



CENTER FOR BLACK STUDIES RESEARCH

# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2023

[cbsr.ucsb.edu](http://cbsr.ucsb.edu)

## FROM OUR DIRECTOR

### Director, Dr. Sharon Tettegah

Dear Center for Black Studies Research Community,

As we approach the end of 2023, we find ourselves reflecting on the remarkable achievements and contributions made by Black individuals within our community. This month's newsletter is dedicated to celebrating the richness of Black excellence and acknowledging the collective efforts of our faculty, staff, and students.



### Faculty Spotlight

We would like to shine a spotlight on Drs. AJ Rice and Antar Tichavakunda, whose groundbreaking research symposia, *The Black Collective*, will support new collaborations and knowledge at the Center for Black Studies Research.

### Student Achievements

Our students continue to inspire us with their passion and commitment to academic excellence in the SEEDS program. This month, we congratulate them for all of the hard work they've achieved.

### Staff Appreciation

The backbone of our center lies in the hard work and dedication of our staff members. We extend our heartfelt appreciation to every member of our team for their tireless efforts in supporting our research initiatives, events, and programs throughout the year.

### Special Thanks

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to the Vice Chancellor's Office of Research for their unwavering support in facilitating our research endeavors. The Vice Chancellors of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion have been instrumental in fostering an inclusive environment that values and appreciates the diversity within our community. We also extend our thanks to The Office of the Chancellor for their continued commitment and support to promoting academic excellence and diversity on our campus.

Thank you to our UCSB co-sponsors, The Healing Space, Gevirtz Graduate School of Education, and Counseling and Psychological Services.

### Upcoming Events

As we look forward to 2024, the Center for Black Studies Research has an exciting lineup of events, including lectures, panel discussions, and community outreach programs. Stay tuned for more details on how you can get involved and contribute to the ongoing dialogue surrounding Black studies.

This coming January 2024, we are sponsoring a fascinating talk given by Dr. Vernon Burton, a highly acclaimed historian, from Clemson University. Dr. Burton's event is co-sponsored by the UCSB History Department.

We are proud to co-sponsor Dr. Baker-Bell for her talk for the EXITO Speaker Series, in the month of February 2024.

The Center is also thrilled to be welcoming futurist and filmmaker Anatola Araba for her talk in March 2024.

### Get Involved

We encourage all members of our community to actively participate in the Center for Black Studies Research. Whether you are a faculty member, student, or staff member, your voice and perspective are invaluable. If you have ideas for future events or initiatives, please don't hesitate to reach out to us.

Thank you all for your continued dedication and support. Together, we will continue to celebrate and uplift the contributions of Black individuals, fostering a community that values diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Whether you're observing Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Diwali, Winter Solstice, or any other cherished tradition, we wish you a happy holidays and a happy New Year! (Open AI, personal communication, December 17, 2023)

Sincerely,  
Sharon Tettegah

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### HONORING SOJOURNER KINCAID ROLLE



The Center is saddened to learn about the passing of a valuable member of our community, Sojourner Kincaid Rolle. Rolle has left a lasting impact through her artistic talents and advocacy for social justice. We extend our deepest sympathies to her family, friends, and all who were touched by her work. May her legacy continue to inspire us in her absence.

### CLOSURE FOR THE WINTER BREAK

Please be aware that the Center will be closed from December 25th, 2023 until January 3rd, 2024. We hope you all have a great break and we look forward to another year of building and connecting with you all!



## THE BLACK COLLECTIVE



The CBSR is excited to announce that CBSR faculty affiliates, Dr. AJ Rice and Dr. Antar Tichavakunda, are launching the Black Collective! The Black Collective will be a collaborative forum for scholars of the Black experience to share their in-progress ideas to a supportive, affirming audience with generative feedback. This will be achieved through two programs: a working paper series and a quarterly social-academic event. The Black Collective is open to UCSB graduate students, faculty, staff, and administrators who are committed to cultivating a vibrant intellectual and social community across campus. The Black Collective is set to launch in Spring 2024 with its first Black Scholar Meet-Up, so keep a look out for announcements with specific details on this opportunity to get to know fellow Black faculty, staff, administrators, and graduate students here at UCSB.



## WINTER QUARTER EVENTS

We're looking forward to having Dr. Vernon Burton from Clemson University give his talk "Picturing Justice: Race & the Supreme Court" on January 24th, 2024 at 4pm in UCSB South Hall 4603. Dr. Burton's talk will be followed by an informal conversation January 25th, 2024 at 12pm in UCSB South Hall 4502. [You can find more information on our website.](#)



CBSR Associate Director, Dr. Waverly Duck, along with IChange project manager, Dr. Allison Clark, and postdoctoral scholar, Dr. Charles Terry, will be honoring Black History Month with the Criminal Legal System: From the Cradle to the Grave and Solutions Conference. This Conference will be held February 29th and March 1st, 2024. Specific location and time will be shared at a later date. The three primary initiatives of the conference are: 1. to educate attendees about the criminal legal system's history, current state, and future prospects; 2. investigate potential solutions and pioneering approaches through this conference; and 3. encourage networking and collaboration among stakeholders to effect change. In addition to the panel discussion and dialogue, there will be a special issue in a journal publication produced based on the conference.



We are proud to co-sponsor Dr. April Baker-Bell in her talk for the EXITO Speaker Series. Dr. Baker-Bell's talk will be given in UCSB's Mosher Alumni House February 29th, 2024 from 3:30-5:00pm. [See more about this event here.](#)



The Center is thrilled to welcome futurist, filmmaker, and founder of Reimagine Story Lab, Anatola Araba. Anatola will be giving her talk "Imagination: A Bridge To Brighter Futures in the Age of Artificial Intelligence" March 5th, 2024 at 4pm in UCSB South Hall 4603. [Read more about this event on our website.](#)

## EVENT RECAP



The Center is grateful to have held space with Dr. Della Mosley who gave an insightful and encouraging presentation discussing personal and collective wellness when it comes to healing and being a healer. It was wonderful getting to connect with over 200 community members who attended both virtually and in person, and we look forward to the future engagement with you all, inspired by Dr. Mosley's talk. Take a look at the [recording of the presentation on our website!](#)

## CBSR CORNER

### DR. EBENEZER LARNYO

This quarter has been a whirlwind of activity for Dr. Ebenezer Larnyo. Dr. Larnyo has continued his mentorship and facilitation of the discussion forum in the SEEDS program. Additionally, he participated in the Blackacademics: Undergraduate Research Panel event organized by EOP, African Diasporic Cultural Resource Center (AdCRC) and the Office of Black Student Development (OBSD) Academics Collaborative. Dr. Larnyo, was joined by SEEDS fellow Arnav Kumar, and together they showcased the SEEDS program. Dr. Larnyo also actively contributes as a member of the Black Resource Committee (BRC), regularly updating committee members on the Center's ongoing programs and activities to ensure the Center is continuously engaged with the larger UCSB community. Dr. Larnyo is also exploring potential collaborations with various departments and research centers, including with Professor Jennifer Jacobs and her team at the Expressive Computation Lab (ECL) within the Media Arts and technology Department. This collaboration could involve augmented reality projects related to Black Radical Tradition at the UCs.



### DR. CHARLES TERRY

Dr. Charles Terry has been taking an active role in the Center. He is a member of the Black Resource Committee (BRC) and has been attending monthly meetings there. Dr. Terry regularly updates the BRC on the activities of the CBSR, and coordinates with the Office of Black Student Development (OBSD), the African Diasporic Cultural Resource Center (AdCRC), alumni and some active students to better understand the needs of Black students on this campus. Additionally, Dr. Terry is working to continue spearheading the CBSR Podcast, which has released two episodes and can be found on Spotify @UCSB Center for Black Studies Research or on the [CBSR website media page](#). Moreover, Dr. Terry has been fortunate enough to collaborate with other scholars under the supervision of Dr. Sharon Tettegah, to work on an upcoming publication regarding diverse students and curriculum through the framework of democracy and education. Finally, Dr. Terry is working with Associate Director, Dr. Waverly Duck to plan several upcoming conferences including two-day conference during Black History Month entitled Criminal Legal System: From the Cradle to the Grave and Solutions.

