

Committee on the Status of Black Philosophers

2013-2014 Membership

Tina Fernandes Botts, chair (2016)

Luvell Anderson Jr. (2015)

Jacoby Carter (2015)

Rose Cherubin (2014)

Johnathan Flowers (2016)

Clevis Headley (2014)

Elizabeth Minnich (2016)

Cavin Robinson (2016)

Quayshawn Spencer (2014)

Paul Taylor (2015)

George Yancy, newsletter editor



2013-2014 Annual Report of the Committee on the Status of Black Philosophers
Submitted by Tina Fernandes Botts, Chair, 2013 – 2016
Date of Report: August 23, 2014

The Committee on the Status of Black Philosophers was engaged in the following committee business in 2013-2014:

Name Change

We successfully changed our name to the Committee on the Status of Black Philosophers.

Listserv

We got our listserv up and running! Through the collective efforts of committee members, former committee members, friends of the committee, and other volunteers, our listserv currently serves 155 black philosophers.

Sub-Committee Work

- **Global Outreach Committee:** We added a subcommittee on Global Outreach to the list of subcommittees we created last year (Newsletter, Web Presence, Climate Studies, and Programming). Over the course of the year, the subcommittee was engaged in numerous projects involving black philosophers in Great Britain, including organizing the conference, “Critical Philosophy of Race: Here and Now,” organized by Nathaniel Tobias Coleman.
- **Newsletter Subcommittee:** Although we are very pleased with the way the newsletter is currently being managed, in 2014 the editors and the committee at large discussed our collective desire to modify the procedures and practices of our newsletter, *Philosophy and the Black Experience*, so as to be more in line with the APA’s Statement on Best Practices in Journal Publishing. Changes will include but are not limited to the addition of an editorial board.
- **Web Presence Subcommittee:**
 - **Website.** A CSBP website to operate as a companion to the official APA website was created and set up.
 - **Underrepresented Philosophers Directory.** The CSBP decided to work with volunteers creating the Underrepresented Philosophers Directory, including the Chair of the CSBP, to build a directory devoted to showcasing the work of underrepresented philosophers, including black philosophers. The website will be searchable by AOS as well as by underrepresented status.
- **Climate Studies Subcommittee:**
 - **Empirical Study.** We put together a research note on the status of black philosophers based on the empirical study presented at the Diversity in Philosophy conference in Dayton and at the Eastern APA last year. The research note has been published in *Critical Philosophy of Race*, Volume 2, Issue 2, 2014.

- **Other.** In August of 2014, the Chair of the CSBP met with a group of additional philosophers interested in increasing diversity in philosophy from a range of racial and ethnic groups, to discuss ways in which to improve the climate for members of unerrepresented racial and ethnic groups in philosophy.
- **Programming Subcommittee**
 - **Book Launch & Award Presentation in Honor of Joyce Mitchell Cook.** The Programming Subcommittee is organizing a book launch to take place at the Eastern APA in December. At the time of the writing of this report, the state of the planning is that three books will be featured (George Yancy's *Reframing the Practice of Philosophy*, Kathryn Gines' *Hannah Arendt and the Negro Question*, and Paul Taylor's edited volume, *The Philosophy of Race*) but several other books by black philosophers will also be on display. There has also been discussion of the CSBP presenting an award to a book by a black female philosopher in honor of Joyce Mitchell Cook at this event.
 - **APA Sessions/Panels:**
 - **2014 Eastern:** We have two sessions on the program of the 2014 Eastern: a session on Ancient Philosophy (to include African philosophy),” organized by Rose Cherubin, George Mason University, and Patrick Goodin, Howard University; and a session on the Philosophy of Science, organized by Christopher Weaver, Rutgers University.
 - **2015 Central:** We have two sessions on the program the 2015 Central: a session on the Philosophy of Love by Justin Clardy, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville; and a session entitled, “Empirical Studies and the Future of Philosophy” by Michael Hunter, University of California, Davis.

Essay Prize

(This is an item the committee will revisit at the 2014 Eastern APA.)

Codifying the Committee’s Rules

(This is an item the committee will revisit at the 2014 Eastern APA.)

Interfacing with other Committees

In 2013-2014, the CSBP interfaced with the Society of Young Black Philosophers and Minorities and Philosophy to complete the research note on the status of black philosophers; with the Committee on the Status of Women to organize the meeting of philosophers from underrepresented racial and ethnic groups in philosophy to improve the climate for underrepresented philosophers; with the Committee on Inclusiveness on the Diversity Syllabi project; and with volunteers from the other diversity committees to brainstorm the development of the Underrepresented Philosophers Directory.