Our name has been changed from African and African American Studies to **Africana Studies**

Originating in the Black Power era, the discipline of Black Studies has evolved to include courses and research on Africa, the Caribbean, and the wider African Diaspora. Consequently, departments and programs across the country have adopted the term *Africana Studies* to denote the focus on Africa and the African Diaspora, including but not limited to the Americas and the Caribbean. In our program we place emphasis on the study of blacks in Africa and in the United States. However, to the extent that resources and opportunities permit, we present courses and events on other parts of the diaspora.

*Africana Studies* is both multicultural and interdisciplinary. It examines aspects of blacks in Africa, the Americas, the Caribbean, Asia, and Europe. Such an examination leads to a better understanding of critical issues affecting people of African descent in all the societies where they live. This serves to enhance student understanding of these societies. Because of its interdisciplinary focus, Africana Studies exposes students to the contributions of scholars representing a variety of theoretical approaches and intellectual perspectives. Thus, courses in Africana Studies seek to broaden students’ perspectives, encourage analytical thinking, and develop basic skills. Many Africana Studies majors and minors go on to graduate from professional schools better prepared in various disciplines and professions, including law, medicine, business, nursing, social work, and education. Africana Studies courses also benefit students who go on to do graduate work in history, politics, anthropology, sociology, literature, and other fields.

Africana Studies draws faculty from the social sciences and humanities disciplines. Current faculty members come from English, history, sociology, and folklore. Affiliated faculty members are located in art, history, and religious studies. Other professors teaching cross-listed courses are in anthropology, education, geography, music, and political science.

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Students Haeyeong Choe (left) and Trecia Dixon (second from right) with Ghanaian children. (See story on page 2)
Miniterm in Ghana

Africana studies has begun a study abroad program in Africa. In May of 2005, 2006, and 2007 Dr. Amadou Sall, a member of the Africana Studies Advisory Committee, took students to Ghana as a mini-term course. On these trips, students visit such sites as the Kwame Nkrumah Mausoleum, several rural villages, craft villages (Kente cloth, beads, Adinkra cloth, carved figures, fertility dolls), the W.E.B. DuBois Memorial Center, Kakum National Park, and the Ashanti King Palace. They also attend classes, do community service, and write papers on their experiences.
Pictured on this page are the students who participated in the 2007 mini-term course in Ghana, where they attended classes and worked on several public service projects. In the photo below, the students and Dr. Sall pose with the banner that welcomed them to Ghana. Below right: Members of the mini-term class of 2005 participate in classroom discussion.
Wornie Reed, Ph.D., Director

Professor of Africana Studies and Sociology

Professor Wornie Reed is currently a professor of Africana Studies and sociology and director of the Africana Studies Program at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. He was previously a professor of sociology and urban studies at Cleveland State University (1991–2004), and an adjunct professor at the Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine (2003–2004). From 1991 to 2001 he was also director of the Urban Child Research Center in the Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs at Cleveland State University. He received the bachelor’s degree in secondary education (science and mathematics) at Alabama State University and the master’s and doctoral degrees in sociology from Boston University.

Before going to Cleveland State University in August 1991, he was chairperson of the Department of Black Studies and director of the William Monroe Trotter Institute for the Study of Black Culture at the University of Massachusetts at Boston (1985–91). Prior to those positions he was director of the Institute for Urban Research at Morgan State University (1983–85) and assistant professor in the Department of Sociology and associate in the Division of Health Care Research in the School of Medicine at Washington University (1975–83). Professor Reed served a 3-year term (1990–92) as president of the National Congress of Black Faculty, and he is past president of the national Association of Black Sociologists (2000–2001).

Trained as a medical sociologist under a health services research training fellowship, Professor Reed has taught courses, conducted research, and published many articles on medical care, health and illness, urban communities, and criminal justice. In his career he has acquired over $4.5 million to fund his research. His background includes positions in the federal government and private industry as well as higher education. Before his academic career, Professor Reed worked in the computer field—with the U.S. Bureau of the Census as a computer programmer, with IBM as a systems engineer, and as a marketing representative.

SCHOLARLY ACHIEVEMENTS

Professor Reed directed the project, “Assessment of the Status of African Americans,” involving some 61 scholars.

This project resulted in the production of a four-volume work published by Auburn House Publishers:

The Education of African-Americans (C. Willie, A. Garibaldi & W. Reed, eds.; 1991)


Health and Medical Care of African-Americans (W. Reed, author; 1993)

African-Americans: Essential Perspectives (W. Reed, ed.; 1993)

Professor Reed’s honors and awards include two regional Emmys—received in 2000 and 2003—for his work with Public Health Television Inc. on the Urban Cancer Project, which produced television shows on cancer prevention aimed at African Americans. The Urban Cancer Project is a research and video-based project aimed at reducing cancer disparities among African Americans. From January to September 2004, Professor Reed developed and hosted a cable television commentary and interview show, African American Forum, in Cleveland, Ohio.
Cynthia Fleming, Ph.D.

Professor of Africana Studies and History

**SPECIALTIES:** 20th-century U.S. social/cultural history, particularly the civil rights movement of the 1960s; U.S. race relations, and black educational history

Professor Cynthia Fleming has written extensively on the civil rights movement of the 1960s. She is the author of *Soon We Will Not Cry: The Liberation of Ruby*.

She also coauthored *The Chicago Handbook for College Teachers*, which has been widely recognized as an important tool for college teachers, selling 10,000 copies in the first six months after its release.

Doris Smith Robinson, which received critical acclaim from both scholars and civil-rights activists. She also coauthored *The Chicago Handbook for College Teachers*, which has been widely recognized as an important tool for college teachers.

Dorothy Robinson has published articles on black activism, black educational history, and African American identity in such journals as *The Journal of Negro History, The Tennessee Historical Quarterly, The Journal of Women’s History, and The Irish Journal of American Studies*. Her most recent book, *In the Shadow of Selma: The Continuing Struggle for Civil Rights in the Rural South* (2004), examines the impact of the civil rights movement on an Alabama Black Belt county. Currently she is working on an authorized biography of Dr. C. T. Vivian, one of Dr. Martin Luther King’s SCLC associates.

In addition to an African American studies survey, Professor Fleming teaches the following courses: “Blacks in Film,” “History and Philosophy of African American Education,” “African American Society, and Civil Rights.”

Asafa Jalata, Ph.D.

Professor of Africana Studies, Sociology, and Global Studies

**SPECIALTIES:** Africana studies; global studies; political economy; race and ethnic studies; and social justice and democratic movements.

Professor Asafa Jalata’s research is focused on investigating and understanding the dynamic interplay between the racialized/ethnicized and exploitative global and regional economic structures and the human agencies of the colonized/indigenous peoples. He has been identifying and explaining the chains of historical and political economic forces shaping racial/ethnonational inequality, development and under-development, and national and social movements on global, regional, and local levels. Specifically, for the last 20 years, he has been researching and exploring the relationship between the colonization and incorporation of Oromia, the Oromo country, into the Ethiopian Empire and the global capitalist system and the development of the Oromo national movement.


In his edited book, *State Crises, Globalization, and National Movements in North-East Africa*, (2004), Professor Jalata extends his scholarship and expertise beyond Oromia, Ethiopia, Sudan, and Black America to the broader geopolitical region and sociocultural area of North-East Africa. He is currently engaged in researching and writing a book, *Faces of Terrorism in the Age of Globalization: From Christopher Colum-
Jalata, continued from page 5

Bus to Osama bin Laden. His research addresses the roles of the indigenous peoples in the racialized global capitalist system, and how the agencies of these peoples are affecting the structures and the dynamics of the system. The uniqueness and strength of his contributions are that he seriously engages scholars and politicians of various theoretical orientations to understand the main reasons why subjugated peoples are involved in cultural and political struggles. Professor Jalata has already consolidated his scholarly stature among national and international scholars as a leading sociologist/social scientist in the fields of Oromo and Africana studies. In recognition of his contribution to Oromo scholarship, he received the Oromo Studies Association Award in 2002.

Gichingiri J. Ndigrigi, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Africana Studies and English

TEACHING INTERESTS: African literature: fiction and drama/theater/performance; Caribbean literature: fiction and drama; African American literature/drama/theater; and Swahili.

Dr. Gichingiri Ndigrigi’s research interests are African Diaspora literatures and performance; postcolonial and transnational studies; art and nationalist legitimation/delegitimation; popular theater as a tool of social transformation; representations of gender in literature, theater, and performance; and African language literatures and the dilemmas of ethnicity. His book Ngugi wa Thiong’o’s Drama and the Kamiriithu Popular Theater Experiment, is forthcoming from Africa World Press.

Selected Articles:

George White, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Africana Studies and History

SPECIALTIES: American diplomatic history; African American history; modern African history; history of race relations.

Dr. George White, who holds both a Ph.D. in history (Temple University) and a J.D. (Harvard Law School), is a specialist in American diplomatic history as well as African American history and modern African history. His recent book, Holding the Line: Race, Racism, and American Foreign Policy Toward Africa, 1953–1961, is informed by each of these three areas.

Professor White is currently editing the papers of Rev. Robert Boston Dokes, a World War II chaplain who served in the Pacific Theater. George has written scholarly articles on U.S. diplomacy toward Africa in the 1950s, the development of public housing in Knoxville in the 1940s, and efforts of black business owners to enter into contracts with government entities.

NOTE: As of fall semester 2007, Professor White joined the faculty of York University in New York City.
Addisu Tolesa, Ph.D.
Lecturer of Africana Studies

SPECIALTIES: Folklore, Oromo/African studies, African American folklore, sociolinguistics; history and geography, human rights; and Oromo education studies and research

Dr. Addiu Tolesa’s research focuses on Oromo education, culture, history, and literature. His research deals with Oromo culture, history, literature and language, and national/human rights teaching material.

Publication:

Perry Kyles, M.A.
Lecturer of Africana Studies


Raymond Hall, Ph.D.
Lecturer of Africana Studies

SPECIALTIES: Africana studies, Latin American and Caribbean studies, folklore

Dr. Raymond Hall is currently working on a book project titled Ethnography of an Afronuestizo Community on Mexico’s Gulf Coast. This project takes a close look at racial definitions as a result of the caste system implemented by the Spanish during Mexico’s colonial development. It also looks at racial definitions after the caste system and the impact these classifications have had on creating a unique ethos in certain coastal areas of Mexico. His work focuses heavily on the folklore of the area with respect to food ways, dance and festival, oral histories, religions, folktales and folk medicines.
Afro-Ecuadorian Project Reveals “Invisible” Aspects of the Diaspora

The project on Afro-Ecuadorians grew out of a Fulbright project in Ecuador by Professor Michael Handelsman, director of Latin American Studies at UT Knoxville. It began when Dr. Catherine Walsh of the Universidad Andina Simón Bolívar in Quito, Ecuador, and doctoral student and photographer Edizon León visited UT during the spring semester in 2005. Following that visit, we developed the idea of exhibiting some of the photographs from the collections of the Fondo Documental Afro-Andino at the Universidad Andina Simón Bolívar in Quito and in Knoxville. This photographic collection was started by local activist and ethnographer Juan García, who donated it to the university in Quito.

A leading figure on this project was Dr. William Dewey of the School of Art, who is affiliated with the Africana Studies Program. He co-curated the exhibit with Edizon León. Dr. Dewey and Dr. Raymond Hall of Africana Studies visited Quito in January 2006 to finalize the selection of photographs for the exhibit. Called “The Color of the Diaspora: Afro-Ecuadorian Images,” the exhibit shows elements of the lived diaspora among black peoples in Ecuador and matches them with collected oral testimonies. Black Ecuadorians are a population made invisible within a country and region typically defined as indigenous. They are also made invisible within constructions of the broader African Dias-

Monument to sugar cane industry in Choto Valley, Ecuador
pora whose center is frequently thought of as only being from the United States and the Caribbean. As such, the exhibit helps build a more complete and heterogeneous view of the African Diaspora.

Dr. Hall and Dr. Wornie Reed participated in the opening of the exhibit in Quito, Ecuador, on July 27, 2006. Chancellor Loren Crabtree also went and participated in the inauguration of the exhibition. While there he signed an agreement of cooperation between UT Knoxville and Universidad Andina Simón Bolívar.

The Africana Studies Program co-hosted the following series of events surrounding the "Color of the Diaspora" photographic exhibit, which opened during fall semester 2006:

**October 16–20: Color of the Diaspora**
Exhibition of photographs by Edizon León and Juan García, from the Collections of the Fondo Documental Afro-Andino at the Universidad Andina Simón Bolívar, Quito, Ecuador

**October 16: Artist lecture and discussion with photographer Edizon Leon**
Translation by Dr. Raymond Hall of the Africana Studies Program
Sponsored by the Visual Arts Committee of UT Knoxville's Office of Student Activities

**October 17: Reception for photographer Edizon León at the Beck Cultural Exchange Center**
Sponsored by the Marco Institute of UT Knoxville

**October 18: Symposium—African Diaspora Studies through the Arts: North–South Perspectives**
Presenters:
Wornie Reed, director of the Africana Studies Program
Edizon León, Afro-Ecuadorian photographer, co-curator of the exhibition
Patricia Tinajero-Baker, Ecuadorian artist and new faculty member in the university’s sculpture program
Michael Handelsman, director of UT Knoxville’s Latin American Studies Program

**October 20: Opening of the “Color of the Diaspora” exhibition at UT’s Downtown Gallery**
Welcome by Chancellor Loren Crabtree, followed by gallery talk by Ecuadorian photographer Edizon León

“Color of the Diaspora” photographer Edizon León (left) speaks at the Beck Cultural Center. David Baker (right) translates.

Afro-Ecuadorian youth in a small village in the Choto Valley of Ecuador.

UIT art professor Bill Dewey (left, back to camera) speaks to an art class at the “Color of the Diaspora” exhibition in the University Center.
Dr. Raymond Hall presented an exhibit in the Black Cultural Center during spring semester 2005 showing the African influence on the culture of indigenous people of Northern Veracruz, Mexico. The exhibit featured the Tajin Totonac and Los Voladores (Flying Men) de Papantla. Hall is an invited member of the Voladores, with whom he has performed “La Danza de los Negritos,” “La Danza de Los Voladores,” and several other ritual-based dances. The Black Cultural Center arranged for local K-through-12 students to visit the exhibit.
JANUARY 2005–AUGUST 2007

Publications

**CYNTHIA FLEMING** became a book series editor for the University of Kentucky Press.


**ASAFA JALATA**

**Books**

**Book chapters**

**Articles**

**GİCHİNGİRİ NDİGİRİĞİ**, who joined the faculty in 2006, had the following book published: *Ngügĩ wa Thiong’o’s Drama and the Kamĩrĩĩthũ Popular Theater Experiment*. Trenton, New Jersey: Africa World Press (2007)

**GEORGE WHITE**


**WORNIE REED**

**Book chapter**

**Edited volume**
*Blacks in Tennessee: Past and Present*, which is being published by Kendall Hunt

**Research**

**WORNIE REED** is co–principal investigator for the grant “Patient Navigator Video Training for Cancer in Low-Income African Americans,” funded by the National Cancer Institute, 2006–2007

Reed was also co-investigator for the project “Latino Faith-Based Cancer Outreach,” funded by the National Cancer Institute, 2004–2005

**Presentations**

**OFF-CAMPUS CONFERENCES**

**CYNTHIA FLEMING** made invited presentations as a Black History Month speaker in 2005 and 2006. In February 2005 she was an invited presenter at a conference at UT Martin on the history of school desegregation. At this event Fleming was one of two participants who had book signings. (The other was Fred Gray, the Montgomery Improvement Association attorney for the Montgomery bus boycott.) Fleming signed her book, *In the Shadow of Selma*, which was published in 2004.

**RAYMOND HALL** presented papers at the Popular Culture Conference: Southwest/Texas Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association (SW/TX PCA/ACA) (Feb. 2005 and Feb. 2006) and became area chair for undergraduate research for SW/TX PCA/ACA Conference.

**ASAFA JALATA** made presentations at the following conferences:
- Ohio Oromo Community (June 2006)
- Oromo Youth Association (January 2006)
- Oromo Studies Association Annual Conference (August 2005)
- Global Conference of Internet Paltalk (September 2005)
- Annual Conference of the Global Studies Association (2005)

Jalata also served as chair of the Board of Directors of the Oromo Studies Association and reviewed an article for the *Journal of Oromo Studies*.

Continued on page 12
WORNE REED
Wornie Reed made presentations on aspects of his research in the Urban Cancer Project at the following conferences:
• CIMPAD conference in Dakar, Senegal (June 2005)
• Annual Conference of Association of Black Sociologists, Philadelphia (August 2005)
• Society for the Study of Social Problems, Philadelphia (August 2005)
• American Public Health Association, Philadelphia (December 2005)
• American Public Health Association, Boston (November, 2006)

He also participated in Intro Knoxville (2005) and served on the planning committee for the Uganda Conference to be held by CIMPAD. Furthermore, he
• Traveled to Quito, Ecuador, with Chancellor Crabtree, Michael Handelsman, and Raymond Hall to participate in opening of the Color of the Diaspora photographic exhibit. Gave presentation at exhibit opening, discussing the exhibition in the context of Africana Studies historically and internationally (July 2006);
• Was one of three featured presenters in the physicians’ track at the 11th Annual (Tennessee) Health Summit of Minority Communities, “An Approach to Cancer Prevention and Intervention among African American Women” (August 2006); and

ADDISU TOLESA
• Presented “Organizational Models for Oromo Movement,” at the Oromo Studies Association Mid-Year Conference (April 2007)
• Presented “Maccaa-Tuulamaa Ormo Self-Help Association as a Model,” at the Oromos Studies Association annual conference

GEORGE WHITE
• Gave presentation at the Martin Luther King Day Symposium in Knoxville (2005)
• Presented paper at the Annual Meeting of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (September 2006)
• Presented paper at the American Environmental History Association conference (March 2006)
• Served on the program committee for the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations Annual Meeting, June 23–25, 2006, University of Kansas, Lawrence

ON-CAMPUS PRESENTATIONS
Most of the faculty and lecturers have presented at the Africana Studies Forum Series. Other on-campus presentations have included the following:

RAYMOND HALL presented to the Underwater Archaeology Association on his work in underwater archaeology (November 2005).

WORNE REED
• Made a presentation on his work on the Urban Cancer Project, a video-based culturally specific approach to prevention and intervention and cultural competency to the Diversity Council as background ideas for its work (November 2005)
• Was a panelist in a forum on the death penalty, sponsored by the Tennessee Coalition to Abolish State Killing and the UT chapter of Amnesty International, featuring David Kaczynski (brother of “the Unabomber”) and Bill Babbitt (brother of Manny Babbitt, who was executed by California in 1999), and Al Schmutzer Jr., district attorney of the Fourth Judicial Circuit (January 2006)
• Lectured on his work on the Urban Cancer Project as a means of reducing minority health disparities in a graduate public health seminar in the College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences (February 2006)
• Addressed a graduate teaching assistants workshop on diversity infusion in the curriculum (April 2006)
• Gave presentation on Africana Studies to College of Arts and Sciences faculty and staff advisors (August 2006)
• Gave keynote address for McNair Program Awards Luncheon (July 2007)

Awards and Elections
Award: Wornie Reed was flown to New York City in September 2005 to receive the Prostate Net’s Award for Educational Technology for work addressing prostate cancer prevention and intervention in the Urban Cancer Project, an ongoing project with colleagues at Public Health Television in Cleveland, Ohio. (The project was nominated by its project officer at the National Cancer Institute.)

Election: Reed was elected to the Board of Directors of the Consortium for International Management, Policy, and Development (CIMPAD), which includes scholars and practitioners in public management and related fields in the United States and colleagues in various African countries. CIMPAD holds a working conference in a different African country every other year to help build capacity for good governance and sustainable development and to promote linkages and networks among civil societ-
ies. Reed was on the planning committee for the conference held in Uganda in 2007.

Media

*Metro Pulse* carried article covering the March 2006 hip hop events and its interviews with Ikard, White, and Reed about the event and about university courses on hip hop.

**WORNIE REED**

1-13-04: Interviewed and quoted in 12-16-04 issue of *Metro Pulse* about Kwanzaa
1-2-05: Quoted in *Cleveland Plain Dealer* story on the declining marriage rate among African Americans
1-4-05: Interviewed and answered questions on live radio talk show in Detroit on causes of the declining marriage rates among African Americans
1-21-05: Interviewed by Teresa Moore for *Higher Ground* magazine article on Africana Studies Program
2-28-05: Comments at program on Negro League Baseball reported in *The Daily Beacon*
3-17-05: Interviewed as expert on history of blacks in golf by columnist Bill Fields of *Golf World* magazine
12-19-05: Interviewed by Matt Shafer Powell of WUOT-FM radio for a morning news feature about research on health disparities among African Americans
1-25-06: Commented in a story on death penalty panel in *The Daily Beacon*
2-22-07: Interviewed by *Daily Beacon* reporter on high prescription-drug usage in Tennessee

**GEORGE WHITE**

In reporting on the Martin Luther King Day Symposium in 2005, local publications carried comments about George White’s presentation

**Africana Studies Forums**

**February 23, 2005:** Tajin Totanac and Los Voladores (Flying Men) de Papantla. *Dr. Raymond Hall, Africana Studies Program.*

**March 9, 2005:** Identitarianism and Its Discontents: Power, Worldliness, and Intellectuals. *Dr. Abdi Hussein, Department of English.*

**September 28, 2005:** The Ghana Study-Abroad Experience Student presentation on the experience and effects of going to Ghana

**October 26, 2005:** The Urban Cancer Project: A Culturally Specific Approach to Reducing Minority Health Disparities, *Dr. Wornie Reed, Africana Studies Program and Department of Sociology*


**March 1, 2006:** The Shaping of Racialized Identities in Colonial South Carolina. *Perry Kyles, Africana Studies Program.*

**October 2, 2006:** Mammy and Modernity: Narratives of the Faithful Slave in the Early 20th-Century U.S. *Dr. Micki McElya, American Studies Program of the University of Alabama*

**October 4, 2006:** The Afro-Ecuadorian Project. *Dr. Raymond Hall and Dr. Wornie Reed*

**March 21, 2007:** Nationalism, Sovereignty, and Human Rights in Eritrea and the Diaspora. *Dr. Tricia Hepner, assistant professor of anthropology*

**February 1, 2006:** Education, Rap, and the African American Experience, featuring these panelists:

- **Larry Freeman:** African Americans in the Hunt for Higher Athletic Administration Positions in NCAA Division I Colleges and Universities
- **Nakia Henderson:** Why “Legitimate” African American Studies are Essential at Traditionally White Institutions
- **Constance Park:** African Americans in Traditionally White Institutions
- **Davita Dantzler:** Violence against Women in Rap
- **Jessica Roth:** Rap Music as a Continuation of the African American Oral Tradition

**March 7, 2007:** African Diaspora in Latin America and the Caribbean. *Undergraduate Students: Benjamin Green, Jessica Hentchel, and Beka Jalata*

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*FACULTY ACTIVITIES*

**FALL 2007 AFRICANA STUDIES**

*Wornie Reed displays the award for educational technology presented to him by the Prostate Net, a nonprofit prostate-cancer support group, at their September 2005 ceremony New York City.*

*Dr. Wornie Reed (left) and George Piwang-Jalobo (right) of Gulu University in Uganda greet President Y. K. Museveni in the Uganda State House in June 2007.*
As a continuation of the University of Tennessee’s commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the passage of the Voting Rights Act, a lecture, “Children in the Movement,” was presented by Sheyann Webb-Christburg on Friday, February 18, 2005, in the University Center, Shiloh Room.

The movie Selma, Lord, Selma, based on the memoirs of two little girls—Sheyann Webb and Rachel West—in the Selma campaign of 1965, was shown Thursday, February 17, and Friday, February 18, in Hodges Library Auditorium.
Africana Studies Forum 2007

Students who presented papers at the February 2007 meeting of the Southwest/Texas Popular Cultural Association/American Culture Association in Albuquerque, New Mexico, repeated their performance on March 7, 2007, at the Africana Studies Forum on the UT Knoxville campus.

Curtis Sanderfer Named a 2007 Torchbearer

At UT Knoxville, being named a Torchbearer is the highest honor students can receive. The title Torchbearer signifies selfless achievement, in that those who bear a torch shadow themselves to light the way for others.

Curtis Allen Sanderfer is an Africana studies and political science major from Chattanooga. During his college career, he involved himself with student government, serving on Freshman Council, as a senator, and finally as president of the Student Government Association. He also presided over the African American Incentive Grant Advisory Board and worked as an orientation leader. Among his other activities, Sanderfer chaired the Black Cultural Programming Committee and participated in Emerging Leaders, Student Alumni Associates, Dance Marathon, and the Ignite Program, and he served as a peer mentor for First Year Studies and as a resident assistant in two halls over his last three years. At the first annual African American Image Awards, Sanderfer became the first recipient of the Collegiate Achievement Award. His ability to successfully balance his academics with such a number of campus leadership positions testifies to his outstanding character and work ethic.
Students Excel at Cultural Association Meeting

Under the leadership of Dr. Raymond Hall, five Africana studies students presented papers at the annual meeting of the Southwest/Texas Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association in Albuquerque, New Mexico, in February 2006. No undergraduates had ever presented papers at this conference before, yet these students were major features at the conference. Their presentations drew rave reviews from professors and administrators attending the conference.

Dr. Raymond Hall with students at the 2006 Popular Culture Association Conference: left to right, Constance Park, Dr. Hall, Davita Dantzler, Nakia Henderson, Jessica Roth, and Larry Freeman.