

**JAMES R. JOHNSTON CHAIR  
IN BLACK CANADIAN HISTORY  
ANNUAL REPORT  
2004-2005**

This report is an outline of the work of Professor David Divine, the James R. Johnston Chair in Black Canadian Studies. The period covered is the first sixteen months of Professor Divine's tenure as Chair (January 2004 – April 2005 inclusive).

**Strategic Overview**

During Professor Divine's interview process for the Chair, it became clear to him from discussion with various stake holders including community representatives, government officials and academics, that the profile of the Chair even within Dalhousie University, let alone provincially and nationally, was minimal.

This profile of the position of the Chair on commencement of Professor Divine's tenure, was confirmed during an extensive consultation and networking program which was initiated by the Chair, during the first eight months of his appointment in 2004.

The low profile of the Chair during the preceding several years, except for its initial launch in 1996 with the advent of the first post holder, was not helped by the apparent absence of a written record of activities, achievements, evaluation of outcomes, or indeed any record at all, except for a website that was not recently updated. Therefore, there was a very limited base for further development of the Chair at the time of Professor Divine's arrival, based on what had gone on before.

A strategic decision was taken by Professor Divine in consultation with the Advisory Boards to the James R. Johnston Chair (Dalhousie and National), that the first seven years of the Chair up to 2004 would be interpreted as developmental, and that to all intents and purposes, the James R. Johnston Chair in Black Canadian Studies would be re-launched.

In order therefore to learn from the past, re-engage with previous interested stake holders, be involved in a process of explication where necessary, forge new partnerships, introductions of the new Chair and the creation of a work programme based on issues and concerns identified within Black communities nationally and provincially, the Chair embarked on a fairly extensive consultation and networking series of initiatives which continued throughout the period of this report as far as budgets permitted.

It was also apparent that the donors who had contributed to the original endowment for the Chair, had not been contacted for several years regarding updates on progress relating to the James R. Johnston Chair.

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**Process leading to the creation of the initial work programme of  
Professor David Divine as the James R. Johnston Chair**

Arising from the consultation and networking initiatives alluded to earlier, a work programme for the Chair was outlined which reflected issues and concerns raised. The initial outline of the work programme covered the period between January 2004 and January 2010. The work programme would be seen as a work in progress and modified in the light of developments.

The formal launch of the tenure of Professor Divine as the James R. Johnston Chair took place on September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2004 by which time, the first brochure on the James R. Johnston Chair had been produced. The brochure, outlined the mission, goals, work programme, funding opportunities and sources of finance for special initiatives and contact details. [Details can be viewed over the website: [www.jamesrjohnstonchair.dal.ca](http://www.jamesrjohnstonchair.dal.ca).] Over two hundred people attended this widely publicized event. In addition, a publication was produced titled: "Dalhousie University Libraries, Black Canadian Studies Collection Catalogue", which represents a selected portion of the CIBC (Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce) Special Collection in Black Canadian Studies housed at the Killam Library. [Details can be viewed over the website: [www.jamesrjohnstonchair.dal.ca](http://www.jamesrjohnstonchair.dal.ca).] The website for the James R. Johnston Chair was radically transformed and the new site became operational in October 2004 and is attracting increasing attention judging by the Net Tracking Services, used by the James R. Johnston Chair to monitor usage of the site.

**Initial Work Programme**

Over the first eight months of Professor David Divine's tenure (January - August 2004), work included:

- Update of the website of the James R. Johnston Chair;
- The production of a catalogue of selected items from the collection of books, videos etc purchased by the James R. Johnston Chair and held at the Killam Library;
- Meetings with key academic and administrative staff at Dalhousie University with links to the James R. Johnston Chair;
- Visits by the Chair to key Canadian locations where significant numbers of Black Canadians reside and liaison with key representatives from those communities;
- Forging of links with key Black Canadian scholars and institutions with a record of scholarly interest in Black Canadian studies;
- A major launch of the second tenure of the James R. Johnston Chair on September 20, 2004 at Dalhousie University.

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**From October 2004 to 2010 the work will include:**

- Summary of the work of the James R. Johnston Chair to date (1996 - 2002)
- Staging a national conference in 2005 on: What is Black Canadian Studies? What is 'the Black Community(ies)? What is a 'Black Canadian identity'? Key issues facing Blacks in Canada and how those issues are being addressed;
- Arrange International conferences over the next six years;
- Development of an International series of seminars and lectures on selected themes commencing 2005;
- An annual series of public seminars and lectures within Canada on selected themes commencing 2005;
- Production of films, documentaries, and videos on aspects of Black Canadian life;
- Coordinating community development initiatives relating to local and national Black Canadian concerns with a view to influencing government policy and practice;
- Participation in projects relating to the spiritual dimension of the lives of Black Canadians;
- Production of papers for academic journals and books;
- Participation in school curriculum and teaching relating to Black Canadian studies;
- Preparation of possible on line teaching programmes on Black Canadian studies in association with partner academic institutions;
- Teaching courses at Dalhousie University at the School of Social Work and guest lecturing on courses provided by other Departments at the University;
- Coordinating the first national exhibition on the Black Presence in Canada;
- Increasing the endowment of the James R. Johnston Chair by 1,000,000 Canadian dollars during the tenure of Professor David Divine

**Presentations**

One of the strategic decisions taken by Professor Divine in increasing the profile and provincial and national relevance and credibility of the James R. Johnston Chair, was to deliver presentations on identified key themes across Canada. This was in addition to specific visits across Canada which primarily revolved around introductions, networking and possible joint work initiatives.

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**2006 (Scheduled)**

6th February - Keynote Speaker - "The Place of Black Spirituality in the Canadian Mosaic." Cathedral Arts Dinner Lecture, Cathedral Hall, Christchurch Cathedral, 420 Sparks Street, Ottawa, Ontario. ([website](#)) 6:00pm Contact: (613) 567-1787.

17th-20th June - Keynote Speaker, Annual Meeting of the Canadian Association of Social Workers. (Theme: "Transformation: Charting Our Course") Westin Hotel, Halifax.

**2005 (Scheduled)**

26-28 October - Keynote Speaker - Conference: [Multiple Lenses: Voices from the diaspora located in Canada](#). Organized and Chaired by the James R. Johnston Chair in Black Canadian Studies - Halifax.

**2005**

8th July - Keynote Speaker, North Preston Graduates' Banquet 2005. North Preston.

15 June - Keynote Speaker - "Why we need to document history – Celebrating the Voices of Pioneer Women," Reception in Honour Of the 50th Anniversary of The Signing of an Agreement between Jamaica and Canada to set up the first Labour Market Caribbean Domestic Workers Scheme, (with Mme Raymonde Folco, MP Laval-Les Îles, Minister of Labour; Honourable Joe Volpe, Minister of Citizenship & Immigration; Honourable Joe Fontana, Minister of Labour & Housing; Mrs. Estuko Anderson, Counsellor, High Commission for Barbados; His Excellency Carl O'Neal Marshall, High Commissioner for Jamaica in Canada; Mrs. Thelma Johnson, (Nurse & Businesswoman); Ms. Sealen Chang (Retired Teacher); Jacqueline Lawrence, Ottawa Poet; Khai Lewis-Welsh, (Ms. Teen Canada 2004 - Soprano); Voices of The Pioneer Women Singers). Salle de Railway Committee, Centre Block, Ottawa, ON

10th May - Keynote Speaker, "OK, Do You Want to Include Everybody? If So, How Do We Go About It? If We Don't Want to Include Everybody, What Might Be The Consequences for Those Excluded and for The Organization Itself?" - Metro Non-Profit Housing Association. Annual General Meeting & Fund-Raising Luncheon. St. David's Church, 1537 Brunswick Street, Halifax, Nova Scotia. 12-1:00pm. ([website](#))

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- 6th May - Keynote Speaker, "Salad Bowl, Melting Pot and the Canadian Mosaic: Reflections on Diversity" - Diversity Conference, Faculty of Health Professions, Dalhousie University, Halifax. ([website](#))
- 5th & 6th May - Keynote Speaker, "Challenges for an Inclusive Social Work Practice: An Exploration of Whether An Inclusive Social Work Practice is Viable." - Annual Conference of the Nova Scotia Association of Social Workers. (Theme: "Social Work for Social Justice: An Africentric Approach."). University of King's College, 6350 Coburg Road, Halifax, Nova Scotia. ([website](#))
- 7th April - Keynote Speaker - Multicultural Education Council of Nova Scotia. Annual Conference.
- 1st & 2nd April - Conference [Racial Violence and the Colour Line of the New World Order](#) - Co-Chaired & Co-Organized by the James R. Johnston Chair in Black Canadian Studies. (Halifax)
- 7 March - Panel Participant: "Lynched bodies: Black men, sexuality and racial violence" presented at the conference Gender Inequality and HIV/AIDS: Lessons for International Development in the New Millennium. Venue: Atkins Room, Public Archives Building (6016 University Avenue), Dalhousie University, Halifax. 9:00am-4:30pm.
- 28th February - Keynote Speaker: "Resilience and Social Exclusion in the Black Community." School of Social Work. Venue: York University. 7:00pm-9:00pm.
- 28th February - Keynote Speaker - "Activism as a Way of Life." - Social Work Anti- Oppression Coalition (SWAOC). Black History Month event. Ryerson University, Toronto. 12:00pm. Room POD-144
- 21st February - Lord Dalhousie Room, Henry Hicks Building, 6299 South Street, Dalhousie University: Book Launch and presentation by Professor Cecil Foster (University of Guelph): 'Where Race Does Not Matter.'
- 17th February - Keynote Speaker - "The Importance of Knowing your History." Visible Minority Subcommittee - Halifax Tax Services Office (Canada Customs & Revenue Agency). 1130am-100pm
- 15th February - Keynote Speaker - Sojourner Truth Association Lecture Series, Ottawa.

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- 12th February - Keynote Speaker - Sixth Annual Black History Month, Library & Archives Canada, Ottawa.
- 8th February - Presentation at the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission - Joseph Howe Building, 1690 Hollis Street.
- 4th-5th February - Panel participant at Ebony Roots, Northern Soil: Perspectives on Blackness in Canada Conference, McGill University, Montreal.
- 30th January - Keynote Speaker - Ontario Black Historical Society - Sheraton Hotel, Toronto.
- 26th January - Keynote Speaker "Diversity: The Housing Lottery" - Spryfield Resident's Association (AGM). 700pm. Captain William Spry Community Centre.
- 25th January - Keynote Speaker, "Asserting One's Sexuality as a Black Male: Legacy Rights and Responsibilities" - University of King's College, Halifax. 730pm. KTS Lecture Hall, New Academic Building. Reception to follow.
- 17th January - Keynote speaker - "Asserting One's Sexuality as a Black Male: Legacy Rights and Responsibilities." St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish.

**2004**

- 17th December - Small Roundtable Meeting - Senior Canadian Military Personnel and the James R. Johnston Chair in Black Canadian Studies, Dalhousie University, Halifax.
- 15th December - Keynote Speaker - A Different Booklist, Toronto. 746 Bathurst Street.
- 19th November - Keynote speaker - "Celebration, Affirmation and Resolution." 21st Anniversary celebration of the Black Cultural Centre, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia
- 29th October - Greater Halifax Partnership Investor Briefing Meeting, Delta Barrinton Hotel, Halifax.
- 20th October - Keynote Speaker - Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada, on 'Valuing the experience of being Black; Personal and societal implications'
- 20th September - Formal Launch of the tenure of Professor David Divine as the James R. Johnston Chair in Black Canadian Studies, University Hall, MacDonald Building, Dalhousie University.

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13th-14th May - Keynote Speaker - Annual Summit of the Council of African and Canadian Education. Citadel Inn, 1619 Brunswick St. Halifax.

26th March - Panel Keynote Speaker - African Canadian Heritage Roundtable - National Archives of Canada, 395 Wellington St., Ottawa.

19th -20th March - Panel Keynote Speaker - Graduate Students' Conference on "Examinations of Black Canada in a Changing National Context."  
Founder's College Assembly Hall, York University, Toronto.

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**Conferences Organized by the James R. Johnston Chair**

One of the strategic decisions taken by Professor Divine was as part of the raising of a provincial and national profile for the Chair, it was necessary to convene major academic and community personnel in terms of discussing and addressing key issues relating to the lives and history of Black Canadians. To this end two major conferences were planned in the first sixteen months of the tenure of Professor Divine, the detail of which is outlined below.

It was decided to include the full programme of both conferences in this report in order to highlight the breadth of topic covered and the calibre of the presenters.

**2007 (In Development)**

Black Men and AIDS / HIV International Conference 2007. Organized and Chaired by the James R. Johnston Chair in Black Canadian Studies. (Location TBD)

**2005 (Scheduled)**

**Multiple Lenses:  
Voices from the Diaspora located in Canada**

**Theme:**

Through the lenses of history, law, literature, film, music, Black community organizations, media, sports, Black spirituality, party politics, labour markets, education and lived experience, an exploration through Canadian eyes of how Black people in Canada have identified themselves, and been identified, over a 400 year period. What factors influenced that process?

This conference is timed to coincide with the 400th anniversary of the first recorded presence of a Black person on Canadian soil in 1605, Mathew Da Costa.

The national conference, over three days, will provide a platform for eminent contributors from across Canada, to share ideas and research both past and present, about what it means to be Black and Canadian. This conference, the first of its kind, will include contributions from scholars, public servants, community representatives, film makers, musicians, artists, politicians, spiritual leaders, youth, and members of the public. The purpose of the conference is to explore the complexity of being identified as Black and Canadian and how this relates to the notion of 'citizenship'.





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**1:35-3:00pm Sport Plenary**

Introduced by **Dr. Gamal Abdel-Shehid** - York University, Kinesiology and Health Sciences. (*formerly University of Alberta, Cultural Studies*).

**Molly Killingbeck** - Olympic silver medallist, Athlete Services Manager with the National Sport Centre, ON

**TBD**  
**TBD**

**3:05 -3:20pm Refreshments**

**3:25-5:00pm Concurrent Plenary Workshops**

<u>History</u>	<u>Law</u>	<u>Sport</u>
Introduced by <b>Dr. Dorothy Wills, PQ</b>	Introduced by <b>the Hon. Julius Isaac,</b> and <b>Justice Selwyn Romilly</b>	Introduced by <b>Dr. Gamal Abdel-Shehid</b> - York University, Kinesiology and Health Sciences. ( <i>formerly</i> <i>University of Alberta,</i> <i>Cultural Studies</i> ).
<b>Dr. James Walker</b> - University of Waterloo, Department of History	<b>Judge Corinne Sparks</b> - Provincial Family Court, NS	<b>Molly Killingbeck</b> - Olympic silver medallist, Athlete Services Manager with the National Sport Centre, ON.
<b>Dr. Afua Cooper</b> - University of Toronto, Dept. of History, ON	<b>Dr. Adelle Blackett</b> - McGill University - Law Dept. PQ	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Dr. Ian Wilson</b> - Librarian & Archivist of Canada, Library & Archives Canada	<b>Hon. Daniel Dort�elus</b> - Court of Qu�ebec, (Civil Division)	<b>TBD</b>
	<b>Professor Michelle Williams</b> - Director, Law Programme for Indigenous Blacks and Mi'kmaq, Dalhousie University, NS	<b>TBD</b>

**7:00pm Awards Dinner and Keynote Speaker on Music:**

**Dr. Rinaldo Walcott**, Associate Professor, Canada Research Chair of Social Justice and Cultural Studies, Dept. of Sociology and Equity Studies, OISE / University of Toronto, ON

**Music Evening**

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**Day 2 - Thursday October 27<sup>th</sup>**

8:00-8:45am **Registration and breakfast**

8:50-10:30am **Black Spirituality Plenary**

Introduced by **Professor David Divine, NS**

**Dr. Carol Duncan** - Wilfrid Laurier University, Department of Religion & Culture

**Dr. Peter Paris** - Princeton Theological Seminary and Liaison to the African  
American Studies Program at Princeton University.

**Michael AbdurRashid Taylor** - Centre for Addiction & Mental Health  
Toronto, ON,,  
Manager - Spiritual & Religious Care Services

10:35-10:50am **Refreshments**

10:55-12:25pm **Literature Plenary**

Introduced by **Austin Clarke**

**Dr. George Elliott Clarke** - E.J. Pratt Professor of Canadian Literature

**Dr. Andrea Davis** - York University, Division of Humanities

**Dr. Lillian Allen** - Ontario College of Arts, author, poet & musician

**Dr. H. Nigel Thomas** - Professor of Literature, Faculty of Arts, Laval  
University, PQ

12:30-1:25pm **Lunch**

1:30-3:00pm **Media Plenary** - Introduced by **Joan Jones** - Journalist, NS

**Dr. Yvonne Brown** - University of British Columbia, BC

**Arnold Auguste** - SHARE Newspaper

**Dorothy Williams** - PhD. Candidate, McGill University, ON

**Dr. Karolyn Smardz Frost** - York University, Atkinson College, ON

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3:05-4:30pm **Film Plenary** - Introduced by **Claire Prieto, ON**

**Dr. Sylvia Hamilton** - Film maker, NS  
**Martine Chartrand** - Film maker, Québec / "*Black Soul*" - keynote film  
**Selwyn Jacob** - Film maker, BC  
**Anthony Sherwood** - Film maker, ON  
**Pat Dillon** - National Film Board of Canada  
**Michael Jarvis** - Film maker, Québec

4:35 – 6:00pm **Concurrent Plenary Workshops**

**Black  
Spirituality**

Introduced by  
**Professor David  
Divine, NS**  
**Dr. Carol Duncan**  
 - Wilfred Laurier  
 University, ON  
**Dr. Peter Paris**  
 - Princeton  
 Theological  
**Michael  
AbdurRashid  
Taylor**  
 - Centre for  
 Addiction and  
 Mental Health  
 Toronto

**Literature**

Introduced by  
**Austin Clarke**  
**Dr. G. E. Clarke**  
 - E.J. Pratt  
 Professor of  
 Canadian  
 Literature, ON  
**Dr. Andrea Davis**  
 - York University,  
**Dr. Lillian Allen**  
 - Ontario College of  
 Arts, author, poet &  
 musician, ON  
**Dr. H. Nigel  
Thomas**  
 - Professor of  
 Literature, Faculty  
 of Arts, Laval  
 University, PQ.

**Media**

Introduced by  
**Joan Jones, NS**  
**Dr. Yvonne Brown**  
 - University of  
 British Columbia,  
 BC  
**Arnold Auguste**  
 - SHARE  
 Newspaper  
**Dorothy Williams**  
 - McGill  
 University, PQ  
**Dr. Karolyn  
Smardz Frost**  
 - York University,  
 Atkinson College,  
 ON

**Film**

Introduced by  
**Claire Prieto, ON**  
**Dr. Sylvia  
Hamilton**  
 - Film maker, NS  
**Martine  
Chartrand**  
 - Film maker, PQ  
 "*Black Soul*" -  
 keynote film  
**Selwyn Jacob**  
 - Film maker, BC  
**Anthony  
Sherwood**  
 - Film maker, ON  
**Pat Dillon** -  
 National Film  
 Board of Canada  
**Michael Jarvis**  
 - Film maker,  
 Québec

**7:00 Dinner and Black Film Shorts**

**Keynote Speaker: Dr. Leslie Sanders,**  
 School of Arts & Letters, York University, ON.  
 A founder of the Centre for the Study of Black Cultures in Canada

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**Day 3 - Friday October 28<sup>th</sup>**

8:00-8:45am **Registration and Breakfast**

8:50-10:30am **Education Plenary**

Introduced by **Dr. Charmaine Nelson, Quebec**

**Dr. Avis Glaze** - Chief Student Achievement Officer/CEO The Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat for the Ministry of Education, ON

**Dwayne A. Provo** - Executive Director, Black Educators Association, NS

**Dr. Cecil Foster** - University of Guelph, Sociology & Anthropology, ON

**Dr. Henry Bishop** - Director, [Black Cultural Centre](#), NS

10:35-10:50am **Refreshments**

10:55-12:25pm **Community Organizations / Lived Experience Plenary**

Introduced by **Professor Terry Roswell,**

Ph.D. Candidate, Criminology, Univ. of Toronto, ON,

and **Bev Folkles**, Director, Black Inmates and Friends Assembly, ON

**Dr. Wayde Compton** - Coquitlam College, BC

**Itah Sadu** - A Different Booklist, ON

**Dr. Winston Husbands** - AIDS Committee of Toronto, ON

**Rosemary Sadlier** - Ontario Black History Society, ON

12:30-1:25pm **Lunch**

1:30-3:00pm **Governments / Party Politics and Black Canadians**

Introduced by **Mayann Francis**, Director & CEO, Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission

**Honourable Barry Barnett** - Minister of African Nova Scotian Affairs, NS

**Honourable Jean Augustine** - M.P. Etobicoke-Lakeshore

**Honourable Donald Oliver** - Senate of Canada

**Mike Savage** - MP, Dartmouth-Cole Harbour, NS, Liberal

**Deepak Obhrai** - MP, Calgary East, AB, Conservative,  
Multiculturalism Critic

**Representative** - Bloc Québécois

**Alexa McDonough** - MP, Halifax, NS, NDP, Foreign Affairs critic,  
Post-Secondary Education critic

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3:05-3:20pm **Refreshments**

3:25pm-4:25pm **Black Canadians and Business**

**Senator Donald Oliver** – Senate of Canada

**Mayann Francis** – CEO and Executive Director, Human Rights  
Commission

**Rustum Southwell** - Executive Director, Black Business Initiative, NS

4:30-6:00pm **Concurrent Plenary Workshops**

**Education**

Introduced by  
**Dr. Charmaine  
Nelson, PQ**

**Dr. Avis Glaze**  
- Chief Student  
Achievement Officer /  
CEO: The Literacy  
and Numeracy  
Secretariat, Ministry  
of Education, ON

**Dwayne A. Provo** -  
Executive Director,  
Black Educators  
Association, NS

**Dr. Cecil Foster**  
- University of  
Guelph, Sociology &  
Anthropology

**Dr. Henry Bishop**  
- Director, [Black  
Cultural Centre](#), Nova  
Scotia

**Community  
Organizations /  
Lived Experience**

Introduced by  
**Professor Terry  
Roswell, Ph.D.**  
candidate, U of T,  
Criminology, , ON

and **Bev Folkes**,  
Director, Black  
Inmates and Friends  
Assembly, ON

**Dr. Wayde Compton**  
- Coquitlam College,  
BC

**Itah Sadu**  
- A Different Booklist

**Dr. Winston  
Husbands**  
- AIDS Committee of  
Toronto

**Rosemary Sadlier**  
- Ontario Black  
History Society

**Governments / Party  
Politics and  
Black Canadians**

Introduced by  
**Mayann Francis.**  
Director & CEO, Nova  
Scotia Human Rights  
Commission

**Honourable Barry  
Barnet**  
- Minister of African  
Nova Scotian Affairs,  
NS

**Honourable Jean  
Augustine**  
- M.P. Etobicoke-  
Lakeshore

**Honourable Donald  
Oliver**  
- Senate of Canada

**Mike Savage, MP**  
- Dartmouth-Cole  
Harbour, NS, Liberal

**Deepak Obhrai, MP**  
- Calgary East,  
Multiculturalism Critic

**Representative**  
- Bloc Québécois

**Alexa McDonough,  
MP**  
- Halifax, NS, NDP

**Black Canadians  
and Business**

**Sen. Donald Oliver**  
- Senate of Canada

MayAnn Francis  
- CEO and Exec. Dir.  
Human Rights  
Commission

**Rustum Southwell**  
Executive Director  
Black Educator's  
Association

5:05-5:15pm **Closing Comments**

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**2005 (Completed)**

**Racial Violence and the Colour Line of the New World Order**

1-2 April 2005

Dalhousie University - Student Union Building - MacInnes Room  
6136 University Ave., Halifax, NS

Over seventy women, mostly First Nations women, have been murdered in Vancouver's east side. Police brutality against men of colour and First Nations men, racial profiling, and the targeting of activists and professionals who name racial violence continues. Globally, the occupations of Palestine, Iraq and Afghanistan result in considerable loss of life of people considered non-white. Forced migrations, dislocations and evictions of communities of colour abound (Africville, reserve communities, poor urban areas). Communities of colour descend into their own patterns of violence to the point where hardly a week goes by before we hear of another Black man or man of colour dying a violent death.

How do we understand the tremendous racial violence in the lives of First Nations peoples and people of colour? How do we organize to end it? What is the role of community activists, academics, lawyers, social workers, teachers and other professionals? How do we work towards ending W.E. Dubois' colour line that extends globally?

**Day 1 - Friday**

9:00am - 10:15am **Opening Plenary: Rituals of Violence**

**Professor Sherene Razack** [\[Bio\]](#)

(Ontario Institute of Education, University of Toronto):

*Footprints on the Body: Racial Violence and White Settler Society*

**Professor David Divine** [\[Bio\]](#)

(James Robinson Johnston Chair in Black Canadian studies, Dalhousie University):

*Lynched Bodies: Black men, Sexuality and Racial Violence*

10:15-10:30am **Refreshments**

10:30am-12-noon **Panel Plenary - Concurrent sessions**

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(i) *"Representations of Violence"*

- **Assistant Prof. Carol Schick** - *Pedagogies of Troubling Images*. Faculty of Education, University of Regina, Saskatchewan.
- **Zoey Michele** - *Savage Discourse: Deconstructing Early-modern Representations of Savagery*. PhD. Candidate, Dept. of Sociology, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario.
- **Prof. Charmaine Nelson** - *Portrait of a Negro Slave: Meditations on Slavery and Identity in Canadian Art*. Dept. of Art, History and Communication Studies, McGill University, Montreal, Québec.

(ii) *"R.A.C.E. War and the Colour Line"*

- **Assistant Prof. Yasmin Jiwani** - *Gendered Narratives of War and the "Imagined Community": An analysis of the Globe and Mail Post-9/11*. Department of Communication Studies, Concordia University, Montreal.
- **Assistant Prof. Sunera Thobani** - *Women and the War on Terrorism: A Study of Two Documentaries*. Centre for Research in Women's Studies and Gender Relations, University of British Columbia.
- **Prof. Vanaja Dhruvarajan** - *Knowledge Monopolies, Western Cultural Hegemony and the Case of Sociology in India*. Senior Scholar, Dept. of Sociology, University of Winnipeg, Manitoba. Adjunct: University of Carleton.

12-noon-1:00pm **Lunch**

[Official Publication Release:](#)

***The Labour Market Experience of Social Work Graduates:  
Exploring the Role of Affirmative Action in Education***

Authors: **Wanda Thomas Bernard, Nancy MacDonald** and **Fred Wien**

The School of Social work at Dalhousie University has had an active affirmative action program since the mid-1970's in a bid to diversify its student body and the social work profession. This study, sponsored by the Canadian Race Relations Foundation, compares the labour market experience of graduates from designated groups with "mainstream" graduates at both the BSW and MSW levels. It provides a rare empirical examination of the role of affirmative action in education for the professions.

Also attending: Anne Marrian, *Canadian Race Relations Foundation*

1:00pm - 2:00pm **Keynote Plenary**

Professor Wanda Thomas Bernard [[bio](#)]  
(Director of Dalhousie University School of Social Work):  
*Racism, Violence and Health*

2:00pm - 3:00pm **Keynote Plenary**



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Professor Anthony Paul Farley [\[bio\]](#)  
(Associate Professor of Law, Boston College Law School):  
*Rights as Injuries*

3:00pm - 3:15pm **Refreshments**

3:15pm - 5:00pm: **Panel Plenary** *The Academy* - **Concurrent sessions**

(i) [Scholars, Scholarship and Inequality](#)

- **Cheryle Tai** *From "Oriental Girls" to Asian Women: Disrupting the Complicity in the Academy*. Ph.D. Candidate, Dept. of Sociology and Equity Studies, OISE / University of Toronto.
- **Shumona Ray** - *Asian Nanny to Professional Woman: Overcoming the Stereotypes Associated with Philipino Women*. Doctor of Education Candidate, Dept. of Sociology and Equity Studies, OISE / University of Toronto.

(ii) [Scholars, Scholarship and Inequality](#)

- **Prof. Agnes Calliste** - *Session Chair*. Dept. of Sociology and Anthropology, St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, Nova Scotia.
- **Cecily Nicholson** - *Women's Studies and Gender Relations*. Ph.D. Candidate,, University of British Columbia.
- **Associate Prof. Cindy Patton** - *"White Time:" Black Performance and the Demand for Literacy*. Canada Research Chair, Community Culture and Health, Sociology and Women's Studies, Simon Fraser University, British Columbia.

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## **Day 2 - Saturday**

9am - 10.15am **Keynote Plenary**

Professor Beverley Jacobs (President of the Native Women's Association of Canada)  
[\[Profile\]](#)  
*Seeking Equality for Indigenous Women: Addressing Gendered and Racialized Violence*

10:15am - 10:30am **Refreshments**

10:30 - 12-noon **Panel Plenary** - **Concurrent sessions**

(i) [Media and Racial Violence](#)

- **Zoe Wool** *Discursive Construction of the Intifada in the Globe and Mail Post-9/11*. Master's Student, Socio-cultural and Linguistic Anthropology, University of Toronto.

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- **Amir Baradaran** *Representing Muslim Bodies: Death Over "Here" and Over "There" - An analysis of the Tabesh and Kazemi Cases in Canadian Print Media* Master's student, Media Studies, Concordia University, Montreal.
- **Assistant Prof. Michele Byers** - *Renegade Representation: Racialized Violence, Television and Canadian Youth Culture* . Department of Sociology and Criminology, Saint Mary's University, Halifax.
- **Sina Rahmani** - *Race, Racism and Representation in Hollywood Film: Harold & Kumar Go To White Castle*. McMaster University.

(ii) **Racial Terror**

- **Ifeanyi Ezeonu & Terry Roswell** - *Black Intra-Racial Violence in Toronto: Going Beyond the Epistemology of the Police*. Ph.D. candidates, Dept. of Sociology, University of Toronto.
- **Jane Mulkewich** - *Violence and Aboriginal History in Hamilton*. Graduate Student, Sociology and Equity Studies in Education, OISE / University of Toronto.
- **Prof. James McNinch** - *Que(e)rying the Construction of White Masculinity: The Pathology of Racial Violence and the Toxicity of White Homosexuality*. Visiting Scholar, Faculty of Education, University of Regina, Saskatchewan.
- **Brian Puddicombe** - *Inside Bodies: Headwear Policies and White Entitlement in Ontario Public Schools*. OISE / University of Toronto

12-noon - 1:30pm **Lunch**

12-noon - 1:30pm **Annual General Meeting**

*Researchers and Academics of Colour for Equality (R.A.C.E)*

1:30pm - 2:45pm **Plenary Panel - Concurrent sessions**

(i) **Resisting Violence**

- **Victoria Marie** - *The High Cost of Free Trade for Indigenous and African Colombians*. Researcher / Evaluator, MarieCo Research Services, Vancouver.
- **Prof. Sheryl Nestel & Robert Massoud** - *Confronting the Violence of Non-Recognition: Diasporic Palestinian and Jewish Challenges to the "Radical Irreconcilability" of National Narratives*. Dept. of Sociology and Equity Studies, OISE / University of Toronto (Nestel) / Business & Marketing Consultant, Toronto (Massoud)
- **Wale Akinremi** - *African-Americans and Resistance to Racial Segregation and Domination*. Post-graduate school, University of Ibadan, Nigeria.
- **Prof. MacDonald E. Ighodaro** - *Racial and Economic Genocide: The Systemic Extinction of African Canadians in Nova Scotia*. Dept. of Sociology and Criminology, Saint Mary's University, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

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(ii) [Gender and Violence](#)

- **Melanie Knight** - *We Can't All Be Oprah: The Making of the Black Female Entrepreneurial Subject in the 21st Century*. Ph.D. Candidate, Dept. of Sociology and Equity Studies in Education, OISE / University of Toronto.
- **Assistant Prof. Shaheen Shariff** - *It's a White Girl's World. or Censorship or Selection* Dept. of Integrated Studies in Education, Faculty of Education, McGill University, Montreal.
- **James Berrigan** - *White Imperial Images of the Black Male Body*. M.A. Candidate, Curriculum Studies, OISE / University of Toronto.
- **Itrath Syed** - *The Construction of the Shariah Law Debate in Canada*. Graduate Student, Centre for Women's Studies and Gender Relations, University of British Columbia .

(iii) [Health and Violence](#)

- **Associate Prof. Rose Folson** *You Are Not Welcome Here: The Clash of Race, Class and Gender in Public and Institutional Spaces in Canada*. Department of Sociology and Equity Studies in Education, OISE / University of Toronto .
- **Prof. Kusminder Chahal** - *Responding to the Experiences and Needs of Harassment Victims: A Case Study of the UK*. Senior Research Fellow, Ahmed Iqbal Ullah Trust, Manchester, England, UK
- **Rhonda Lee McIsaac** *The Place of Poetry in the Colour Line*. 4th-year student, Inishnaube from North-Western Ontario, University of Victoria.
- **Elizabeth McGibbon** *The Social Production of Health Service Inequity as Institutionalized Racial Violence*. St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish.

2:45pm - 3:00pm **Refreshments**

3:00pm - 4:00pm **Keynote Plenary**

Professor Isaac Saney ( Dalhousie University - [Profile](#)):  
Film *Race and Revolution: Racial Violence overcome - An International Case Study*

4:15pm 4:30pm **Concluding remarks**

The conference on Racial Violence and the Colour Line attracted over 200 delegates and the evaluations on the conference were excellent. Discussions are continuing with a possible funder to identify whether the conference proceedings could be published.

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**Nominations to Boards / Working Groups**

- Member of Working Group of the Public Health Agency of Canada, producing the HIV-Endemic Epidemiology Update
- Member of the Inter-Agency Coalition on AIDS and Development (ICAD) – Sponsored national working group in association with the African and Caribbean Council on HIV/AIDS in Ontario (ACCHO), on Spring-boarding a National HIV/AIDS Strategy for Black Canadian, African and Caribbean Communities.

**Research Priorities of the James R. Johnston Chair 2005 / 2007**

As stated in the strategic overview section of this report, the research priorities of the Chair during the tenure of Professor Divine, revolve around critical issues identified by Black people of African descent, in the diaspora and with specific relevance to Canada.

1. Black Community Archives [[details](#)] can be accessed via the website: [www.jamesrjohnstonchair.dal.ca](http://www.jamesrjohnstonchair.dal.ca)
2. AIDS / HIV and the Black Communities
  - N.S. Strategy on HIV/AIDS [[details](#)] can be accessed via the website: [www.jamesrjohnstonchair.dal.ca](http://www.jamesrjohnstonchair.dal.ca)
  - 16th International AIDS Conference 2006. Toronto. [[details](#)] can be accessed via the website: [www.jamesrjohnstonchair.dal.ca](http://www.jamesrjohnstonchair.dal.ca).  
*An abstract will be submitted by Professor David Divine, James R. Johnston Chair in Black Canadian Studies.*
  - Black Men and AIDS / HIV International Conference 2007. Organized and Chaired by the James R. Johnston Chair in Black Canadian Studies. (Location TBD)

3. Black Leadership

Exploration of the nature of leadership in the Black communities over a 400-year presence in what is now known as Canada.

4. Black Men and Sexuality

"The challenge for Black men is that what has been prescribed for us as our sexuality, and accepted by us to varying degrees, does violence to our potentially ever evolving critically conscious selves as Black men. It is a responsibility and a

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duty of Black men in my argument to counter such violence." (February 2005) -  
*Professor David Divine*

5. The contribution of Black women from the Caribbean to the Canadian mosaic: the Caribbean Domestic Scheme 1955-1967.
6. Education
7. Homophobia and Heterosexism in Professional Education.
8. Immigration
9. Social Economy (organizations which express the aspirations of people to contribute in their communities.)

### **Black Community Archives**

**Ian Wilson**, Librarian and Archivist of Canada, announced during his speech in Ottawa, for Reconciliation Day celebrations, February 12, 2005 at Library and Archives Canada, the research contract with Professor David Divine, the James R. Johnston Chair in Black Canadian Studies, the Black Community Archive Initiative.

The work will include the following:

- Conduct a survey of the Black Community holdings of the Library and Archives Canada.
- Conduct a survey of the Black Community holdings of other heritage and cultural institutions in Canada.
- Provide a descriptive summary of the fonds or collections. These descriptions will be compiled to create a guide (on-line and published).
- Survey the state of potential materials in Canada, in general, of future archival interest, i.e., the history of settlement throughout Canada, significant events, movements of communities, etc.
- Identify potential specific communities and/or individuals who may hold archival materials of future interest to Library and Archives Canada.

The work will be of national significance.

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**AIDS/HIV**

**Research undertaken:** In the context of the Nova Scotia Advisory Commission on AIDS strategy, Professor David Divine will be undertaking work with the Health Association of African Canadians, on the following objectives:

1. Increase awareness in the African-Nova Scotian communities on issues relating to AIDS/HIV;
2. Increase trust and confidence in the agencies with a specialist remit in AIDS/HIV;
3. Increase in use of anonymous testing services for AIDS/HIV by members of the African-Canadian Nova Scotian communities. At the very least, specific information and advice will be offered regarding what specific measures are needed to facilitate the use of anonymous testing by members of African-Canadian communities;
4. The work commenced in February, 2005 and was commissioned by the Nova Scotia Advisory Commission on AIDS.

**Springboarding a National HIV/AIDS Strategy for Black Canadian, African and Caribbean Communities Project;**

**National Project Steering Committee:**

1. **Angele Ankouad / Marie Anésie Harérimana**, Centre de Ressources et d'Interventions en Sante et Sexualité (CRISS), Montreal, QC
2. **Nalda Callender**, National Congress of Black Women Foundation, Vancouver, BC
3. **Arlene Hunte**, Safeworks, Calgary, AB
4. **Llana James**, African & Caribbean HIV/AIDS Capacity Building Project, Toronto, ON
5. **Horace Josephs**, Interagency Coalition on AIDS & Development (ICAD) Board of Directors, Toronto, ON
6. **Félicité Murangira**, African & Caribbean Council on HIV/AIDS in Ontario, Ottawa, ON
7. **Michael O'Connor**, ICAD Executive Director, Ottawa, ON
8. **Esther Tharao**, African & Caribbean Council on HIV/AIDS in Ontario, Toronto, ON
9. **David Divine**, James R. Johnston Chair in Black Canadian Studies, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia

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5. Member of Working Group of the Public Health Agency of Canada, producing the HIV-Endemic Epidemiology Update ([website: www.hc-sc.gc.ca](http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca)).

**The James R. Johnston Chair in Black Canadian Studies  
- News Coverage**

As part of the monitoring of the profile of the James R. Johnston Chair in Black Canadian Studies, there is close attention paid to media coverage of the work of Professor Divine and the following are included for reference.

- Touch Base: "Dal Professor asks why Black youth are still at bottom of pile," [\[May 2005\]](#).
- CBC The Current: Discussion - "Leadership and Violence Within Black Communities," *George Elliot Clarke*. [Listen to the programme!](#) [\[29 April 2005\]](#) (8:15am)
- [CBC Mainstreet](#): Discussion - Some Identified Research Priorities of the James R. Johnston Chair. "Leadership, Black Men and Black Community Archives." *Conrad Lutz* [\[21 April 2005\]](#) (4:20pm)
- [CBC Mainstreet](#): "Education and Black Achievement," *Conrad Lutz* [\[20 April 2005\]](#) (4:20pm)
- Halifax Daily News: "Educators Need More Diversity Training, Report Says." - *Robin Arthur* Saturday, [\[16 April 2005\]](#), Pg. 14.
- CBC Radio One: Professor David Divine appeared on the [Information Morning programme](#). In his interview with Don Connelly, Professor Divine discussed the publication of the new James R. Johnston biography. Friday, [\[24 February 2005\]](#)
- On Thursday, 24 February 2005, Professor David Divine appeared on local media to discuss the publication of the new biography of James R. Johnston. Appearances included the ATV/ASN morning show, [Breakfast Television](#) and Global Television's [Global Noon](#) programme on Wednesday, [\[23 February 2005\]](#).
- [Recognition sought for fist black lawyer](#) - Sherri Borden Colley, Halifax Chronicle-Herald. [\[24 February 2005\]](#).
- CPAC Programming - [PODIUM](#): Speeches delivered by Ian Wilson, Librarian and Archivist of Canada, and David Divine, James R. Johnston Chair in Black Canadian Studies at Dalhousie University, in Ottawa, for Reconciliation Day

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- celebrations. [Announcement of new research initiative](#). (Recorded 12 February 2005, aired on CPAC, at 8:00pm AST) [[20 February 2005](#)]
- Research Initiative: AIDS/HIV with the Health Association for African Canadians (HAAC) and the Nova Scotia Advisory Commission on AIDS. [[details](#)] [[23 February 2005](#)]
  - Shunpiking: The Discovery Magazine - "Lecture on Cuba, Racism and African Liberation," [Black History Month Supplement](#). Charles Spurr. [[February, 2005](#)].
  - [Book Review](#): The Halifax Chronicle-Herald reviews the new biography of James R. Johnston. [[20 February 2005](#)]
  - [The Toronto Star talks to Prof. David Divine](#), James R. Johnston Chair in Black Canadian Studies. [[16 February 2005](#)]
  - [Tale of a Deferred Legacy: New Book Examines Life of First Black Lawyer](#) (PDF), Bedford-Sackville Weekly News. [[16 February 2005](#)].
  - [How Nova Scotia fosters black heritage](#) - Prof. David Divine cited in Kelly Toughill article, Toronto Star. [[16 February 2005](#)]
  - [Interview: The James Robinson Johnston Chair in Black Canadian Studies](#): . Monday Special Blend, [CKCU-FM Ottawa](#). Host: Joseph Zebrowski. [[14 February 2005](#)].
  - [Research Initiative Announced](#) - The James R. Johnston Chair in Black Canadian Studies undertakes archival research with Library and Archives Canada [[12 February 2005](#)]
  - 'Celebrating our heroes' - Front-page coverage in *Canada extra* magazine, Toronto. [[03-09 February 2005](#)]
  - 'Promises and Commitments at Black History Month Brunch' - article by Colin Rickards, Contributing Writer, *Pride News Magazine*, Toronto. [[February 2005](#)]
  - [Professor looks at lack of Black leaders](#) SHARE Magazine [[03 February 2005](#)]
  - [Professor David Divine at the Ontario Black History Society Kick-off Brunch](#) Caribbean Graphic Online [[31 January 2005](#)]
  - [New Scholarships](#) for First Nations and Black students. [[23 November 2004](#)]



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- Nova Scotia Government - House of Assembly congratulates Prof. David Divine on assuming the James R. Johnston Chair in Black Canadian Studies. [Resolution #2814](#) [13 October 2004]
- [Hundreds of supporters at James R. Johnston event](#) - The official launch of the James R. Johnston Chair. *Dalhousie News* [5 October 2004]
- [Dal's James R. Johnston Chair a Divine fit](#) - Joan Joans, *Halifax Chronicle-Herald*. [24 September 2004]
- [Media Release](#): Esteemed Professor Named James R. Johnston Chair in Black Canadian Studies. [16 September 2004]

## **Conclusion**

The report outlines in summary form an outline of work covering the first sixteen months of Professor Divine's tenure as the James R. Johnston Chair. Considerably more work has been undertaken which is not noted as this essentially revolves around administration, teaching coordination and management. The report is intended to give a flavour of what has been undertaken and why.

Professor Divine would like to acknowledge the administrative and secretarial support he has received during this period from Jacqueline St. Aubin, administrative assistant to the James R. Johnston Chair, without whom none of the content of the work programme would have been achieved. Professor Divine would also like to acknowledge the graduate research assistance and technological computer skills of Mark Rushton.