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[Call for Papers, 1993]

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Call for

Papers

“Black Women

in the Academy:

Defending Our Name:

1894–1994”

National Conference

January 13–15, 1994

Executive Committee

Dr. Robin Kilson
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Dr. Evelyn Hammonds
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Dr. Florence Ladd
Bunting Institute, Radcliffe College

Advisory Committee

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President,
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

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President, Radcliffe College

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Princeton University

Dr. Nellie Y. McKay
University of Wisconsin, Madison

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Dr. Henry Louis Gates, Jr.
Harvard University

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Princeton University

Steering Committee

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Massachusetts Institute of Technology

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Dr. E. Frances White
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Mount Holyoke College

Cheryl Clarke
Office of the Provost,
Rutgers University, New Brunswick

Black women have come in for a large share of negative criticism in the form of both open and coded discourse generated by the Anita Hill/Clarence Thomas hearings last year, and political discourse generated by electoral campaigns over the course of the last year largely centered on the issue of welfare reform and “family values.” These events have generated the most intense public consideration of the character and morality of Black women that this country has witnessed since the 1890s. African-American women in the academy placed themselves squarely in the center of these debates in 1992 with the formation of the organization, African-American Women In Defense of Ourselves.

The conference “Black Women in the Academy: Defending Our Name, 1894–1994” will focus scholarly energies and public attention on these debates. The event will present works considering a large number of concerns central to Black women’s lives inside and out of the academy.

The size of the conference makes it impossible to accept every proposal. The steering committee will choose from among the proposals on the basis of appropriateness to the conference theme and originality of thought and presentation. Participants are encouraged to propose panels as well as individual papers. Papers should be no longer than fifteen minutes in length. Panels will be limited to three presentations so that there can be ample time for discussion. We hope to have some funds available to subsidize travel for participants but participants should attempt to use their own institutional travel funds wherever possible.

Please submit abstracts and panel proposals to:
Prof. Robin Kilson or Prof. Evelyn Hammonds,
Massachusetts Institute of Technology,
Women’s Studies Program, 14E-316,
Cambridge, MA 02139-4307
617 253-8844 or fax 617 253-9406

Massachusetts Institute
of Technology

Radcliffe College

Cambridge, Massachusetts

Abstracts and

Proposals

Due

June 1, 1993

Deadline
changed to
June 30

African-American Women in the Academy and the Professional Schools

Obtaining the PhD: The Politics of the Seminar Room and Surviving the Dissertation
Getting Tenure: Structural Barriers Facing Black Women in the Academy
Personal Life/Professional Life: Hyper Visibility and Emotional Isolation
Publishing while Perishing
The Pedagogy of Race
Mentoring the Next Generation
The Role of Foremothers: The Problematics of Replication
Affirmative Action: Does It Work for Us?
Life at the Top: Black Women College Presidents
Re-visioning

Disciplinary Issues: African-American Women’s Scholarship

Black Women’s Studies: The Twenty-first Century
Black Women and African-American Studies: Gender and the Politics of Race
Where Are the Black Women?: The Intersection of Gender and Race in Other Disciplines
White Feminist Practice and the Construction of Black Feminist Theory
Black Women and Ethnic Studies: Building Bridges with Other Women of Color
Work in Progress (Panel Organized around Themes or Disciplines)
Institutional Support for Black Women Scholars: Getting Funded
Re-visioning

African-American Women Scholars and the Wider Community

The Impact of Anita Hill: African-American Women in Defense of Ourselves
Black Women and Popular Culture
Twenty-first Century Uplift: Black Women Scholars and Social Change —
Abortion, Welfare Reform, Drug Abuse, and the AIDS Epidemic
Black Women and the Media
Gaining Political Power: Black Women and Mainstream Politics
Sexual Politics, Gender Relations and Black Women Scholars:
Heterosexual Relations/Black Feminist Practice, and Homosexuality/Homophobia
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