

From: tubman  
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To: tubman-institute  
Subject: Weekly Newsletter | March 1, 2024



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## [News, Updates, Publications](#)

News@York Event Recap: Moving forward while learning from past vital, York U Black History Month panellists

*"February is Black History Month, but we make history every day" –Ruth Rodney, Associate Director, Harriet Tubman Institute*

One of the main messages was that structural change is needed to address the architecture that skews the playing field. While ending math streaming for Grade 9 students, particularly Black students, into the applied or academic level at high school is great, "Black students need to feel welcome, they need to feel they belong in these educational spaces," says Osibodu.

Panellists also discussed how colonizers took credit for indigenous knowledge across their colonies. When the French and English first landed on the West Coast of Africa, Indigenous Black people taught them how to treat tropical diseases. In places such as South America, the colonists learned of an indigenous malaria cure – quinine – using the bark of the Cinchona tree, says Boateng. The colonizers later used that knowledge to create synthetic anti-malarials such as Chloroquine, which was then sold back to people in these colonies.

"Some of the things that were learned were not ascribed to the indigenous [populace]. It became sort of the property or the proprietary of those who came to the land. It was stolen, plagiarized."

[Read the full article here.](#)

Join Tubman Faculty Fellow, Alvine Boaye Belle's, Speaker Series:

*Embracing the Diversity of the Intellectual and Social Landscapes when Conducting Research in Computing or Developing Intelligent Systems: A Dr. Belle's Perspective*

**The Global Lab@York Research Centre (GLRC) presents the 2024 John E. Ekeh Annual Lecture**

**Embracing the Diversity of the Intellectual and Social Landscapes when Conducting Research in Computing or Developing Intelligent Systems: A Dr. Belle's Perspective**

Presenting a public lecture as part of the Building EDI Knowledge

Women in Research Council Presents:  
Building EDI Knowledge in Research Speaker Series

**Embracing the Diversity of the Intellectual and Social Landscapes when Conducting Research in Computing or Developing Intelligent Systems: A Dr. Belle's Perspective**

Dr. Alvine Boaye Belle  
York University Lassonde School of Engineering  
Head of the DARE research group

March 5, 2024  
2p.m. to 4p.m.  
UB 1055, North Campus

**OntarioTech**  
UNIVERSITY

Join Dr. Alvine Boaye Belle on March 5 where she will be presenting a public lecture as part of the Building EDI Knowledge in Research Speaker Series. No registration required!

**Embracing the Diversity of the Intellectual and Social Landscapes when Conducting Research in Computing or**

Date: March 5, 2024

Time: 2:00pm-4:00pm

Location: UB1055, Ontario Tech, North Campus

Talk description: Digital discrimination occurs when intelligent systems make automated decisions based on specific individual attributes (e.g., income, education, gender, and ethnicity) or when relying on biased data engineering practices. This may reinforce social inequities by supporting the automation of consequential and sometimes unfair decisions that may be made by such systems and which may have an adverse impact on credit scores, insurance payouts, and even health evaluations, just to name a few. One of the root causes of digital discrimination is the lack of representativity of some cultural groups in the computing sector. That lack of representativity is notably due to the scarcity of some cultural groups (e.g., Black people) in computing undergraduate programs. Another issue that plagues the computing sector is that researchers from some developing countries, female researchers and/or researchers belonging to minoritized groups seem to be significantly less cited than other researchers belonging to dominant groups. Often same efforts, same intellectual abilities but less visibility (e.g., sometimes 50-75% less citations/paper acceptance). This is notably due to effects such as the "Matthew Effect" (tendency to cite prestigious scientists), and "Matilda Effect" (tendency for women to receive less recognition because they are women). This may have an adverse impact on recruitment, hiring, promotion, awards, etc. So, how, as computing professionals should we approach and/or address such discrimination issues to make sure the systems we develop and the research we carry out sufficiently reflect the intellectual and social diversity within computing fields and beyond?

## Room Booking & Study Spaces at The Harriet Tubman Institute (Third Floor, York Lanes, Keele Campus)

Resource Room (314 York Lanes) – cap. 30  
Study Room (316 York Lanes) – cap. 1  
Meeting Room (332 York Lanes) – cap. 4  
Graduate Caucus Study Rooms (325 & 327 York Lanes) (for HTI Research Associates only)  
Open study space (does not require a booking)

Open weekdays 8:30am-4:30pm. After hour access requires a YU Card.

The Resource Room Booking form can be found [here](#). All other booking requests can be sent to [tubman@yorku.ca](mailto:tubman@yorku.ca) with your name, date, and time of the request in the subject line.

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## Tubman Events

**Due to CUPE 3909 going on strike, the two Tubman events which were scheduled this week are being postponed. See below.**

### **POSTPONED: Thursday, Feb 29: DEI: The Good, The Bad, and the Performative (Co-Organized with School of Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies)**

Date: February 29th, 2024

Time: 12-2pm EST

Reception to follow

Location: Founders Assembly Hall (152 Founders College), Keele Campus, York University

**DEI:  
THE GOOD,  
THE BAD AND  
THE PERFORMATIVE**

**POSTPONED**

The School of Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies presents our Annual Lecture event featuring a roundtable on the possibilities and limitations of institutionalized Diversity, Equity and Inclusion initiatives.

Featured speakers include:

 Ginella Massa, Broadcast Journalist & Media Consultant	 Desmond Cole, Journalist, Activist and author of The Skin We're In	 Dr. Nadiya Ali, Assistant Professor of Sociology, Trent University	 Somar Abuaziza, President of Palestine Solidarity Collective (PSC)
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Thursday, February 29, 2024 12:00 to 2:00 PM Registration required  
Founders Assembly Hall (152 Founders College), York University, Keele Campus  
This event will be in person only. ASL interpretation will be available.

Sponsored by:  
THE BLACK CANADIAN STUDIES CERTIFICATE  
RESEARCH & INNOVATION YORK U  
LA&PS YORK U  
ROBERTS YORKU CENTRE FOR ASIAN RESEARCH  
YUFA Race Equity Caucus  
GRIFFIN, ARL, PROKHOROV, POLAKOVSKI, KEMMERS & WARDEN/STUDIES

### **POSTPONED: Friday, March 1: Movie Screening: Paris is Burning (Co-organized with Department of Dance)**

Date: March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024

Time: 7:00pm EST

Location: MacLean Performance Studio, Studio F - Accolade East, York University

THE HARRIET TUBMAN INSTITUTE AND  
THE DEPARTMENT OF DANCE PRESENT

## MOVIE SCREENING: PARIS IS BURNING



# POSTPONED

MARCH 1, 2024  
7:00PM EST

MACLEAN STUDIO (STUDIO F, ACCOLADE EAST)

REGISTER HERE



school of the  
arts, media  
performance  
& design



THE HARRIET  
TUBMAN INSTITUTE

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### Upcoming York Events and News

**Postponed:** Building Black Worlds: Making Black Spaces in Digital Gaming Places

Date: Tuesday February 27

Time: 1-2:30pm (EST)

[Register via Eventbrite to receive the zoom link for this virtual talk.](#)

In this talk, Dr. Akil Fletcher will share his new work on Black intermediality, exploring how Black players take existing game environments for their own use, going beyond the intentions of developers to create new social worlds of experience and being.

1:00PM

February 27, 2024

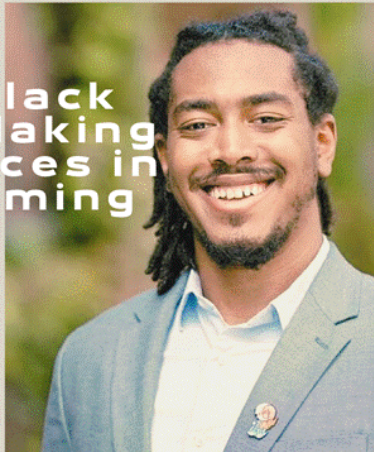
In celebration of Black History  
Month join the Institute for  
Technoscience & Society



## Building Black Worlds: Making Black Spaces in Digital Gaming Places

Register here:

<https://bit.ly/BlackWorlds>



**Akil Fletcher**

*Akil Fletcher is an anthropologist who researches race and video games at Princeton University. His work lies on the boundaries of Anthropology, African American Studies, and Game Studies. Fletcher earned his B.A. in Anthropology from the City College of New York and his Ph.D. in Sociocultural Anthropology from the University of California, Irvine.*

Institute for  
Technoscience & Society

Info:  
[techno@yorku.ca](mailto:techno@yorku.ca)

**Postponed:** Who is an Activist Scholar? Praxis, Challenges, and Opportunities

Date: Friday, March 1, 2024

Time: 1:30pm-2:30pm EST

Location: Zoom

Register here: <https://yorku.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEkdOuuqTMvGNuDS6GTfv03-DTff0GPsAKI#/registration>

**ROBARTS**  
CENTRE FOR CANADIAN STUDIES



**GLRC**  
Global Labour  
Research Centre

**THE NEXUS**  
CENTRE



Robarts-CFR-GLRC-Nexus Connects

# WHO IS AN ACTIVIST SCHOLAR?

*Praxis, Challenges, and Opportunities*

Friday 1 March 2024 | 1:30pm - 2:30 pm EST | Zoom (online)

The ideas of the activist scholars and activist scholarship are prevalent in many circles, but what do they mean exactly? Come hear different perspectives from activist scholars on what their role entails and how they navigate academic conventions.

Register at [this link](#) by February 28th.

CERLAC is Co-Sponsoring: Beyond Extraction

Date: MARCH 06, 2024

Location: Urbanspace Gallery

401 Richmond Street West

TKARONTO

Doors @6pm and discussion @7pm

Register: <https://bit.ly/3SQ9HBr>

The Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada's annual convention – the largest of its kind in the world – will be taking place in downtown Toronto between March 3rd–6th. As you know, at [Beyond Extraction](#), our primary objective is to reveal how the mineral exploration and development sectors conjure an imaginary of spectacular subterranean wealth to the significant detriment of people and planet.

This year our critical focus turns towards Canadian mining company Belo Sun (TSE: BSX), which is threatening the Brazilian Amazon and its people with a massive gold mine. We are pleased to collaborate with Amazon Watch, International Rivers, and others to shed light on the problematic activities of Canadian mining companies in Brazil.

Please join us to hear from:

Gabriela Sarmet [Amazon Watch]

Lorena Curuaia (Brazil) [Iawá community Leader]

Flavio Montie [International Rivers]

Thais Henriques Dias [York University]

Interested in more activities during PDAC?

Be sure to visit the [Mining Injustice Solidarity Network's](#) website for more.



## Research Commons Workshop: Create a Data Management Plan (DMP) for Your Research Project

Date: Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup>  
Time: 10:00 – 11:30 am EST  
Location: Zoom  
[Register here](#)

We want to send a gentle reminder of our upcoming workshop in collaboration with Libraries, *Create a Data Management Plan (DMP) for Your Research Project*, on Monday, March 4<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 – 2:30 pm on Zoom. [You can find more information and register here](#). A recording of the workshop will be circulated and posted on our website.

We also want to forward along notice on behalf of USC Finance Services of an upcoming Sm@rtBuy training session next Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 – 11:30 am for a new purchasing procedure they are introducing. Please see the attached document for more information. If you have any questions, please contact Rachelle Marfa-Surco, Manager, Procure to Pay: [marfa@yorku.ca](mailto:marfa@yorku.ca).

## Postdoctoral Fellowship Program for Black and Indigenous Scholars at York University

The Faculty of Graduate Students (FGS) is pleased to announce the fourth cycle of the Postdoctoral Fellowship Program for Black and Indigenous Scholars, as part of York's commitment to promoting justice and embracing a variety of scholarly perspectives, backgrounds and lived experiences. The program will offer emerging scholars from a wide range of disciplines access to the financial support, mentorship and career development opportunities needed to build the foundation for a successful professional future.

The field this year is open this year and we encourage you to share this fellowship opportunity with your faculty members: <https://gradstudies.yorku.ca/postdoctoral-fellows/provosts-postdoctoral-fellowships/>

FGS will host an online information session on the Provost's Postdoctoral Fellowships on Thursday, March 14, 2024 from 2:00-3:30pm. [Registration is required](#).

Any questions can be directed to [kimmcint@yorku.ca](mailto:kimmcint@yorku.ca).

The [Provost's Postdoctoral Fellowships for Black and Indigenous Scholars](#) will support up to 2 successful applicants this year. With a salary of \$70,000 provided each year for a two-year term, scholars will be able to dedicate their time to pursuing a proposed project, working alongside a supervisor and other mentors, while also gaining access to guidance from faculty, students and alumni.

- Available Fellowships: One fellowship for a scholar identifying as Black and one fellowship for a scholar identifying as Indigenous in 2024
- Amount: min. \$70,000/year
- Duration: 24 months (Normal start date in Summer or Fall 2024. Exceptional start dates may be negotiated)
- Field: Open
- Eligibility:
  - A completed PhD (2019 and after), or PhD completed by September 30, 2024 (with confirmed timeline for defence)
  - Additional details available on the [program web page](#)
- Deadline to Apply: 15 April 2024
- Decision: Anticipated late June 2024

Contact:  
Kim McIntyre (she / her)  
Postdoctoral Services & Professional Skills Coordinator  
Office of the Dean - FGS

## Other Events

### Black And Free: Scene Study

March 3 – June 9, 2024

Sundays: 12:30PM – 2:30PM

Grades 7-8

YPT 161 Studios

*Free Registration*

[Click Here to Register Today!](#)

Black And Free: Scene Study is a YPT Drama School course offered this year as a continuation of the SOLD OUT 2022.23 pilot class “Black Theatre in Ontario”. Black And Free: Scene Study is for students in Grades 7 & 8 and will explore Black theatre and performance through a journey of reading and working on texts by Black playwrights and performers. Over 12 weeks, students will investigate themes of blackness and freedom and their connections to theatre. No prior theatre experience is necessary; we enthusiastically invite students of all levels to join this program.

In this class students will...

- Read and perform texts from Black playwrights and performers
- Work on scenes in pairs and small groups
- Develop acting skills and have fun!
- Investigate the powerful theme of blackness and freedom
- Perform a scripted scene on a YPT stage at the end of the 12 weeks!

Please Note: Everyone registered in the course will be invited to participate in the [Black And Free research study](#) in the form of a short interview about their reflections on the course with one of the project’s research assistants. Please note, participation in the study is not required to take the course.

Contact: Project Coordinator, Dr. Naila Keleta-Mae’s [Black And Free Research-Creation Project](#)

University of Waterloo, Department of Communication Arts

200 University Ave. West, ML Building

Waterloo, Ontario, N2L 3G1

[Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#)

### Carleton University’s Institute of African Studies: Ruling Emancipated Slaves and Indigenous Subjects

Date: Wednesday, March 6th, 2024

Time: 1:00-2:30 PM EST

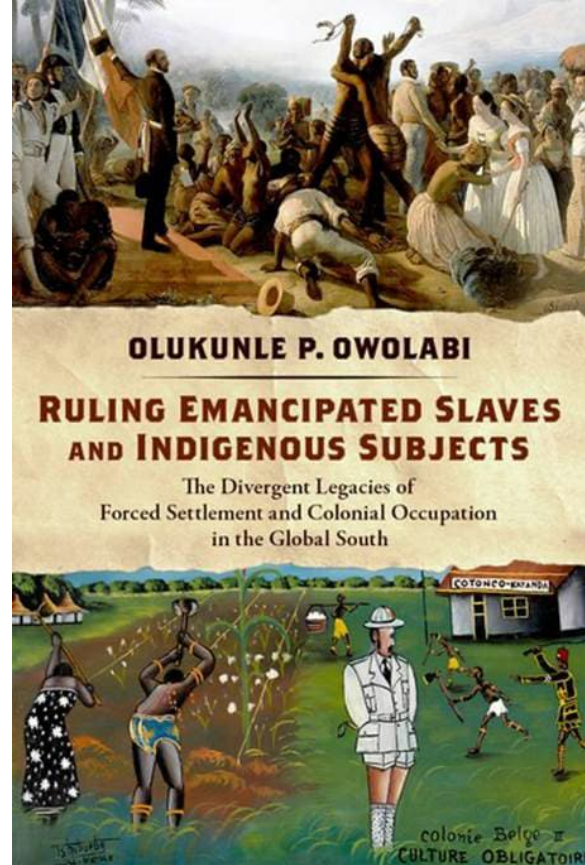
Location: Dunton Tower 1706 ( Pius Adesami African Studies Resource Centre) and online via [Zoom](#).

Register here: [https://carleton-ca.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0of-iorj4jG9ZpE1\\_cJG0Q\\_KgdAJZokGz#/registration](https://carleton-ca.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0of-iorj4jG9ZpE1_cJG0Q_KgdAJZokGz#/registration)

[Olukunle P. Owolabi](#) presents his book entitled : “ [Ruling Emancipated Slaves and Indigenous Subjects: The Divergent Legacies of Forced Settlement and Colonial Occupation in the Global South](#)”.

In summary, Olukunle P. Owolabi’s book:

- Distinguishes between forced settlement and colonial occupation as distinct modes of imperial domination in the Global South
- Uses statistical data methods and comparative-historical analysis to analyze the long-term developmental consequences of forced settlement and colonial occupation across multiple colonial empires
- Highlights significant variations in colonial state-building, long-term development, and postcolonial democratization across the Black Atlantic world
- Draws evidence from more than ninety developing countries that gained independence after World War II.



**OLUKUNLE P. OWOLABI**

## **RULING EMANCIPATED SLAVES AND INDIGENOUS SUBJECTS**

The Divergent Legacies of  
Forced Settlement and Colonial Occupation  
in the Global South

### About the Author

Dr. [Olukunle P. Owolabi](#) is an associate professor of political science at Villanova University in Pennsylvania, where he teaches courses on Comparative Politics, African Politics, comparative democratization, and the developmental legacies of colonialism. His research examines the developmental legacies of forced settlement and colonial occupation in the Global South and has been published in *Comparative Politics*.



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### [Job Opportunities](#)

[Director, Centre for Indigenous Knowledges and Languages](#)

[Director, Bee Ecology, Evolution and Conservation \(BEEc\)](#)

[Director, Centre for Feminist Research \(CFR\)](#)

### Graduate Program Director, School of Social and Political Thought (SPTH)

To All Interested Faculty members:

The SPTH Graduate Executive has been officially notified that the search process for a new Graduate Program Director will be beginning for a new SPTH Director. The term of the Director will begin on July 1, 2024 for a three year term.

To be considered for the position, the nominees do not have to hold membership in the program or the graduate faculty, but must be eligible to be appointed to the Graduate faculty. All nominations and self-nominations by faculty, and nominations by SPTH students are most welcome. Please submit all nominations by March 15, 2024.

The Search Committee, in conjunction with the SPTH guidelines, is comprised of the following members:

- Elaine Coburn, Chair (Faculty Member)
- Anna Agathangelou (Faculty member)
- Eve Haque (Faculty member)
- Shama Rangwala (Faculty member)
- Judith Hawley (staff)
- Daniel Platts (Student Rep.)
- Patrick Teed (Student Rep)

Potentially interested parties may contact Elaine Coburn for additional information at Elaine Coburn <[ecoburn@glendon.yorku.ca](mailto:ecoburn@glendon.yorku.ca)>.

Please send nominations by email to [Jhawley@yorku.ca](mailto:Jhawley@yorku.ca) with the subject line SPTH SEARCH COMMITTEE.

Thank you in advance for your participation.

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If you would like to share a recent publication, event, or other news through our weekly newsletter, please send an email to [tubman@yorku.ca](mailto:tubman@yorku.ca) with the appropriate information.

Newsletter archives can be found [here](#).

Rebecca Seward-Langdon (she/her)  
Institute Coordinator

ORU - Harriet Tubman Institute for Research on Africa and its Diasporas  
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4700 Keele Street  
Toronto, ON | M3J 1P3  
Email: [tubman@yorku.ca](mailto:tubman@yorku.ca)  
Website: <https://www.yorku.ca/research/tubman/>  
YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@TheHarrietTubmanInstitute>  
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/TubmanInstitute>



**YORK UNIVERSITY**  
321 York Lanes • 4700 Keele Street  
Toronto, ON • Canada M3J 1P3



Ranked 33<sup>rd</sup> in the World in the  
Times Higher Education 2020 Impact Rankings

*The Harriet Tubman Institute for Research on Africa and its Diasporas recognizes that many Indigenous Nations have longstanding relationships with the territories upon which York University campuses are located that precede the establishment of York University. York acknowledges its presence on the traditional territory of many Indigenous Nations. The area known as Tkaronto has been care taken by the Anishinabek Nation, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, and the Huron-Wendat, and is now home to many First Nation, Inuit and Métis communities. We acknowledge the current treaty holders, the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. This territory is subject of the Dish with One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, which is an agreement to peaceably share and care for the Great Lakes region.*