30 a.m. Opening Statements**
Alice W. Hunt, Associate Dean of the Vanderbilt Divinity School
Forrest E. Harris Sr., Director of the Kelly Miller Smith Institute
- 9:45–10:15 a.m. Black Women’s Leadership: Agency, Power, and Constraints in the Black Church**
Teresa Fry Brown, Emory University
Candler School of Theology
Response: Ayanna Abi-Kyles
- 10:20–10:50 a.m. Liberating Black Sexuality**
Ayanna Abi-Kyles, Emory University
Candler School of Theology
Response: Teresa Fry Brown
- 11:00–11:15 a.m. Audience Dialogue**
- Lunch**
- 12:45–1:15 p.m. Black Theology and Liberation Praxis**
Dwight N. Hopkins, University of Chicago Divinity School
Response: Linda Thomas, University of Chicago
Divinity School
- 1:20–1:50 p.m. The Black Church Confronting the Prison-Industrial Complex**
Juan Floyd-Thomas, Texas Christian University
Response: Darryl M. Trimiew,
- 1:55–2:25 p.m. Black Churches and Public Policy**
Darryl M. Trimiew, Medgar Evers College
Response: Juan Floyd-Thomas
- 2:30–2:45 p.m. Audience Dialogue**
- Break**
- 3:00–3:30 p.m. Hermeneutics for Social Justice Preaching**
Rodney S. Sadler Jr., Union Theological Seminary and
Presbyterian School of Christian Education
Response: Dennis W. Wiley
- 3:35–4:05 p.m. Black Church & Liberalism**
Dennis W. Wiley, Covenant Baptist Church
Response: Rodney S. Sadler Jr.
- 4:10–4:30 p.m. Audience Dialogue**

Friday, February 2

Bishop Joseph Johnson Black Cultural Center

- 10:00–10:30 a.m. Faithfully Pursuing What We Profess: The Crises of Theory, Practice, and Identity in the Role of the Black Religious Scholar**
Stacey M. Floyd-Thomas, Texas Christian University
Response: Keri Day Harrison

- 10:35–11:05 a.m. Theology of Hip-Hop: A Prophetic Response to Black Youth Voices**
Keri Day Harrison, Vanderbilt University
- 11:10–11:25 a.m. Audience Dialogue**
- 11:30 a.m. Closing Statements**
James Hudnut-Beumler, Dean of the Vanderbilt Divinity School
Forrest E. Harris Sr., Director of the Kelly Miller Smith Institute
Alton B. Pollard III, Emory University
Candler School of Theology

Consultation Rationale

What has been the impact of Black Church Studies programs in the academy upon the culture of black congregational life through the theological education of leaders for prophetic praxis in ministry? Since their emergence, Black Church Studies programs in divinity schools and seminaries have gone through curricular evolutions aimed at influencing the way leadership of black churches responds in ministry to matters of faith and social crisis. Black Church Studies programs have been the catalysts within the academy for inspiring methodological changes in theological education particularly as it relates to the spirituality, pastoral care, and sociopolitical and economic crisis that characterize ministry that black churches are called upon to perform. The continuing evolution in Black Church Studies programs is the motivation behind recent consultations held at Emory’s Candler School of Theology in 2006 and previously at Vanderbilt Divinity School’s Kelly Miller Smith Institute for Black Church Studies in 2005.

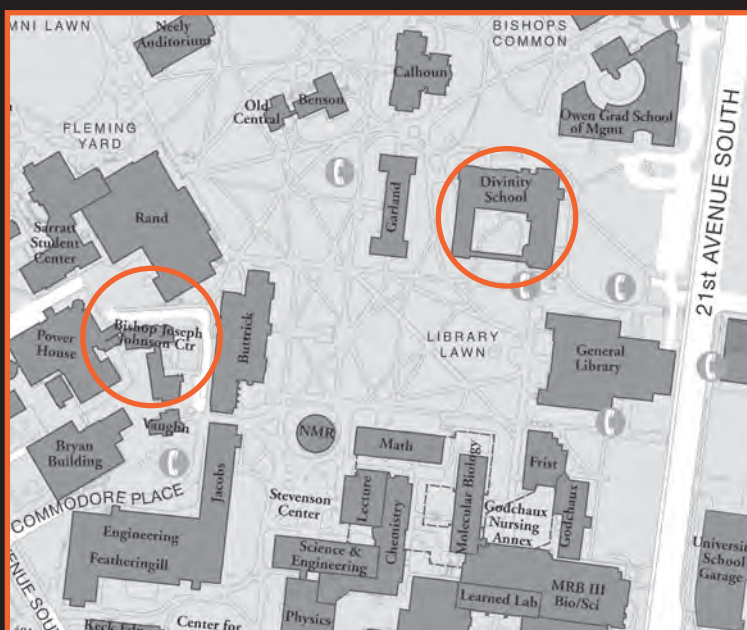
“Preparing Prophets and Priests for the Black Church Tradition in the Twenty First Century” is the theme for this consultation which will involve the participation of Black Church Studies program directors, scholars, and students, and black church leaders in an effort to establish a national forum and network for dialogue regarding contemporary challenges of theological education and the ministry of black churches. Vanderbilt’s Kelly Miller Smith Institute is pleased to continue this important conversation as we seek to discover theological methods and models that yield effective theological education and liberation ministry for black churches.

The National Black Church Studies Consultation is co-sponsored by the Program of Black Church Studies at the Candler School of Theology of Emory University.

The conference is free and open to the public.

For More Information:
Sha’Tika Brown
Kelly Miller Smith Institute
(615) 936-8453

Vanderbilt University is committed to principles of equal opportunity and affirmative action.



Kelly Miller Smith Institute on Black Church Studies Vanderbilt Divinity School presents National Black Church Studies Consultation: Preparing Prophets and Priests for the Black Church Tradition in the Twenty-First Century



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