

## **RCAS 2022**

**Alabama State University  
College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences  
RESEARCH & CREATIVE ACTIVITY  
INTERNATIONAL HYBRID SYMPOSIUM**

**March 29 - 30, 2022**

**John Garrick Hardy Student Center Theater**

## **PROGRAM**

**Join Zoom Meeting:**

**<https://zoom.us/j/96215129400?pwd=S3YweU1nK2xFcGo1ekNZMUEvODh2Zz09>**

**Meeting ID: 962 1512 9400**

## A Message from the RCAS 2022 Committee

The Alabama State University, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences Research and Creative Activity Committee is pleased and proud to open the 2022 International Hybrid Symposium on Pandemic.

“Pandemic” describes a variety of influences on masses of people. The breadth of the topic invited a wonderful communion of work. We look forward to a fascinating concert of knowledge during this conference.

To that end, we whole-heartedly welcome speakers from far and near to share their insights. Local ASU faculty and students and regional faculty and students from Tuskegee University, join with presenters from California, Canada, Denmark, the Netherlands and Mauritius.

We also welcome our Keynote Speaker, Dr. Toiya Kristen Finley, from Nashville, Tennessee, Author, Consultant, Editor, Educator, Entrepreneur, and Game Designer. She will speak about thriving as a young creative, as an African-American woman, as an Internet-based remote-worker during the pandemic, and more.

We are excited to explore the rich collective of research, analysis, fiction, poetry, and performance to be shared here in the John Garrick Hardy Student Center Theater on ASU’s campus, and widely through the almost-magical connectivity of Zoom.

The C.L.A.S.S. RCAS 2022 Committee warmly thanks all those who helped this symposium come to pass, including Mr. Duane Turner for his technical expertise and assistance, Ms. Katrina Williams, OTS Web Content Editor, for creating the RCAS webpage on the CLASS website, Mrs. Tonika Copeland for all she does every day for our college and the extra mile she has gone to help us launch RCAS 2022, and all Symposium presenters who have generously offered to share their time and talent with us, including our C.L.A.S.S. Dean, Dr. Kathaleen Amende and ASU’s Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Carl Pettis.

Sincerely,

The RCAS 2022 Committee

Dr. Ivon Alcime, RCAS Committee Chair, Interim Chair of the Communications  
Department

Dr. Lynne Schneider, RCAS Vice-Chair, Assistant Professor, Languages and Literatures  
Department

Mr. Michael Bean, RCAS Technical Chair, Assistant Professor, Communications  
Department

Dr. Calvin Smith, RCAS Member, Assistant Professor, Psychology

**TUESDAY, MARCH 29, 2022 | 8:30AM - 5:00 PM**

**Note: Times shown below are Central Times (CT)**

**Morning Session****8:30 AM****WELCOME to RCAS 2022 International Hybrid Symposium****Introductory Remarks**

DR. IVON ALCIME, Chair of the RCAS Committee, Interim Chair and Associate Professor of the Communications Department

DR. BRENDA I. GILL, Associate Dean of the College of Liberal Arts Social Sciences

DR. KATHALEEN AMENDE, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

DR. CARL PETTIS, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs

DR. QUINTON T. ROSS, JR., President of Alabama State University

**9:00 AM****Session Topic: The Broad Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic**

**Moderator:** SHANI CRAYTON, M.Ed., News Operations Supervisor and Senior Technical Media Producer, WSFA-12 News, Montgomery, AL

**Media Coverage in the Wake of a Protean Pandemic**

MELANIE HOGAN, News Director and Producer, WVAS 90.7 FM, Alabama State University's Public Radio Station

**Arguments of Faith, Family and Finances During COVID: *a Legal Practitioner's Perspective***

VICKI BRADLEY-SEALS, Esq., Alabama State University

**Community Health Equity Program Addressing Social Determinants of Health in Alabama during COVID-19**

BRIDGET STASHER-BOOKER, PH.D, RHIA, CHT-IM, MCCT, Alabama State University Health Information Management, Montgomery, AL

**10:00 AM****Session Topic: Digital Media and the Pandemic**

**Moderator:** MICHAEL BEAN, Alabama State University, Instructor, Communications Dept.

**The Covid-19 Pandemic and the Aporetic Aesthetics of Digital Media**

INGRID M. HOOFD, Utrecht University, The Netherlands

**Unethical Internet: A Study of Social Media and Responsibility**

CORRYN CARTER, Student, Alabama State University

### 10:30 AM

#### **Session Topic: Issues in Social Work and COVID**

**Participants:** Alabama State University Faculty and Students

**Moderator:** SIMONE NOBEL, B.S.W. Candidate, Honors, Alabama State University

#### **Palliative Care for COVID-1: Video Poster and Discussion**

AMBER MAYFIELD, B.S.W. Alabama State University, MSW Candidate in Social Work

#### **Coping with Grief During a Pandemic**

ASHLEY ROBINSON, B.S.W. Candidate, Alabama State University

SIMONE NOBEL, B.S.W. Candidate, Honors, Alabama State University

### 11:00 AM

#### **Session Topic: University Faculty & Pandemic**

**Roundtable Participants:** Alabama State University Faculty Members

#### **Disconnected, Connected, and Sometimes Muddled:**

##### *Navigating COVID-19 as a Faculty Member*

KEITH RAY, PH.D, Chair, Dept of Criminal Justice and Social Sciences

BRENDA GILL, PH.D, Associate Dean, C.L.A.S.S., Professor of Sociology and Criminal Justice

RHIANE HINTON-SMITH, MS, ASU

SHANAE SHAW, PH.D. Instructor, Dept. of Social Work

TABITHA BROOKINS, PH.D, LMSW, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Social Work

### 12:00 Noon

#### **Lunch Break**

## **Afternoon Session**

### 1:00 PM

#### **Session Topic: Racism as a Pandemic**

**Participants:** Tuskegee University Faculty and Students

**Booker T. Washington Leadership Institute Fellows, Undergraduate Scholars:** *Surviving Racism as a Pandemic - Studying Tuskegee Airmen Through Oral History Interviews*

#### **Faculty Participants and Moderators:**

ZANICE BOND, PH.D. Associate Professor of English, Tuskegee University, and Booker T. Washington Leadership Institute Fellows

LISA BRATTON, PH.D., Associate Professor of History, Tuskegee University, and Booker T. Washington Leadership Institute Fellow

**Student Participants:**

AMAYA CHAMPION  
JORDYN IGNONT  
TIERNEY MACON

**2:00 PM**

**Session Topic: Racism as a Pandemic**

**Participants: Sigma Tau Delta Rho Chapter, Alabama State University**

Sigma Tau Delta is the International English Honors Society.

**Rho Chapter Faculty Advisor: LYNNE SCHNEIDER, PH.D**

**Moderator: NOAH CAMPBELL, B.A., Alabama State University**

**Student Participants**

AVIAN BAKER  
HOPE MILLER  
JELANY MCGOWAN  
ANTORRIS SMITH-BURTS  
KENNEDE THREADGILL

**3:00 PM**

**Session Topic: Student Pandemic Narratives**

**Participants: Alabama State University Faculty and Students**

*Being a Student in the Pandemic: Our Experiences*

**Faculty Moderator: BRENDA GILL, PH.D, Associate Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, Associate Professor of Sociology and Criminal Justice**

**Student Panelists:**

CHARLES LEWIS, Graduate Student and GRA, Dept. of Health Science  
TAYLOR YOUNG, B.S. Candidate, Alabama State University  
MATTEYA COBBS  
AMANDA HARRIS

**4:00 PM**

**Session Topic: Student Life in the Pandemic**

**ASU, a Southern HBCU: *Keeping the Sting - Student Retention in the Hornet Nation***

**Faculty Moderator: BRENDA GILL, PH.D, Associate Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, Associate Professor of Sociology and Criminal Justice**

**Student Panelists:**

MATTEYA COBBS  
AMANDA HARRIS  
MAHOGANY TERRELL

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 2022 | 8:30AM - 5:00 PM****Morning Session****8:30AM****Session Topic: Women in History**

**Moderator:** W. H. TAYLOR, PH.D, Professor, Department of History, Alabama State University

**Women and Gender as Discussed in 16th- and 17th-Century Academic Philological and Philosophical Writings and the Relevance Thereof in Our Time**

JOSEPH FREEDMAN, PH.D, Professor, History Dept., Alabama State University

**9:00AM****Session Topic: Pandemic and Literature**

**Pandemic Antisemitism in Geoffrey Chaucer's *The Prioress's Tale***

LORENZ A. HINDRICHSEN, Copenhagen International School, Denmark

**Time, Isolation, and Self-Reflection in Albert Camus's *La Peste* and *L'Etranger*** (respectively, *The Plague* and *The Stranger*, which was also published in English as *The Outsider*)

ANGELA RAMSOONDUR, University of Mauritius, Mauritius

**Using Literature to Build Social Models: Lessons from Camus's *The Plague***

ROBERT O. WHITE II, PH.D., JD, Alabama State University

**10:00 AM****Session Topic: Literature and Pandemic, Reading and Discussion**

**Moderator:** LYNNE SCHNEIDER, PH.D, Assistant Professor, Languages and Literatures, Alabama State University

**Vaccine Hesitancy and Public Vulnerability in Speculative Fiction: Author's Discussion about his novel, *A Suitable Companion for the End of Your Life***

ROBERT MCGILL, PH.D., Professor of Literature, University of Toronto, Canada

**11:00 AM****Session Topic: Poetry and Short Fiction, Reading and Discussion**

**Moderator:** KAVON FRANKLIN, PH.D, Associate Professor, Languages and Literatures Department, Alabama State University

**Participants:**

JACQUELINE ALLEN TRIMBLE, PH.D, Chair of the Department of Languages and Literatures, Alabama State University, Award-winning Author of Poetry and Prose, including her poetry collection *American Happiness* (2016), and her most recent poetry collection to be released April 5, 2022, *How to Survive the Apocalypse*

RUSTY SPELL, PH.D, Assistant Professor, Languages and Literatures Dept., Alabama State University, Actor, Author, Podcaster, and Raconteur

LYNNE SCHNEIDER, Assistant Professor, Languages and Literatures Dept., Alabama State University

**12:00 Noon****Lunch Break****Afternoon Session****1:00 PM****KEYNOTE ADDRESS****TOIYA KRISTEN FINLEY, Ph.D**

**Author, Consultant, Editor, Educator, Entrepreneur, Speaker and Game Designer**

Dr. Finley will speak about thriving as a young creative, as an African- American woman, as an Internet-based remote-worker during the pandemic, and more. She encourages discussion and questions from Symposium guests and participants after her talk.

Nashville native Toiya Kristen Finley holds a doctorate in literature and creative writing from Binghamton University. With nearly 70 published works, she has 30 years of experience in a range of genres.

Her writing credits include short stories published in collections and anthologies such as *The Year's Best Science Fiction and Fantasy 2010*, and *The Best of Electric Velocipede*, both of which chose to include her short story "The Death of Sugar Daddy," and *Wastelands 2* and *Loosed Upon the World*, both of which included "outer rims."

Her book credits include *The Game Narrative Toolbox* and *Narrative Tactics for Mobile and Social Games: Pocket-Sized Storytelling*. *Freelance Video Game Writing: The Life & Business of the Digital Mercenary for Hire* is forthcoming for CRC in May.

She is also a member of the IGDA Game Writing Special Interest Group's Executive Board. Oh, and she's finally working on her own visual novel demo!

**2:00 PM****Session Topic: Teaching in the Time of COVID****Self-Efficacy and Music Performance: A Meta-Analysis**

MICHAEL ZELENAK, PH.D, Professor of Music, Music Dept., College of Performing Arts, Alabama State University

**How to Become a Woodwind Specialist Without Really Trying!**

MICHAEL WESTMORELAND, D.M.A., Assistant Professor, Music Dept., College of Visual and Performing Arts, Alabama State University

**Rhetoric and Teaching Writing**

NATHAN MADSEN, Graduate Student, California State University, Stanislaus

**3:00 PM****Session Topic: Live Student Performances: *Music, Dance, Theater - Joys the Pandemic Barred!***

**Moderator:** WENDY COLEMAN, PH.D, Dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts, Alabama State University

**Participants from the College of Performing Arts**

The College of Visual and Performing Arts encourages its majors to engage in all aspects of learning and training to advance toward excellence. The disciplines of Theater, Art, Dance, and Music involve high levels of research, creativity, and dedication. These student participants share their unique talents and passions as Symposium participants.

**4:00 PM****Session Topic: Pandemic on Film*****The Vaccine: Our History, Our Health, Our Hope***

**Executive Producer:** WENDY R. COLEMAN, PH.D, Dean, College of Visual and Performing Arts, Alabama State University

**Associate Producer:** KENDRICK HARDY, Adjunct Professor, College of Visual and Performing Arts, Alabama State University

**Contributing Writer:** LOIS D. JACKSON, PH.D, Secretary, College of Visual and Performing Arts, Alabama State University

**Produced By:** Reaching the Remnant Ministries through a Grant from Alabama Department of Public Health

**5:00 PM****CLOSING REMARKS**

SHANI CRAYTON, M.Ed., News Operations Supervisor/ Senior Technical Media Producer, WSFA-12 News, Montgomery, AL