



## Greetings from the Chair

Dear Colleagues,

It has been a pleasure working with many of you and seeing the work of the Section progress. Let me tell you a little about what has been going on with AFAS.

The Constitution and Bylaws Committee, under the leadership of Joyce Thornton, completed revisions to the Section bylaws and presented those revisions to the ACRL Board for approval at the Midwinter meeting. The ACRL Board approved those revisions, clearing the way for the changes to be presented to the Section's membership on the April ballot. The bylaws were sorely out-of-date and even lacked the Section's last name change. We look forward to having the amended bylaws approved by the membership and having the updated document available on the AFAS web site.

The Program Committee, which is comprised of

Heather Martin, Carmelita Pickett and myself, is working on bringing you an exciting program at the 2002 Annual Conference in Atlanta. The program, "When Old is New: The Art of Developing New African American Special Collections," will allow our members to hear about some of the newer African American special collections that are being developed and to discuss issues pertaining to collection development, outreach and public programming. We hope you will join us in 'Hotlanta' to learn what your colleagues are doing and also to provide us with an update of your own related activities.

The Section is also working on developing programs for the 2003 ALA Annual Conference in Toronto, and for the ACRL 11<sup>th</sup> National Conference in Charlotte. Raquel Cogell is coordinating the Toronto program and Mary Wrighten is coordinating the Charlotte program.

The AFAS African American Funnel Project, which has been coordinated by Dorothy Washington, continues its work of evaluating subject headings for African American materials and recommending changes to the Library of Congress. At the Midwinter meeting, the ACRL Board passed a resolution commending the Section on its work in this area. We are grateful to our Board liaison, Barbara Jenkins, for shepherding the resolution through the approval process. Congratulations to Dorothy Washington and other AFAS members on receiving well-deserved recognition for this important work that will surely benefit African American Studies librarians and scholars for many years to come!

There is still much for AFAS to accomplish, so I hope you will join us in contributing to the work of the

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Greetings from the Chair
- 2 AFAS Committees, Welcome New Members, Legislative News
- 3 AFAS Program Announcement
- 4 ALA Annual: A Taste of Atlanta
- 5 ACRL Board Acknowledges AFAS and the African American Funnel Project
- 6 Executive Committee Minutes
- 7 Membership Meeting Minutes
- 8 Books Reviews & Forthcoming Books

Section. Volunteers for every AFAS committee are needed! Raquel Cogell is in the process of making committee appointments, so please let us know if you're interested in working on an AFAS committee. Your help is vital to the growth of the Section! The Executive Committee welcomes ideas for future developments and encourages your input. We also like to see your ideas and opinions expressed on AFAS-L, the Section's discussion list. Our collective efforts will allow us to build on the excellent work of our predecessors and take the Section in new and exciting directions. I look forward to seeing you at the AFAS membership meeting and program in Atlanta.

Asante,

**Carol Rudisell**  
Chair, AFAS

### **Legislative News**

On December 28, 2001, President Bush signed into legislation Public Law 107-106 to create a Presidential Commission to develop a plan of action for the establishment of a National Museum of African American Culture in Washington, D.C. The Commission will consist of 23 members to be appointed by the President, the Speaker of the House, and Senate Majority leader. Members of the commission are to be chosen from professional museum associations, including the Association of African American Museums and the African American Museum Cultural Complex, as well as academic institutions and groups committed to the research and study of African American life, art, history, and culture such as the Historically Black Colleges and Universities and the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies.

### **Welcome New Members!**

Violette Y. Brooks, Robin L. Chandler, Winifred Collins-Lee, Kelly J. Dahms, Jacqueline Dianne Dowdy, Donna L. Gilton, Mary N. Hernandez, Sharon Hobrock, James H. Jenkins, Rolly J. Lee, Jr., Carrie Sue Leslie, Njambi Kamoche, Kirk Moll, Johnetta D. Moore, Emile Ngo-Ngudjoi, Willie Mae O'Neal, Hallie Adams Perry, Patricia C. Pettijohn, Guy E. Smith, Mary C. Stettner, Stephen E. Stratton, Phoebe J. Terry, Monique L. Threatt, and Marjorie V. White

### **AFAS Committees**

Get involved! Contact chairs of committees that interest you for more information.

#### **Constitution and Bylaws**

Joyce K. Thornton, Chair  
[jkthorn@tamu.edu](mailto:jkthorn@tamu.edu)

#### **Membership**

Grace Jackson Brown, Chair  
[jacksonb@indiana.edu](mailto:jacksonb@indiana.edu)

#### **Nominating**

Dorothy Ann Washington, Chair  
[Dwashin2@purdue.edu](mailto:Dwashin2@purdue.edu)

#### **Program**

Carol Rudisell, Chair  
[rudisell@udel.edu](mailto:rudisell@udel.edu)

#### **Publications**

Gladys Smiley Bell, Chair [gladys.bel@hamptonu.edu](mailto:gladys.bel@hamptonu.edu)

Raquel V. Cogell, Ex Officio/ Web Site Editor  
[rcogell@emory.edu](mailto:rcogell@emory.edu)

Lisa Pillow, Newsletter Editor  
[lpillow@uic.edu](mailto:lpillow@uic.edu)

#### **Policy and Research**

Patricia Morris, Chair  
[Pmorris@bird.library.arizona.edu](mailto:Pmorris@bird.library.arizona.edu)

#### **Cataloging Issues Discussion Group**

Dorothy Ann Washington, Chair  
[dwashin2@purdue.edu](mailto:dwashin2@purdue.edu)

**AFAS Program Announcement**  
**2002 Annual Conference of the American Library Association**

**When Old Is New: The Art of Creating New African American Special Collections**

**Sponsor: African American Studies Librarians Section, ACRL**  
**Co-Sponsor: Rare Books and Manuscripts Section, ACRL**

June 15, 2002  
1:30 - 3:30 p.m.  
Atlanta, Georgia

African American special collections had their roots in historically black colleges and in the research departments of large public libraries. The Civil Rights Movement and the 1960s renewed interest in African American Studies as a discipline and spurred the growth of African American collections in historical societies and other select institutions throughout the United States. After many years of status quo, the last few years have witnessed a resurgence of interest in African American special collections. New freestanding research libraries and centers have been created. Also, well-established libraries began to develop research collections in this area. This program will focus on these new collections and examine the ways in which they have acquired their materials, developed their donor bases, conducted outreach to their local communities, and collaborated with older, more established library collections.

The program will be a panel presentation including three speakers and a moderator:

**Speakers**

Randall K. Burkett  
Curator of African-American Collections  
Special Collections Department  
Robert W. Woodruff Library  
Emory University  
Atlanta, Georgia

Lucelia Flood-Partridge  
Head, Research Division and Acting Administrator  
Auburn Avenue Research Library on African-American Culture and History  
Atlanta-Fulton Public Library System  
Atlanta, Georgia

Pearl Woolridge  
Head of Special Collections  
Broward County Board of Commissions Libraries  
African American Research Library and Cultural Center  
Von D. Mizelle Library  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida

**Moderator**

Karen L. Jefferson  
Head, Archives and Special Collections  
Robert W. Woodruff Library  
Atlanta University Center  
Atlanta, Georgia



***ALA Annual: A Taste of Atlanta***  
**By Raquel V. Cogell, Vice Chair/Chair Elect, AFAS**

Atlanta offers a myriad of restaurants, museums, art galleries, and other cultural attractions. A selected list of restaurants and museums are listed below. If you are interested in tourist sites in the historic Sweet Auburn District or other parts of the metropolitan Atlanta, see:

**Sweet Auburn** <http://www.sweetauburn.com/>,

**Soul of America** <http://www.soulamerica.com/cityfinder/atlanta.html>

**Souljourn** <http://www.souljourn.citysearch.com/20.html>.

**Restaurants**

***Downtown***

**Beautiful Restaurant**

397 Auburn Avenue

404-752-5931

Hours: Sunday-Wednesday, 7am-11pm;

Thursday-Saturday, 24 hours

Major credit cards accepted.

**Island Breeze Café (Caribbean cuisine)**

182 Courtland Street

404-577-3696

Hours: 1:30-4pm, 5-10pm

Major credit cards accepted.

**Sweet Auburn Curb Market**

209 Edgewood Avenue

404-659-1665

<http://www.atlantacurbmarket.com/>

African and Caribbean food vendors are available at the Market.

**Sylvia's of Atlanta**

241 Central Avenue

404-529-9692

Hours: Monday-Thursday, 11am-10pm;

Friday-Saturday, 11am-11pm; Sunday, 12pm-8pm. Sunday,

gospel and jazz buffet. Major cards accepted.

**Thelma's Kitchen**

764 Marietta St.

404-688-5855

Hours: Monday-Friday, 7:30am-4:30pm; Saturday, 7am-5pm.

Cash only.

**201 Courtland**

201 Courtland Street

Atlanta, GA 30303

404-577-5156

Hours: Monday-Friday, 7am-3pm, 5pm-10pm; Saturday, 11am-3pm, 4-8 pm.

Major credit cards accepted.

***Midtown***

**Gladys Knight and Ron Winans Chicken and Waffles**

529 Peachtree Street

404-874-9393

Hours: Sunday, 11am-8pm; Monday-Thursday, 11am-11pm; Friday and Saturday, 11pm-4am.

Major credit cards accepted.

**Shark Bar**

571 Peachtree Street

404-815-8333

Hours: Monday-Friday, 11:30-3pm, 5pm-10pm. Open later on weekends. Major credit cards accepted.

**Wildwood at Colony Square**

1197 Peachtree Street

404-888-1898

Hours: Monday-Friday, 11:30am-2:30pm, 5:30pm-11pm; Saturday, 5:30 pm-11pm; closed Sunday.

Major credit cards accepted.

***Buckhead***

**Imperial Fez Restaurant (Moroccan cuisine)**

2285 Peachtree Road

404-351-0870

Hours: Sunday-Thursday, 6pm-11pm; Friday-Saturday, 6pm-11:30pm.

Major credit cards accepted.

**Justin's Restaurant & Grill**

2200 Peachtree Road

404-603-5353

Hours: 11am-11pm; Friday and Saturday 11am-1am.

Major credit cards accepted.

***Virginia-Highlands***

**Casbah Moroccan Restaurant**

465 North Highland Avenue

404-544-5777

Hours: Sunday-Thursday, 5:30-11pm; open later on weekends.

Major credit cards accepted.

**Purdue Vida (Puerto Rican *tapas*)**

656 North Highland Avenue

404-875-4641

Hours: Tuesday-Thursday, 5:30pm-11pm; Friday-Saturday, 5:30 pm-midnight; Sunday, 5-10pm.

Major credit cards accepted.

**Soul Vegetarian II**

621 North Highland Avenue

404-875-4641

Hours: Tuesday-Sunday, 11am-10pm.

Major credit cards accepted.

## **Museums and Galleries**

### *Downtown/Sweet Auburn*

#### **APEX Museum**

135 Auburn Avenue

404-521APEX

<http://www.apexmuseum.org/>

Admission: Adults, \$3.00; students, \$2.00; and children, free.

Hours: Tuesday-Saturday, 10am-5pm; Sunday, 1-5pm.

#### **Atlanta University Center/The West End**

Clark Atlanta University Art Galleries

Trevor Arnett Hall

404-880-6102/6644

<http://www.cau.edu/>

Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 11am-4pm.

#### **Hammonds House: African American Art Gallery**

503 Peebles Street

404-752-8730

<http://www.hammondshouse.org>

Summer Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 10am-6pm; Saturday-Sunday, 1pm-5pm.

#### **Spelman College Museum of Fine Art**

404-215-2583

<http://museum.spelman.edu/>

Summer Hours: Tuesday-Wednesday, 12pm-4pm; Thursday-Friday, 10am-4pm.

### *Midtown/Buckhead*

#### **High Museum of Art**

1280 Peachtree Street

404-733-4400

<http://www.high.org/>

Hours: Tuesday-Saturday, 10am-5pm; Sunday, 12pm-5pm.

On exhibit in June: "Over the Line: The Art and Life of Jacob Lawrence."

#### **Kubatana Moderne**

1831 Peachtree Road

404-355-5764

<http://www.kubatana.com/>

Hours: Tuesday-Saturday, 11am-6pm.

## ***ACRL Board Resolution Recognizes AFAS and the African American Funnel Project***

The ACRL Board of Directors approved the following resolution to acknowledge the contribution of the Section to the African American Funnel Project. Our liaison to the Board, Barbara Jenkins, was instrumental in drafting this resolution and presenting it to the Board. AFAS would also like to thank Dorothy Washington and acknowledge her considerable efforts in providing leadership for this important project.

"Whereas the African American Studies Librarians Section (AFAS) partnered with the Library of Congress and the Program for Cooperative Cataloging to establish the African American Funnel Project.

Whereas AFAS initiated a Cataloging Issues Discussion Group and conducted a survey to look at ways of improving access to African Americana in library catalogs.

Whereas the African American Funnel Project provided the opportunity for librarians to propose new subject headings and changes to existing headings relating to the African American experience.

Whereas the African American Funnel Project resulted in major improvements in providing access to African Americana in library catalogs.

Be It Resolved that the ACRL Board of Directors acknowledges and applauds the initiative and leadership that the African American Studies Librarians Section provided to the African American Funnel Project of the Library of Congress and the Program for Cooperative Cataloging. The Board also lauds the extensive changes accomplished by the Project that will provide improved access to African American materials."

Association of College and Research Librarians  
African American Studies Librarians Section  
January 19, 2002  
9:30 PM  
Executive Committee

Present: Carol Rudisell, Dorothy Washington, Bennie Robinson, Heather Martin, Joyce Thornton, Lisa Pillow, Raquel Cogell, Carmelita Pickett

Visitors: Barbara Jenkins, ACRL Board Liaison, Larry Hardesty, ACRL National Conference, Charlotte

Carol Rudisell called the meeting to order at 9:30 pm. The agenda was presented and accepted. The minutes of the June 16, 2001 were read and approved. Carol motioned that recent minutes from AFAS meetings be posted to the web site. Dorothy Washington seconded the motioned.

*Revision of Bylaws:*

Joyce Thornton distributed 2002 draft of the revisions to the AFAS Bylaws. They will be submitted to the ACRL Bylaws Committee on Monday, January 21, 2002. Discussion on the Bylaws followed:

Article IV: Meetings Section 2 was added. "Committee meetings: Committee meetings shall be held during the Annual and Midwinter Meetings of ALA. All Section meetings except those dealing with nominations and awards are open to registered attendees of the Annual and Midwinter Meetings.

Article V: Duties of Officers were deleted to streamline bylaws and to make allowances for any future changes in duties.

Article VI: Nominations and Elections Joyce Thornton and Carol Rudisell moved to remove the requirement for two nominees for each position. Dorothy Washington suggested that requirement should remain. After some discussion, it was agreed to not include it in the bylaws.

Article X: Procedures Section 2 was added.

Article XII: Representatives and Other Sections "ACRL Constitution" was changed to "Constitution" referring to ALA because ACRL does not have a constitution.

The bylaws were approved for presentation to the ACRL Bylaws Committee.

*Program Planning*

Carol Rudisell distributed copies of the Interim Report of the AFAS 2002 Program Planning Committee. Two panel participants have confirmed, one has been invited, but not confirmed, and the moderator has confirmed.

*ACRL Conference 2003, Charlotte - Larry Hardesty*

The conference will put more emphasis on panels, roundtables, discussions, and workshops to engage attendees. Hardesty encouraged AFAS membership to submit proposals. Carol Rudisell asked if proposals coming through the sections have a higher chance for selection. Hardesty affirmed.

*ACRL Board - Barbara Jenkins*

Suggested that digital scholarly publishing and African American Studies as a proposal for the ACRL Conference in Charlotte. Announced the ACRL Presidential Candidates Forum. A resolution to ACRL Board crafted to recognize AFAS participation in the Funnel Project was read. Discussed ACRL Task Force for recruitment to the profession. Asked for suggestions on how the Board can assist with recruitment for the AFAS section. Carol Rudisell said this issue would be raised at the membership meeting. Acknowledged increase in AFAS membership.

Carol Rudisell moved to add remaining agenda to the membership meeting agenda. All Carol asked for approval to submit a request to BCALA for endorsement. Both motions were granted. Dorothy Washington formally thanked Barbara Jenkins for the ACRL Board Resolution.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:02 pm.



Association of College and Research Librarians  
African American Studies Librarians Section  
January 19, 2002  
2:00 PM  
Membership Meeting

Present: Carol Rudisell Lisa Pillow, Carmelita Pickett, Ronald Glass, Dorothy Washington, Helen Threatt, Heather Martin, Mary Wrighten, Michael Walker, Kathleen Bethel, Bennie Robinson, Joyce Thornton, Lee LaFleur

The chair, Carol Rudisell convened the meeting at 2:00 p.m. The agenda was presented and accepted with two additions:

1) Approval of minutes, and 2) AFAS archives. The minutes of the June 16, 2001 meeting were read and adopted with one correction, "I. Zulu" should be "Itibari Zulu."

*Committee Reports:*

**Executive:** Carol Rudisell read an earlier draft of the ACRL Board resolution recognizing AFAS and the Funnel Project. She also called for volunteers to work on a proposal for submission to the 2003 ACRL Conference in Charlotte.

**Bylaws:** Joyce Thornton presented revised bylaws. She will present the bylaws to the ACRL Bylaws Committee on Sunday, January 20, 2002.

**Nominating:** Dorothy Washington read the AFAS ballot for spring elections.

**Programming Plan:** Carol Rudisell has submitted the program for ALA Annual 2002. The program, "When Old Is New: The Art of Creating New African American Special Collections," has been accepted, and is scheduled for June 15, 2002, 1:30-3:30 pm. The format of the program is a panel, and is being co-sponsored by the Rare Books section of ACRL. Carmelita Pickett is working on a web page to advertise the session along with links to special collections. Mary Wrighten suggested advertising with the African American Studies Association, The National Council of Black Studies, and the National Association of Ethnic Studies in addition to targeting appropriate sections within ALA.

**Membership:** As of August 2001, AFAS membership is 277, which is a 9.92% increase from August 2000. Grace Jackson-Brown will update the AFAS brochure by end of 2002. Carol Rudisell proposed that the Membership Committee consider drafting a letter to new members welcoming them and inviting them to volunteer for committees. The letter would also include contact information for those wishing to serve on a committee.

**Publications:** Carol Rudisell announced that Kim Gallon has left the library profession and has resigned from the section to pursue a PhD in History. This leaves a vacancy in the newsletter editor position for the section. Lisa Pillow volunteered to fulfill the duties for the rest of the year.

**Policy and Research:** No official report was given for this committee. The committee has been inactive for several years. Raquel Cogell and Carol Rudisell are discussing what charge the committee will have in the future.

**Cataloging:** The committee is compiling a bibliography of suggested reference sources for cataloging African American Materials that will be posted on the AFAS web page by Spring 2002. Dorothy Washington discussed ongoing work with Library of Congress for subject heading proposals for African American materials.

**AFAS Archives:** Mary Wrighten followed up on the storage of the AFAS archives. Records of the section are considered official records of ALA. Procedurally, the section records are sent to ACRL who then sends them to the ALA archives. Due to restructuring of ACRL administration, the records are presently being stored by Michael Walker.

**Volunteers for Committee Membership:** Carol Rudisell reported that Raquel Cogell is compiling rosters for standing committees. Carol called for volunteers for a Program Planning committee for the 2003 ACRL National Conference. Mary Wrighten volunteered. Carol also called for volunteers to chair the By-Laws and the Research and Policy committees.

Meeting adjourned at 4:05 pm.

## Book Reviews

### **America Becoming: Racial Trends and Their Consequences, Volumes 1 & 2**

By Neil J. Smelser, William Julius Wilson, and Faith Mitchell, Editors; National Research Council

*America Becoming* is a necessary addition to African American Studies collections. The papers collected in these two volumes document meetings between former President Clinton's Initiative on Race and the National Research Council. This publication covers historical and present trends among ethnic minorities. Both volumes cover the most current research and analysis on racial issues and social economics. The topics covered include social and demographic trends, segregation in housing, shifts in ethnic populations, immigration, disparities in health care, job opportunities, affirmative action, as well as racial attitudes and relations. This book provides commentary regarding the status of African Americans from all social aspects and compares them to that of Mexican Americans, Asian Americans, Native Americans and the white majority. It provides a wealth of information and statistics. The writing is intelligent and suitable for general and academic audiences.

Tiffeni Fontno, Resident Librarian  
University of Illinois at Chicago

### **Our Kind of People: Inside America's Black Upper Class** by Lawrence Otis Graham

Lawrence Graham's book provides an honest look at the Black aristocracy. It chronicles the lifestyle of the Black upper class from organizations, colleges and universities, fraternities and sororities, vacation spots, to the Black elite families of 'Chocolate Cities' like Washington D.C., Chicago, Atlanta, and Detroit. Although certain sections drag on a little more than necessary, this book is informative and candid in its descriptions of high society. One of the most enjoyable sections of the book is "The Rules for Passing". It is a must have for African American Studies collections, and rounds out the discussion on this topic as addressed by an earlier work, *Black Bourgeoisie* by E. Franklin Frazier.

Tiffeni Fontno, Resident Librarian  
University of Illinois at Chicago

## Forthcoming Books

*African American Autobiographers: A Sourcebook*, ed. Emmanuel S. Nelson. Greenwood Press, ISBN 0313314098, \$94.95. April 2002.

*African American Poets: Lives, Works, and Sources*, by Joyce Owens Pettis. Greenwood Press, ISBN 031331117X, \$59.95. May 2002.

*African American Women and HIV/AIDS: Critical Responses*, ed. Dorie J. Gilbert, Ednita M. Wright. Praeger, ISBN 0275971279, \$69.95. June 2002.

*America's Black Architects and Builders*, by Stephen A. Klimant. W.W. Norton, ISBN 0393730573, \$50.00. June 2002.

*Black Faces in the Mirror: African Americans and Their Representatives in the U.S. Congress*, by Katherine Tate. ISBN 0691091552. December 2002.

*Carl B. Stokes and the Rise of Black Political Power*, by Leonard N. Moore. University of Illinois Press, ISBN 0252027604. August 2002.

*The Development of African American English (Language in Society, 31)*, by Walt Wolfram, Erik R. Thomas. Blackwell, ISBN 0631230866, \$69.95. May 2002.

*Freedom: An African American History of Georgia, 1733-1865*, by Michael Thurmond. Longstreet Press, ISBN 1563526875, \$25.00. May 2002.

*The Huey P. Newton Reader*, by Huey P. Newton et al. Seven Stories Press, ISBN 1563526875. April 2002.

*Money Has No Smell: The Africanization of New York City*, by Paul Stoller. University of Chicago Press, ISBN 0226775291. April 2002.

*Out There: Mavericks of Black Literature*, by Darryl Pinckney. Basic Civitas Books, ISBN 0465057608, \$24.00. April 2002.

*Shaded Lives: African American Women and Television*, by Beretta E. Smith-Shomade. Rutgers University Press, ISBN 0813531047, \$60.00. July 2002.