



THE STATE OF BLACK MEN IN AMERICA Six Faces of Being a Black Man



Saturday, March 3, 2007
Princeton University



WELCOME

The State of Black Men in America – Six Faces of Being a Black Man

Greetings,

We are delighted to welcome you to the 2007 State of Black Men in America Conference! This year's conference is the second installment of what we hope will become the premier forum on issues facing men of the African Diaspora in the United States. Our theme this year, Six Faces of Being a Black Man, and its various subtopics were chosen after much deliberation, and thus we trust that you will find today's proceedings stimulating and provocative. We hope that your participation today will serve as an incentive for more refined thought and positive action in relation to the concerns addressed throughout the day.

Interdisciplinary in nature, this conference will bring together scholars, civic leaders, community activists, and religious leaders to tackle issues ranging from fatherhood to mental health, economic empowerment and religiosity. With such a diverse range of panelists, our aim is to make sure that nothing is taken for granted and that the questions posed are given equal, if not greater consideration as the suggested answers. And thus we need your help and critical input. Ask questions. Voice your concerns. Be an active participant during the Q&A portions of each session and during the afternoon town hall meeting. Often the best discussions originate from the most unlikely of questions.

Finally, if you find yourself in need of assistance do not hesitate to ask for help. Easily identifiable, conference staff will be more than willing to give directions and aid in any other possible difficulty. Again, welcome to Princeton University and to the 2007 State of Black Men in America Conference.

Warmly,

2007 Conference Planning Committee

Chris Chaney, Princeton University Class of 2007
Garrett Brown, Princeton University Class of 2009
Davion Chism, Princeton University Class of 2009
Osei Kwakye, Princeton University Class of 2009
David Moore, Princeton University Class of 2009
David Smart, Princeton University Class of 2009

And the entire Black Men's Awareness Group at Princeton University





BLACK MEN'S AWARENESS GROUP

Established in 1994, BMAG is a thriving community of undergraduate and graduate students dedicated to addressing the unique issues and challenges that confront men of the African Diaspora. Focused on promoting the intellectual growth, moral fortitude, and civic responsibility of its members, BMAG seeks to cultivate diverse new leaders who give voice and vocabulary to important issues of the day. In its efforts to do so BMAG has remained one of the most active and inclusive student organizations on Princeton's campus. Such annual events as the black men's conference, the charity streetball tournament, and the celebrated women's appreciation dinner bear witness to the group's ongoing commitment to reaching out both to the larger university population and the world. BMAG members are distinguished and promising scholars, authors, artists, and athletes, who often hold prominent positions of leadership in other varied academic and extracurricular organizations. Likewise many BMAG alumni have carried the values and sense of camaraderie gained during their years of study into subsequent careers in research, law, medicine, and business, proving BMAG is for life.

The mission of the Princeton University Black Men's Awareness Group (BMAG) is to promote the personal growth, maturity and civic responsibility of black male students at Princeton University. BMAG seeks to provide a sense of comfort and unity amongst the diverse backgrounds and experiences of the black male students on campus. Through mentoring, service projects and social events, our organization constantly give back to the communities from which our members come, while fostering the selflessness and social activism that is necessary of black men in our society.

"From this point forward, we have a bond that no one can break. Through our efforts here as the members of BMAG, we will leave Princeton more self-aware, responsible, and ready to make a difference. We strive for excellence in every respect, because nothing less than excellence is acceptable."

For more information visit us at www.princeton.edu/~bmag.





8:00 AM

Registration and Breakfast

(Multipurpose Room, Frist Campus Center)

9:30 AM

Introduction: Chris Chaney, Princeton University Class of 2007

Performance: Adrienne Simpson, Princeton University Class of 2008
and Cordaro Rodriguez, Princeton University Class of 2008

Keynote Speaker Introduction: Osei Kwakye, Princeton University Class of 2009

Opening Keynote Address: Herb Boyd, Author and Activist

Remarks: Garrett Brown, Princeton University Class of 2009

(Alexander Hall, Richardson Auditorium)

10:30 AM

Panel 1 – Black Male Professionals, Compromising Identity for Success

(Dodds Auditorium, Robertson Hall)

Moderator: **Kenneth Armwood**, Councilman-At-Large, Pisacataway, NJ

Alex Askew, Founder and President, Black Culinarian Association

Doreen E. Loury, Assistant Professor of Sociology and Anthropology and
Director Equal Education Opportunity Program, Arcadia University

Patrick M. Oliver, Founder, Say It Loud! Readers and Writers Series and
Co-Founder, Black Male Development Symposium

Mary Pattillo, Professor of Sociology and African American Studies and
Chair, Sociology Department, Northwestern University

Sheron Smith, Founder and President, Good Tree Media, and Mother and
Manager, Mos Def

Howard White, Vice President, The Jordan Brand





10:30 AM

Panel 2 – Black Men and Mental Health

(Room 46, McCosh Hall)

Moderator: [James Peterson](#), Assistant Professor of English, The Pennsylvania State University at Abington, and Founder, Hip Hop Scholars, LLC

[K. Anthony Appiah](#), Laurance S. Rockefeller University Professor of Philosophy and the University Center for Human Values, Princeton University

[Shawn M. Bediako](#), Assistant Professor of Psychology, University of Maryland, Baltimore County

[Kimani Hymie Davis](#), Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Transform Consultants

[Melissa Harris Lacewell](#), Associate Professor of Politics and African American Studies, Princeton University

[Harvey C. Mansfield](#), William R. Kenan, Jr. Professor of Government, Harvard University

12:15 PM

Luncheon

(Multipurpose Room, Frist Campus Center)





1:30 PM

Panel 3 – Religion in Black Male America

(Dodds Auditorium, Robertson Hall)

Moderator: [Deborah K. Blanks](#), Associate Dean, Office of the Dean of Religious Life, Princeton University

[Rickey Hicks](#), Pastor, Rufus K. Young A.M.E. Church

[Steven Pinker](#), Johnstone Family Professor of Psychology, Harvard University

[Byron E. Price](#), Assistant Professor of Public Administration, Rutgers University at Newark, and Editor-in Chief, The Journal of Public Management and Social Policy

[Carolyn Rouse](#), Associate Professor of Anthropology, Princeton University

[Jonathan L. Walton](#), Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, University of California at Riverside

1:30 PM

Panel 4 – Black Men and Sexual Health

(Room 46, McCosh Hall)

Moderator: [Daphne A. Brooks](#), Associate Professor of English and Samuel Davies Presidential University Preceptor, Princeton University

[William Jelani Cobb](#), Assistant Professor of History, Spelman College

[JL King](#), President and Chief Executive Officer, The Lillie Mae King Foundation and Founder, JL King Young Minority Authors Institute

[Samuel Roberts](#), Assistant Professor of History and Sociomedical Sciences, Columbia University

[Tricia Rose](#), Professor of Africana Studies, Brown University





1:30 PM

Panel 5A - Black Men and the Urban Education System

(Room 28, McCosh Hall)

Moderator: [Christopher T. Fisher](#), Assistant Professor of African American Studies and History, The College of New Jersey

[William B. Allen](#), Visiting Fellow, James Madison Program, Princeton University

[Tyrone Bledsoe](#), Founder and Executive Director, Student African American Brotherhood Organization

[Brenda M. Greene](#), Professor of English and Director, Center for Black Literature, Medgar Evers College, The City University of New York

[Marc Lamont Hill](#), Assistant Professor of Urban Education and American Studies, Temple University

[Thabiti Lewis](#), Associate Professor of English, Willamette University

[Salome Thomas-EL](#), Principal, Russell Byers Public Charter School

3:15 PM

Panel 5B - Black Men and the Urban Education System

(Dodds Auditorium, Robertson Hall)

Moderator: [Josef Sorett](#), Ph.D. Candidate, Department of African and African American Studies, Harvard University

[Ras Baraka](#), Principal, Hawthorne Avenue School

[Mister Mann Frisby](#), One of Ebony's "30 Leaders of the Future" and Founder, PhatBack Athletics

[Marybeth Gasman](#), Assistant Professor of Higher Education Policy, Graduate School of Education, University of Pennsylvania

[Shaun R. Harper](#), Assistant Professor and Research Associate, Center for the Study of Higher Education, The Pennsylvania State University

[Tim King](#), Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Urban Prep Charter Academy for Young Men





3:15 PM

Panel 6 - The Black Nuclear Family, Black Men as Family Men

(Room 46, McCosh Hall)

Moderator: [Chad D. Lassiter](#), Social Worker and Behavioral Interventionist, The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

[Steve Birdine](#), President and Chief Executive Officer, Affirmation In Action

[Farrah Gray](#), Founder, Farrah Gray Foundation

[John H. McWhorter](#), Senior Fellow, Manhattan Institute for Policy Research

[Imani Perry](#), Associate Professor of Law, Rutgers University at Camden

[Glenn Toby](#), Founder, The Book Bank Foundation

[Roland C. Warren](#), President, National Fatherhood Initiative

5:00 PM

Closing Town Hall Meeting

Moderated by [Bakari Kitwana](#), Co-Founder, National Hip-Hop Political Convention and Former Executive Editor, The Source

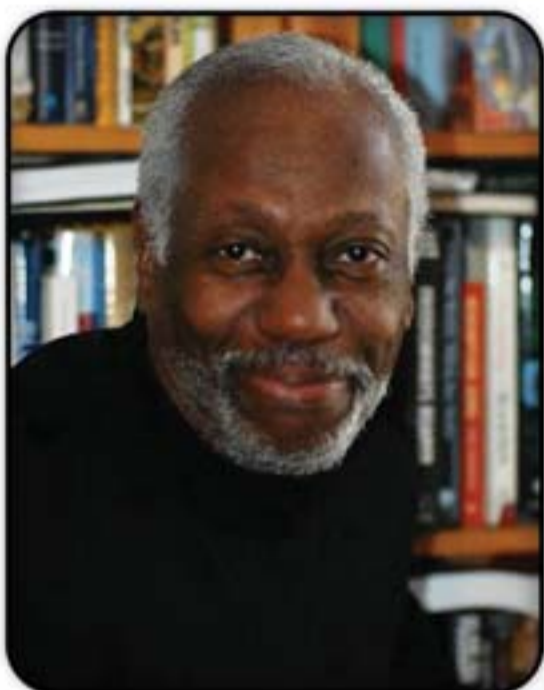
(McCosh Hall 10)

6:00 PM

Closing Reception featuring live jazz with the Irwin Hall Collective

(Multipurpose Room, Frist Campus Center)



**HERB BOYD**

AUTHOR AND ACTIVIST

Herb Boyd is an awarding winning author and journalist who has published sixteen books and countless articles for national magazines and newspapers. “Brotherman: The Odyssey of Black Men in America – An Anthology,” (One World/Ballantine, 1995) co-edited with Robert Allen of the Black Scholar journal, won the American Book Award for nonfiction. In 1999, Boyd won three first place awards from the New York Association of Black Journalists for his articles published in the Amsterdam News. Among his most popular books are “Black Panthers for Beginners” (Writers & Readers, 1995), “Autobiography of a People: Three Centuries of African American History Told By Those Who Lived It” (Doubleday, 2000), “Race and Resistance: African Americans in the 21st Century” (South End Press, 2002), “The Harlem Reader” (Crown Publishers, 2003), “We Shall Overcome: A History of the Civil Rights Movement” (Sourcebooks, 2004), and “Pound for Pound: The Life and Times of Sugar Ray Robinson” (Amistad, 2005).

In 2006, Boyd worked with world music composer Yusef Lateef on his autobiography “The Gentle Giant” which was published by Morton Books of New Jersey. He is currently under contract to complete a book on James Baldwin, and is working with filmmaker Keith Beauchamp on several projects. Boyd has been inducted into both the Literary Hall of Fame for Writers of African Descent and the Madison Square Garden Hall of Fame as a journalist.

Along with his writing, Boyd is also the managing editor of The Black World Today, one of the leading online publications on the Internet. Boyd, a graduate of Wayne State University in Detroit, teaches African and African-American History at the College of New Rochelle in the Bronx, and is an adjunct instructor at City College in the Black Studies Department.





SPEAKERS

The State of Black Men in America – Six Faces of Being a Black Man



William B. Allen

Ann & Herbert W. Vaughan
Visiting Fellow, James Madison
Program in American Ideals and
Institutions, Princeton University



Shawn M. Bediako

Assistant Professor of Psychology,
University of Maryland,
Baltimore County



K. Anthony Appiah

Laurance S. Rockefeller University
Professor of Philosophy and the
University Center for Human
Values, Princeton University



Steve Birdine

President and Chief Executive
Officer, Affirmation In Action



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Assistant Professor of Urban Education and American Studies, Temple University



Melissa Harris Lacey
Associate Professor of Politics and African American Studies, Princeton University



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President and Chief Executive Officer, The Lillie Mae King Foundation and Founder, JL King Young Minority Authors Institute



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Co-Founder, National Hip-Hop Political Convention and Former Executive Editor, The Source



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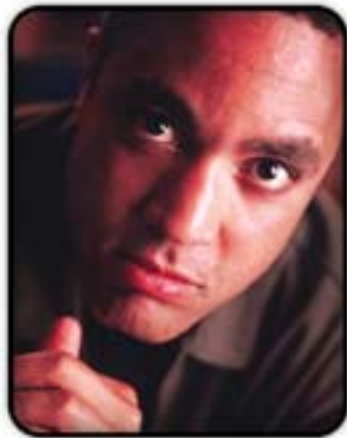
Diversity

It's not an obligation—it's an opportunity.



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John H. McWhorter

Senior Fellow, Manhattan Institute for Policy Research



Steven Pinker

Johnstone Family Professor of Psychology, Harvard University



Patrick M. Oliver

Founder, Say It Loud! Readers and Writers Series and Co-Founder, Black Male Development Symposium



Byron E. Price

Assistant Professor of Public Administration, Rutgers University at Newark, and Editor-in Chief, The Journal of Public Management and Social Policy



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Tricia Rose

Professor of Africana Studies, Brown University





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Carolyn M. Rouse
Associate Professor of
Anthropology, Princeton
University



Jonathan L. Walton
Assistant Professor of Religious
Studies, University of California
at Riverside



Sheron Smith
Founder and President, Good
Tree Media, and Mother and
Manager, Mos Def



Roland C. Warren
President, National Fatherhood
Initiative



Salome Thomas-EL
Principal, Russell Byers Public
Charter School



Howard White
Vice President, The Jordan Brand



Glenn Toby
Founder and Chief Executive Officer,
Glenn Toby Enterprises, Inc.





MODERATORS

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Councilman-At-Large, Pisacataway, NJ



Chad D. Lassiter

Social Worker and Behavioral Interventionist, The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia



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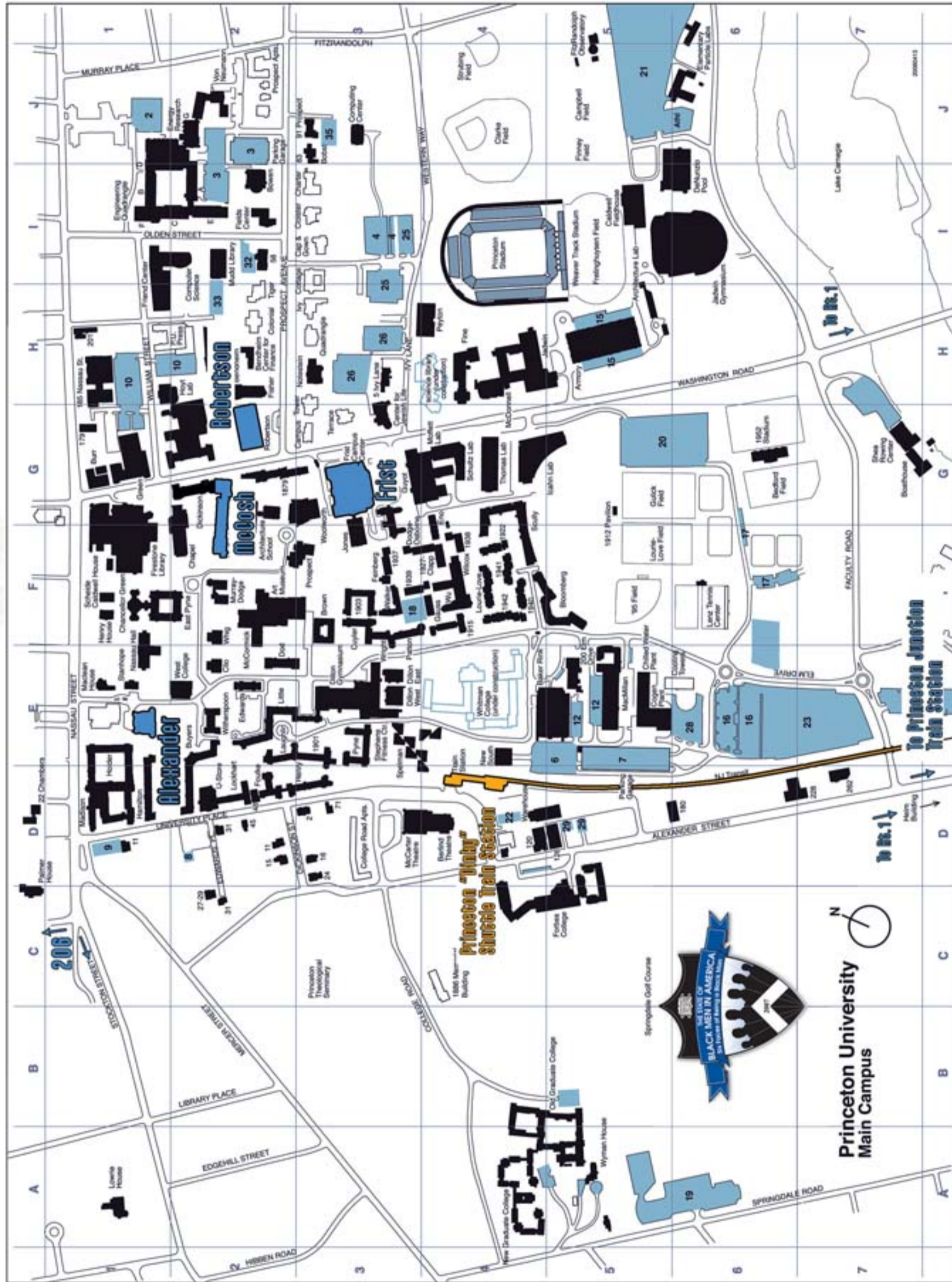
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- Princeton University Office of the Vice President for Campus Life
- Princeton University Pace Center
- Princeton University Program in the Study of Women and Gender
- Princeton University Projects Board
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CAMPUS MAP

The State of Black Men in America - Six Faces of Being a Black Man



JOIN.

www.campusprogress.org

ORGANIZE.

What do Barack Obama, Helen Thomas, Tammy Baldwin, Cornel West, Seymour Hersh, Talib Kweli, Samantha Power, Fat Joe, and Bill Clinton all have in common? They've all spoken at Campus Progress events. We're ready to help you promote your issues by bringing students together through speeches, debates, discussions, trainings, and film screenings.

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PUBLISH.

Do you wish your campus had better journalism and a greater diversity of viewpoints? Start your own publication on campus and get our help. Campus Progress funds, trains, and mentors students running a growing group of print and web publications.

- Apply for Campus Progress support to launch or advance your campus publication
- Attend or plan a journalism training or "media bootcamp" at your school or in DC

Contact: Publications@CampusProgress.org

ACT.

Do you want to make a difference on your campus, in your community, or nationwide? Campus Progress supports student issue campaigns, from living wages to civil rights, Sudan to Iraq. Make your voice heard!

- Apply for a Campus Progress Action Grant to organize around your issue
- Join our network of student reps/chapters and connect with organizers from around the country
- Join our national campaigns on issues like college affordability, global warming, and academic freedom

Contact: Organize@CampusProgress.org

WRITE.

Write for CampusProgress.org! Our web magazine offers hard-hitting journalism, analysis, and multimedia on the latest issues and gives young writers and artists the chance to publish nationally.

- Start a blog and connect with others
- Pitch a story idea or submit cartoons and photos
- Alert us to something we should cover
- Sign up for our weekly newsletter

Contact: Editor@CampusProgress.org



See you in 2008!

Graphic Design: [Dariusz Ejkiwicz](#)

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