

UNESCO International Symposium “Healing the Wounds of Slavery: Towards Mutual Recovery”

Biographical Notes of the participants

	NAME	BIOGRAPHY
1	 <p style="text-align: center;">Ana Lucia Araujo (Brazil)</p>	<p>Ana Lucia Araujo is a full professor in the Department of History of Howard University in Washington, D.C. Her research explores the history, memory, and heritage of slavery. She authored or edited over ten books on these themes, including <i>Public Memory of Slavery: Victims and Perpetrators in the South Atlantic</i> (2010), <i>Shadows of the Slave Past: Memory, Heritage and Slavery</i> (2014), and <i>Brazil Through French Eyes: A Nineteenth-Century Artist in the Tropics</i> (2015), which was published last year in Portuguese by the University of Sao Paulo Press.</p> <p>Since last November, she is a member of the International Scientific Committee of the UNESCO Slave Route Project. Her latest single authored book, <i>Reparations for Slavery and the Slave Trade: A Transnational and Comparative History</i> was published by Bloomsbury in 2017.</p> <p>aaaraujo@Howard.edu</p>
2	 <p style="text-align: center;">Nelly R. Schmidt (France)</p>	<p>Nelly R. Schmidt is Research Director at the CNRS (French National Centre for Scientific Research), Paris IV-Sorbonne University. She has recently chaired the International Scientific Committee of the UNESCO “Slave Route Project: Resistance, Liberty, Heritage”. Her publications include <i>Victor Schœlcher</i> (1994), <i>Abolitionnistes de l’esclavage et réformateurs des colonies</i> (2000), <i>Histoire du métissage</i> (2003), <i>L’abolition de l’esclavage. Cinq siècles de combats, XVIe-XXe siècles</i> (2005), <i>La France a-t-elle aboli l’esclavage ?</i> (2009) and <i>Lettres sur l’esclavage et l’abolition dans les colonies françaises, 1840- 1850</i> (2015). She mounted the virtual exhibition <i>Les abolitions de l’esclavage</i> for the French National Archives: lesabolitions.culture.fr, 2014. She is a contributor to the UNESCO Slave Route Project, and to Open Democracy (Free Thinking for the World). <i>Beyond Trafficking and Slavery</i>. Her forthcoming books are <i>Esclavage et liberté aux Caraïbes. Une plantation de Guadeloupe au XIXe siècle</i>, 2018 and <i>L’abolitionnisme de l’esclavage. Forces et faiblesses</i>.</p> <p>nelly.schmidt@wanadoo.fr</p>

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Annick Thebia-Melsan
(Guyana)

Ms Annick Thébia-Melsan Aggregate of Letters, Master in Linguistic, Art History, ATM is a former Senior Officer in French Diplomacy (International Affairs and Cultural Cooperation), Coordinator of UNESCO/ONU for Global programs Cultural Dialogue and reconciliation: UN Conference against Racism in Durban -2001, Programme for Dialogue among Civilizations at United Nations Office in Geneva, International Decade for Indigenous People at the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights; Collaboration with UN agencies WIPO, WHO. At UNESCO: Curator for the UNESCO Fifty years (1995; TAGORE NERUDA CESAIRE” (2009); Consultancy in current Silk Roads Project. Member of the Consultative Scientific Committee for Conference of Africa and Diaspora’s Intellectuals - CIAD I and II (Senegal/ Brazil); Author of films and publications like: Aimé CESAIRE, The Vigilant Island, Meeting the conquest, The Strength to face tomorrow, Facing the Millenium (2000), The Aimé Césaire’s legacy (Paris 2009), Tagore, Neruda, Césaire: For a reconciled Universal (UNESCO Printing 2011).

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Judite Blanc
(Haïti)

Judite Blanc is a research psychologist trained in France and Haiti whose research interests focus on Historical Trauma, Health Disparities and Psychological Resilience from a racial/ethnic and gender perspective. Dr. Blanc is working as a T32 Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Department of Population Health, Center for Healthful Behavior Change at New York University Langone Health (NYULH). She is leading a study on psychosocial factors of insufficient sleep in blacks and whites among others. Previously, she served as an outpatient therapist in community mental health services. Also, she taught psychology to undergraduate students in Haiti.

In 2017, she co-directed and published the text: “Pensée afro-caribéenne et (psycho) traumatismes de l’esclavage et de la colonisation” (Afro-Caribbean thought and (psychological) traumas of slavery and colonization).

Dr Blanc is the founder and coordinator of SITWOMAFRIKA (Psychotrauma and Africanity), an institute for research on the psychosocial impact of slavery and colonization in Haiti. In 2015, she founded the first International Festival of Africana Psychology (Festival Entènasyonnal Sikoloji Afriken-FESA), which second bi-annual edition held in four countries in 2018, including Senegal, Haiti, Canada, and the United-States.

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Munyiri Venanzio Mwangi
(Kenya/Colombia)

Munyiri Venanzio Mwangi is a Catholic Missionary priest, born in Kenya, Africa. He has been working in Colombia for the last 15 years. He holds a bachelor's degree in Philosophy and Theology; Master's degree in Education with emphasis in human development and is currently a Ph.D candidate in Education at the "Universidad San Buenaventura" in Cali, Colombia. His professional life has been in the field of accompaniment, research and promotion of Afro-descendant people at various levels. He is currently in charge of "African descendant pastoral attention" (pastoral afrodescendiente) both at the archdiocese of Cali and South America.

He is an active promoter of "Schools of forgiveness and reconciliation" among the African descendant communities, director of a Diploma course in indigenous community processes, founder of a mobile school for ancestral wisdom heritage focused on black communities family ties and a lecturer at the Catholic University in the city of Cali, Colombia.

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Aimé Charles-Nicolas
(Martinique)

Aimé Charles-Nicolas is Professor of medicine, medical psychology and psychiatry at the Faculty of Medicine of Antilles-Guyane. He participated in the creation of the Marmottan Hospital in Paris in 1971 when the drug phenomenon emerged, and in the implementation of other concrete responses such as centers, post-treatments, doctors and social workers' trainings, and public awareness. His name remains attached to addiction treatments in France, particularly through the Centre Pierre Nicole, that he founded in Paris and led for eleven years and which is still in operation today.

His theoretical contributions mainly concern the field of addiction, including the conceptual tools of addicts' psychopathology Sensations Taking the Place of Affect, (1974), Drug Addict's Identity (1976), Passionate Relationship to Drug (1979), and Risk-Taking and Ordeal Behavior. Mr Charles-Nicolas is cited in 435 international scientific papers according to Medline. His theoretical contributions also cover the psychopathology of the HIV carrier, transcultural psychiatry, and social intervention/action (Local Policies Preventions).

In 2016, he organized the International Scientific Conference on the theme: "Slavery: What is its Impact on the Psychology of Populations?", in collaboration with the UNESCO Slave Route Project and the Association First Caraïbes.

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Ibrahima Seck
(Senegal / USA)

Ibrahima Seck is member of the History Department of University Cheikh Anta Diop of Dakar (UCAD), Senegal. His research is mostly devoted to the historical and cultural links between West Africa and Louisiana with a special interest for miscellaneous aspects of culture such as religious beliefs, music, and foodways.

He is now holding the position of Director of research of the Whitney Plantation Slavery Museum located in Wallace, Louisiana.

He is the author of a book on this historic site entitled "Bouki fait Gombo: A History of the Slave Community of Habitation Haydel (Whitney Plantation) Louisiana, 1750-1860. [New Orleans: UNO Press, 2014].

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Ariane Giacobino
(Switzerland)

Ariane Giacobino was trained as an MD, at Geneva University, Faculty of Medicine (Switzerland). Ms Giacobino is specialist in medical genetics, with both a clinical and a research activity. She also spent 3 years at Pittsburgh University, USA, performing research in molecular genetics and epigenetics.

She has since 2006 developed at Geneva University her own research laboratory on epigenetics, with a specific interest on the potential transgenerational inheritance of epigenetic changes.

She has published numerous peer-reviewed articles on human genetics and epigenetics, and has participated to different studies involving the epigenetic changes subsequent to trauma.

She is member of the Swiss, European and American Societies of Human Genetics and member of the ethic committee of the Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences.

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**Prinny Anderson
(USA)**

Prinny Anderson is a descendant of 90+ enslaver families from Virginia. To build bridges to the descendants of people my ancestors enslaved, co-founded the Monticello Community (2005). Have held descendant gatherings and are currently creating our intertwined history as a platform for dialogue about racism and social justice.

Founding member of Coming to the Table (2006), a national organization providing leadership, support and tools for people to address the legacies of slavery, racism and inequity in the US. Have a discussion group in the Durham/Chapel Hill, NC, area.

She is Secretary of the Board of Directors of Joseph McGill's Slave Dwelling Project, sleeping in slave dwellings, offering educational moments, and sitting in conversation circles, all intended to change the narrative of American history.

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**Benjamin Bowser
(USA)**

Benjamin Bowser is from New York City, completed his doctorate at Cornell University and is recently Emeritus Professor of Sociology and Social Services at California State University East Bay in Hayward, California.

Mr Bowser is a research and medical sociologists specializing in African American communities and evaluations research.

His most recent work has focused on the long-term impacts of slavery on contemporary cultures in the West with Paul Lovejoy (eds.) *The Transatlantic Slave Trade and Slave: New Directions in Teaching and Learning* (2012).

He has pioneered in the development of strategies to access hidden and hard to reach urban sub-populations to conduct health risk surveys and HIV prevention education.

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**Katrina Browne
(USA)**

Katrina Browne produced/directed the Emmy-nominated *Traces of the Trade: A Story from the Deep North*, a documentary about her slave-trading ancestors from Rhode Island, the hidden history of the North's complicity in slavery, and her family's reckoning with questions of privilege and repair today. *Traces* premiered at Sundance (2008), and then aired on PBS (broadcasts also in Canada, Cuba and Bermuda). Katrina travels extensively with the film as a speaker/trainer – in the U.S. and overseas.

She co-founded The Tracing Center on Histories and Legacies of Slavery to help improve how slavery is taught in schools and interpreted at historic sites and museums. The film contributed to the Episcopal Church's 2006 decision to atone for its role in slavery.

Katrina now works for the Church as a consultant on their Becoming Beloved Community racial justice and healing initiatives.

She has a particular focus in her work on the range of psychological/emotional legacies of slavery and racism in white Americans, and how to transform dynamics such as denial, defensiveness or shame into heart and mind-states that can be in service to racial justice and right relationship.

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**Mr Robert (Rob) Corcoran
(USA)**

Robert (Rob) Corcoran, is Author of 'Trustbuilding: An Honest Conversation on Race, Reconciliation, and Responsibility', is a trainer, facilitator and racial healing practitioner, who has worked with diverse and polarized groups across North America and Europe and in Australia, India, South Africa and Brazil.

He is Founder Emeritus of Hope in the Cities, the flagship national programme of Initiatives of Change USA, which models honest conversation and sustained partnerships across traditional boundaries.

He served as National Director for Initiatives of Change from 2006 to 2016.

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**Mr John Cummings
(USA)**

John J. Cummings, III is an 81-year old New Orleans native and graduate of Loyola University School of Law. He practiced law in New Orleans for more than 50 years, specializing in class actions and mass tort litigation. He has represented oppressed and abused minorities for most of his professional life.

John is the Founder of the Whitney Plantation Museum in Louisiana, where the facts of slavery in the United States are presented. He has focused for the past fifteen years on the re-development of the Whitney Plantation as a Memorial and Site of Memory. It was opened to the public on December 7, 2014 and he is actively involved in its operations daily.

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**Vincent Deforest
(USA)**

Vincent A. Deforest, Preservationist and Social Activist and his brother Robert A. DeForest cofounded the African American institute for Historic Preservation and Community Development, which is initially the Afro-American Bicentennial Corporation in 1971. Under contract with the National Park service (NPS) and other government agencies, more than 70 African American landmarks in the United States received recognition through the efforts of the African American Institute. Five of them are now national historic sites. In the 1900s and 2000s, Mr Deforest worked for the National Park Service. His assignments included Youth Development Coordinator, Special Observance Coordinator and Underground Railroad (UGRR) Coordinator. He worked with local and federal officials, and community leaders and organizations, with a particular emphasis on involving youth, Native Americans and other minorities in the projects. He finished his career at NPS as Special Assistant to the Director. He is currently working with organizations and programs within North America to build a coalition in support of the UNESCO Slave Route Movement.

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Joy Angela DeGruy
(USA)

Joy Angela DeGruy holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Communication, a Master's degree in Social Work (MSW), a Master's degree in Clinical Psychology, and a PhD in Social Work Research. Ms. DeGruy is a nationally and internationally renowned researcher and educator. For over two decades, she served as an Assistant Professor at Portland State University's School of Social Work and now serves as President and Chief Executive Officer of Joy DeGruy Publications Inc.

Ms DeGruy's research focuses on the intersection of racism, trauma, violence and American chattel slavery. She has over thirty years of practical experience as a professional in the field of social work. She conducts workshops and trainings in the areas of intergenerational/Historical trauma, mental health, social justice, improvement strategies and evidence based model development.

Ms DeGruy has published numerous refereed journal articles and authored her seminal book entitled "Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome: America's Legacy of Enduring Injury & healing". She has developed the "African American Male Adolescent Respect Scale" an assessment instrument designed to broaden our understanding of the challenges facing these youth in an effort to prevent their representation in the criminal justice system.

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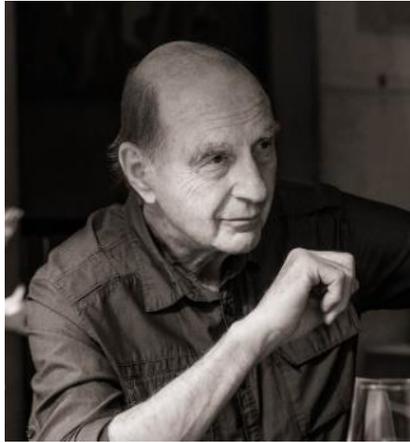


John Franklin
(USA)

John Franklin serves as Cultural Historian and senior manager in the Office of External Affairs at Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture. Mr Franklin received his bachelor's degree in Anthropology from Stanford University, with a focus on French-speaking West Africa and Caribbean societies. He later did graduate work at Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies focusing on African development issues. Prior to joining the National Museum of African American History and Culture, Mr. Franklin served as a Program Manager and Curator with Smithsonian's Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage, where his responsibilities included curating the annual Smithsonian's Folklife Festival's programming around Washington, D.C, Mali, Cabo Verde and Bahamas. Mr Franklin also served as Programme Specialist in the Smithsonian's Office of Interdisciplinary Studies where he organized conferences on Black Francophone Presence in the U.S, African Americans and the Evolution of the Living Constitution, African Immigration, West Africa Research and Human Rights and Scientific Progress and seminars on Cultural Diversity.

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**Kenneth J. Gergen
(USA)**

Kenneth J. Gergen is a Senior Research Professor in Psychology at Swarthmore College, and President of the Taos Institute.

He is internationally known for his contributions to social constructionist theory, technology and cultural change, the self and relational practices.

His major writings include, *Realities and Relationships: Soundings in Social Construction*, *The Saturated Self: Dilemmas of Identity in Contemporary Life*, *An Invitation to Social Construction*, and *Relational Being: Beyond Self and Community*.

Gergen lectures throughout the world, and has received numerous awards for his work, including honorary degrees in both the U.S. and Europe.

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**Peter Hanes
(USA)**

Peter Hanes is an Information Technologist/ Editor of African North American Studies – A descendant of enslaved persons who worked at George Washington’s Mount Vernon and James Madison’s Montpelier. Hanes has been a coordinator for annual Washington, DC Emancipation Commemoration educational programmes since the early 1990s. He is specialist in the electronic marketing of African American and African Canadian heritage educational information and programmes to Washington DC, national and North American (USA-Canada) public audiences; and he is the editor for *African American Heritage News Digest*.

Former US Department of the interior headquarters IT specialist, Hanes has served on the planning committees or supported numerous Washington, DC, national/ international African American and African Canadian Heritage public programmes including national/ international commemorations and conferences in the USA and Canada since 2001. He is member of the ISC of UNESCO Slave Route Project (SRP), Advisory Boards and expert at the technical meeting on “Development of a Conceptual and Methodological Guide and the Training Modules on Itineraries and Tourism of Memory” of the UNESCO Slave Route project in 2012.

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Fatimah L.C. Jackson
(USA)

Fatimah L. C. Jackson received her BA (*cum laude* with Distinction in all subjects), MA, and PhD from Cornell University. She conducts research on, and is particularly interested in human-plant coevolution, especially the influence of phytochemicals on human metabolic effects and evolutionary processes and in population substructure in peoples of African descent.

She developed ethnogenetic layering as a computational tool to identify human microethnic groups and quantitative approaches to understanding the effects of population stratification on health disparities. Trained as Human biologist, Dr Jackson has published extensively in such journals as *Human Biology*, *Biochemical Medicine and Metabolic Biology*, and *the Journal of the National Medical Association*, *Science*, *Nature*, *Frontiers in Genetics*, and others.

Ms Jackson has taught widely and is currently Professor of Biology and Director of the W. Montague Cobb Research Laboratory at Howard University. In 2017, Howard University named her STEM Woman Researcher of the Year and she received the Outstanding Service Award from the Department of Biology. She is chair of the Natural Sciences Division, Howard University, College of Arts and Sciences.

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Ms Khatarya Um
(USA)

Khatarya Um is Associate Professor of Asian American and Asian Diaspora Studies, and Chair of Peace and Conflict Studies at the University of California Berkeley. She received her PhD in Political Science from the University of California, Berkeley and was Berkeley Chancellor's Distinguished Postdoctoral Fellow. Her research and teaching interests focus simultaneously on Southeast Asia and Southeast Asian American communities and include politics and societies of Southeast Asia, refugee, diaspora and transnational studies, postcolonial studies, and genocide studies. She has written widely on the Cambodian genocide and on conflict and post conflict issues including the experiences of women survivors of genocide. Her current research interests center on the politics of memory and commemoration, with a special focus on second generation "postmemory."

In addition to her academic work, Ms Um is actively involved in community advocacy. She has served on numerous national and community boards and has received numerous recognitions for her social justice works and leadership roles, including recognitions from Congresswomen Barbara Lee and Congresswoman Anna Eshoo. She was a Chancellor Public Scholar and the first Cambodian American woman to receive a PhD.

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**Erica Wilkins
(USA)**

Erica Wilkins is Programme director of the Doctorate of Couple and Family Therapy at Drexel University. Her research agenda explores the ways the residuals of slavery affect the formation of Black womanhood as well as clinical training. She has forged intercollegiate research collaborations with colleagues across the United States.

Ms Wilkins has also presented at local, national, and international conferences. Clinically, she assists clients in coping with the residual effects of slavery, recovery from various historical traumas, grief and loss, anxiety, depression, trauma and abuse and addiction, culturally competent services, and contextual therapy.

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**George Woods
(USA)**

George Woods, MD, L.F.A.P.A. is a practicing Neuropsychiatrist and internationally known Mental health expert and recipient of the 2018 Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of Utah Medical Center. Over the past three decades, his clinical practice has focused on Neurodevelopmental disorders and Geriatric Psychiatry.

He is immediate past President of the International Academy of Law and Mental Health. He was asked to continue as Secretary-General of the International Academy of Law and Mental Health during the amalgamation with the Institute of Ethics, Medicine, and Public Health at the Sorbonne, Paris, France.

Since 2002, he has taught Clinical Aspects of Forensic Psychiatry at Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta, Georgia (currently on sabbatical until 2018). He is a Lecturer at the University of California, Berkeley School of Law. He is cohost of Where Mental Health Meets the Law, a Thomson Reuters webinar with Westlaw. Mr Woods has also consulted with forensic systems internationally, including Malawi, Pakistan, The Hague, Uganda, Kenya, Zanzibar, Senegal, Tanzania, Italy, and Japan.

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GUERRAND-HERMÈS FOUNDATION FOR PEACE

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Garrett Thomson
(United Kingdom)

Garrett Thomson is Chief Executive Officer of the Guerrand-Hermès Foundation for Peace (GHFP) and Director of Research. He received his DPhil from the Oxford University. Currently he is Compton Professor of Philosophy at the College of Wooster, USA. He was formerly the CEO of the World Subud Association in 2005-2010. Garrett is the author of numerous books including Needs; Kant; Introduction to Modern Philosophy; and a series of introductory texts on Descartes, Locke, Aristotle, Kant, and Leibniz. He co-edited the six-volume The Longman Standard History of Philosophy. His other recent works include Una Introduccion a la Practica de la Filosofia, On Philosophy and On the Meaning of Life. Most recently, Garrett has co-authored books as part of the GHFP's research team.

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Scherto Gill
(United Kingdom)

Scherto Gill is a Senior Research Fellow and Executive Secretary of the Guerrand-Hermès Foundation for Peace (GHFP). Her research interests centre on understanding the relationships between peace, dialogue, humanisation and well-being, and she actively explores such understanding in fields such as peacebuilding, governance, social transformation and educational innovation. Her writings aim to contribute to debates and explorations within these fields.

Scherto is a Visiting Fellow at the Centre for International Education, University of Sussex, a Visiting Lecturer on the ERASMUS Programme at Crossfields Institute, and a Visiting Lecturer at Zhejiang University.

She serves on the board of the Spirit of Humanity Forum, and is a board member of Ara Pacis Initiative, and a Trustee of Lewes New School. She is also a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts (RSA).

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UNESCO

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**Ali Moussa Iye
(UNESCO)**

Ali Moussa Iye holds a PhD in Political Sciences from the Institute of Political Sciences in Grenoble, France. He was journalist, editor in Chief of a Weekly newspaper and Director of press and Audio visual in Djibouti before joining UNESCO in 1997. Within UNESCO, he was first Coordinator of the UNESCO Programme of Culture of Peace in the Horn of Africa. He was then in charge of the Democracy Programme and finally of the Programme on the Fight against Racism and Discrimination. He is actually Chief of History and Memory for Dialogue Section and in charge of two important UNESCO Programmes: The Routes of Dialogue (Slave Route Project, Silk Roads project) and the General and Regional Histories Project (History of Humanity, General History of Africa, General History of Caribbean, History of Civilisations of Central Asia, General History of Latin America and The Different Aspect of Islamic Culture). He is the Coordinator of General History of Africa project in particular its Pedagogic Use of and the elaboration of the Volume IX of the GHA. Parallel to his functions at UNESCO, Mr Moussa Iye pursues his research in the field of Political Anthropology, in particular on the Endogenous socio-political organisation of Pastoralists. Among his various publications, is the pioneer work on the “Pastoral Democracy” republished in 2014 under the title “Le verdict de l’Arbre : essai sur une démocratie endogène africaine”.

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**Terrence Johnson
(USA)**

Terrence L. Johnson is an Associate professor of Religion and government at Georgetown University, where he has joined appointments in the Department of Theology and the Department of Government. He is an affiliate member of the Department of African American Studies.

Johnson is also a faculty fellow at the Berkley Center and serves on the executive committee of the Program for Jewish Civilization. His research interests include ethics, political theory, African American religions, and religion and public life. He previously was an assistant professor of religion at Haverford College from 2008 to 2013; Johnson also worked at Harvard University from 1999 to 2001 as proctor.

He is the author of *Tragic Soul-Life: W.E.B. Du Bois and the Moral Crisis Facing American Democracy* (2012); his current book project addresses the impact of the American jeremiad on US political discourse. Mr Johnson holds a B.A. from Morehouse College, an M.Div. from Harvard Divinity School.

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**Katherine Marshall
(USA)**

Katherine Marshall is Senior fellow at the Berkley Center for Religion, Peace, and World Affairs, where she leads the center's work on religion and global development, and a professor of the practice of development, conflict, and religion in the Walsh School of Foreign Service. She helped to create and now serves as Executive director of the World Faiths Development Dialogue.

Marshall, who worked at the World Bank from 1971 to 2006, has nearly four decades of experience on a wide range of development issues in Africa, Latin America, East Asia, and the Middle East, particularly those facing the world's poorest countries. She led the World Bank's faith and ethics initiative between 2000 and 2006. She serves on the boards of several NGOs and on advisory groups, including AVINA Americas, the International Shinto Foundation, the Niwano Peace Prize International Selection Committee, and the Opus Prize Foundation.

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**Phyllis R. Magrab
(USA)**

Phyllis Magrab, Professor of Pediatrics, is a well-known pediatric psychologist and Director of the Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development (GUCCHD), which brings together policy, research, and clinical practice for the betterment of children, youth and their families, especially those with special needs.

For over forty years, Dr. Magrab has provided service, conducted research, shaped policy, and trained future professionals on behalf of vulnerable children and their families. She has extensive international experience related to developing services and policies for children, especially children with special need.

Currently, among her many international activities, Dr. Magrab is a consultant to UNESCO and holds a UNESCO Chair; serves as the Vice-Chair of the US-Afghan Women's Council, a public private partnership to advance the status of women and children in Afghanistan; and leads an international health and literacy effort. There is an Endowed Chair, the Phyllis R. Magrab Chair, named for her and dedicated to the continuation of her work on behalf of vulnerable children.

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OBSERVERS

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Margaret Smith
(USA)

Margaret Smith has been a faculty member of American University's International Peace and Conflict Resolution program for the past two decades, specializing in matters of memory and processing the past. She has written and/or lectured on the re-examination of historical narratives, forgiveness, trauma, textbooks, truth commissions and memorialization. Her other areas of specialization include nationalist and ethnic conflict, uses of memory in politics, and post conflict reconstruction in deeply divided societies. She is the author of *Reckoning with the Past: Teaching History in Northern Ireland*. She is currently developing a project with the second generation of the Cambodian diaspora residing in the US. She earned her Ph.D. in International Relations from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University, and her MA in clinical mental health counseling from Lesley University.

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Joe Louis Washington
(The Netherlands)

Joe Louis Washington is a human rights advocate, social critic, poet and peacebuilder. His professional background spans the areas of university related teaching and training (including in various capacities as an international lecturer and trainer in human rights and conflict resolution - Bowie State University, Utrecht University, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, University of Pisa; Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law; University of Bologna; public policy development, analysis and implementation (Office of the Mayor, City of Chicago); philanthropy (MacArthur Foundation, Field Foundation of Illinois); and peacekeeping, United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS).

Most recently, Joe served as the Acting Chief Training Officer of UNMISS, responsible for providing strategic direction and overseeing the management of the mission's training budget directed at enhancing the job readiness of all UNMISS personnel (civilian: national and international; police and military).

Joe currently serves as President of the Global Vision Institute (GVI), a network, catalyst and think tank for creating a universal-values driven international system.

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