Black Studies resumes tuition plan

By Mary Ann Reichert
Lantern staff writer 3-4-82

The OSU Black Studies Community Extension Center soon will resume a program providing low-income inner city adults with partial funding for spring quarter college classes.

The program will pay half the tuition, or $90, for a five credit hour class, to about 14 inner-city adults, said James Upton, director of the center at 640 S. Ohio Ave.

The class offered is Contemporary Black Art and Pictorial Composition, which will be taught by Carlyle Johnson, professor of art in black studies.

"The College Educational Opportunity Program (CEOP) was active from 1976-1980, but went inactive because of lack of personnel, lack of publicity and budget cuts," Upton said.

"We have designated $1,400, left over from a $16,000 grant from the Columbus Foundation, in 1976, to resume the program," he said.

CEOP was designed to give disadvantaged or working adults a chance to gain college credit by providing classes in the inner city community.

The center recently was allocated $300,000 through the state capital improvements bill to purchase land and renovate a new center, which is one of the reasons the program is being resumed, he said.

Prospective students are screened to determine whether they meet financial need requirements. They must have no previous college experience, Upton said. Those interested can apply and be interviewed at the center.

Upton said the program may be offered autumn quarter of 1982, but that is dependent on obtaining further funding. The Columbus Foundation initially funds new programs, but grant money must be obtained from other sources to keep the program going, he said.

The criteria for determining the success of the program are if the adults involved advance in their jobs, or get a job if unemployed, and also if they enroll in additional classes.

Upton said the center has recently completed an evaluation of the 250 adults previously involved in the program. He said that 75 percent of the students either found a job or moved to a higher level of employment and at least 40 percent went on to take another class.
Center links University, community

By Cheryl Pentella

"ON CAMPUS" 2 DEC. 1982

After 10 years on the Near East Side of Columbus, the Black Studies Community Extension Center continues to seek new ways to justify its existence among the minority and economically disadvantaged population it was created to serve.

While this latest effort includes a comprehensive needs assessment survey, the ongoing research of graduate students into socio-economic issues affecting the east side also allows the center to keep its hands on the community's pulse.

"The needs assessment is an effort to respond better to the desires of the black community in adult education on the Near East Side," said James Upton, program manager and assistant professor of black studies. "It is how we justify being out here."

The center was established to overcome barriers that prevent disadvantaged adults from participating in higher education and to create a link between Ohio State and Columbus' black community.

"People are exposed to college through the center," said Upton. "We offer courses out in the community, on their own turf."

To increase that exposure, Upton will begin sampling from mailing lists that encompass 40,000 households and 95 percent of the black community in Columbus.

His goal is to compile a comprehensive "data dictionary" that will indicate the types of courses, opportune class times, need for financial aid and child care requirements of the adults who are most likely to participate in the program. It also will determine marital status, number of children and income levels of potential students.

In many ways, today's tight economy may create a larger market for the extension center to serve, Upton believes.

"We think there is an increasing market for adult education," he said. "Through the survey we may find out that a lot of students who started college at Ohio State were forced to drop out because of financial constraints or flunked out because they were holding down too many jobs."

The center offers disadvantaged adults an opportunity to take fully accredited basic courses in math, English, black studies and introductory college life through the Office of Continuing Education. According to Upton, the needs assessment also will provide various University departments with a more

Continued on page 5.

JAMES UPTON, PROGRAM MANAGER of the Black Studies Community Extension Center and assistant professor of black studies will supervise a needs assessment survey designed to improve higher education opportunities for residents of Columbus' Near East Side.
Trustees authorize new extension center facility

Ohio State's Board of Trustees at its April 6 meeting authorized University officials to enter into agreement for a new facility to house the Black Studies Community Extension Center on the northeast side of Columbus.

Agreement on an offer by Charles E. Wallace and Company would provide construction of a new center at the southeast corner of Monroe Street and Mt. Vernon Avenue at a cost of not more than $300,000.

The new structure would contain more adequate space for the center's needs than the present leased facility at 640 S. Ohio Ave.

The tract is being donated to Charles E. Wallace and Co. by the City of Columbus for the construction site. Funds of $300,000 were appropriated for this purpose in the capital improvements bill adopted in 1981 by the Ohio Legislature.

Since 1972, the University's Department of Black Studies has operated the center to foster greater interaction between the community and the University.

The center provides educational and research programs and services that enhance academic opportunities for students and offers credit and non-credit course which promote the educational advancement of community residents.

The trustees' action came during its meeting at Ohio State's regional campus at Mansfield.

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY EXTENSION CENTER
DEVELOPER: CHARLES E. WALLACE & CO

AN ARTIST'S RENDERING of the newly-authorized facility to house the Black Studies Community Extension Center is shown above. The new structure is scheduled to replace the current one on Ohio Avenue.
OSU facility to link university, local agencies

By Lou Whitmire
Lantern staff writer 4-10-84

The new OSU Black Studies Community Extension Center on the near east side of Columbus will serve as a physical link between OSU and city and county governments, said James Upton, program manager for the center.

The OSU Board of Trustees Friday approved the construction of the $300,000 facility at Monroe Street and Mount Vernon Avenue.

Richard D. Jackson, vice president for business and finance, said the Department of Black Studies has operated a community extension center since 1972 at 640 S. Ohio Ave., but that facility is not large enough to house the activities planned for the future.

The new center has three interrelated functions, Upton said. The first is to teach classes.

"The center, in being located off campus, will be used to reach a population that cannot reach the main campus because they hold jobs during the day," Upton said.

Residents of the area can attend evening and weekend classes that will be offered at the new center without having to travel far, he said.

Another function of the center will be to serve as a research facility, allowing graduate and undergraduate students to come in contact with urban studies which directly involve public, private, city and state agencies, Upton said.

The center will also place students in intern positions with state and city governments, he said.

"In the last 12 years, the current center has placed over 450 students in internships in over 80 public and private industries," he said. "And I intend to accelerate it."

"The population is extremely optimistic in this area," he said. "The new center is like a dream come true."

Ray A. Jones, chairman of the Near East Area Commission, said, "The real test (of the center's success) will come when we see the users of the facility.

"It will clean up some of the blight that is there now," he said.
NEWS ADVISORY

Ohio State University will hold a ceremony Tuesday (2/26) for the signing of a contract authorizing purchase of a new facility for the university's Black Studies Community Extension Center.

The contract will be signed by President Edward H. Jennings, representing Ohio State, and Charles E. Wallace, builder and developer. Attending the ceremony will be a number of university officials and community leaders.

The ceremony will run from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. in Room 10 of the Fawcett Center for Tomorrow, 2400 Olentangy River Road.

The present Community Extension Center, operated by the Department of Black Studies, has been located in leased space at 640 S. Ohio Ave. since 1972. It offers credit and non-credit courses, research programs and services designed to foster greater interaction between the community and the university.

The Ohio General Assembly in 1981 allocated $300,000 in state capital improvements funds to acquire and renovate a building for the center. Later, Charles Wallace proposed constructing new facility to house the center on land donated by the City of Columbus for that purpose.

The contract to be signed Monday commits the university to buying the facility after it is built by Charles E. Wallace and Co. to the university's specifications. The facility will be located on the southeast corner of Monroe Street and Mt. Vernon Avenue.

COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES
Mt. Vernon
OSU center
is unveiled

BY MICHAEL TAYLOR
C-J Staff Writer

Mount Vernon Avenue on the
city's Near East Side received anot-
other boost yesterday in its quest for
revitalization with the unveiling of the
new Ohio State University Com-

munity Extension Center.

A group of community leaders

and residents gathered to see
Charles E. Wallace, the developer

who built the structure, turn over the
deed for the $340,000 facility to
Richard Jackson, OSU vice presi-
dent for business administration.

The 6,960-square-foot, one-story

center is at Mount Vernon and Mon-

roe avenues.

Wallace, noting his longtime

commitment to pushing economic
development in the black com-

munity, said he believes the center will be

a definite asset to the area.

"Anyplace that an entity as fi-

nancially strong as Ohio State Uni-

versity becomes involved, it's bound to
bring positive direction to the

community," he said.

The new facility replaces the

center's old home in the St. John

XXIII Catholic Church complex at
Ohio and Newton avenues. A formal
dedication ceremony will be held lat-

er.

Wallace and OSU officials see the

center as complementing the nearby
Mount Vernon Plaza, a complex of
apartments and stores built to boost
revitalization efforts in the low-in-
come, mostly black area.

William E. Nelson, chairman of

the OSU Black Studies Department,
which operates the center, said he
sees an expanding role for the center
in its new home.

"This will be a center for re-

search on the black community
where we will look at some political,

social and economic problems," Nel-
son said. "When someone needs in-
formation on what is happening in


Charles E. Wallace (left) greets Dr. William E. Nelson, chairman of
the Ohio State University Department of Black Studies, and
Richard Jackson, OSU vice president for business administration,
outside the new OSU Community Extension Center at Mount
Vernon and Monroe avenues.

and operates the Columbus Child Care Center, 90 N. 17th St.

"We had been searching for a
new space and Wallace heard about
our search and came forward with a
proposal," Nelson said.

Wallace, who had an option to the
land, signed a real estate purchase
contract with OSU in February 1985.

He financed the project through
State Savings Bank and construction
began in April.
COLUMBUS, Ohio -- Ohio State University will dedicate its new Community Extension Center at 905 Mount Vernon Ave. on Nov. 6. Representatives of the community and the city and state governments will join university officials for the dedication ceremony at 9:30 a.m. in the center.

The public is invited to attend the hour-long ceremony which will be followed by an open house until 6 p.m.

The Department of Black Studies in the College of Humanities has operated the Community Extension Center since the center's founding in 1972. The center offers credit and non-credit courses, research programs and services to foster greater interaction between the community and the university.

The master of ceremonies for the dedication will be William E. Nelson Jr., professor and chairperson of the Department of Black Studies.

The program will include remarks by the Rev. Leon Troy, pastor of Second Baptist Church; James Upton, program manager of the Community Extension Center; Micheal Riley, dean of the College of Humanities; Jerry Hammond, president of Columbus City Council; Reps. Ray Miller and Otto Beatty of Columbus; Alex Shumate, chief legal counsel to Gov. Richard Celeste;
Edward Jennings, president of Ohio State; Billie Brown, executive director of Neighborhood House; and the Rev. Phale Hale of Union Grove Baptist Church.

Throughout the day, the open house will offer tours of the center and short presentations by members of the community and the Ohio State faculty.

The center had been located in leased space at 640 S. Ohio Ave. The Ohio General Assembly in 1981 allocated $300,000 in state capital improvements funds to acquire and renovate a building for the center.

Later, Charles E. Wallace, a Columbus builder and developer, proposed constructing a new facility to house the center on land donated by the City of Columbus for that purpose.

The university then added $40,000 of its funds for the construction. Wallace's company completed construction of the facility in September.


NOTE: An open house schedule of events is enclosed

NOTE TO RADIO REPORTERS: Actualities from the dedication ceremony will be available on Info-Line, Ohio State University's radio news and feature service, beginning at noon Nov. 6. The toll free Info-Line telephone number in Ohio is 1-800-251-INFO.

(Releases/6)
The Ohio State University
Black Studies Community Extension Center

OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday, Nov. 6, 1985
Monroe Street and Mount Vernon Avenue

Continuous Tours
9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

9:30 a.m.  Dedication Ceremony

10:15 a.m. Refreshments

10:45 a.m.  The Center as an Academic Institution
William E. Nelson Jr., chairperson and professor of black studies; James Upton, program manager of the Community Extension Center; K. Sue Jewell, assistant professor of black studies; Maurice Shipley, assistant professor of black studies; and William Hutson, lecturer of black studies and art

11:15 a.m.  Poetry
Anna Bishop

11:30 a.m.  The Center and the Performing Arts
W. Theodore McDaniel, professor of music and of black studies

11:45 a.m.  Jazz in the Afternoon
The Bobby Floyd Trio

1-p.m.  The Center and Mass Communications
Amos Lynch, editor, Columbus Call and Post

1:15 p.m.  Poetry
Mary Ann Williams, associate professor of black studies

1:30 p.m.  Theatrical Performance
Columbus Center Stage

2 p.m.  Round-table Discussion: Community Programming and Public Policy
Jerry Hammond, president, Columbus City Council; Ray Miller, state representative, 29th House District; Otto Beatty, state representative, 31st House District; Curtis Brooks, executive director of Columbus Metropolitan Area Community Action Organization; and Khari Enaharo, director of human services, City of Columbus

2:30 p.m.  Cultural Demonstration
The Uhuru Dancers
3 p.m.  Concert: The Gospel Music Experience
        The Alvis Moore Singers

4 p.m.  Round-table Discussion: University Programming and Social Development -- Expanding OSU's Outreach Efforts in the Community
        Frank Hale, associate provost, Office of Minority Affairs; Ethelrine Shaw-Nickerson, associate professor of nursing; Lance Kramer, director of the Office of Continuing Education; Linda James-Myers, associate professor of black studies

4:45 p.m.  What We Need, What We Expect: A Community Perspective
        Alice Flowers, president, Near East Side Commission

5 p.m.  Finale: A Musical Celebration
        Gene Walker and the All Stars
State, city officials to join in dedication ceremonies

Ohio State will dedicate its new Community Extension Center building at 905 Mt. Vernon Ave. on Nov. 6.

Representatives of the community and the city and state governments will join University officials for the dedication ceremony at 9:30 a.m. in the center.

The public is invited to attend the 60-minute ceremony which will be followed by refreshments. An open house with tours will be held until 6 p.m. During the day members of the community and Ohio State faculty will conduct discussions, read poetry and perform jazz, theater, dance and gospel music. At 5 p.m., Gene Walker and the All Stars will present a finale, "A Musical Celebration."

The Department of Black Studies in the College of Humanities has operated the Community Extension Center since the center’s founding in 1972. The center offers credit and non-credit courses, research programs and services to foster greater interaction between the community and the University.

The master of ceremonies for the dedication will be James Upton, director of the center.

The program also will include remarks by Edward Jennings, president of Ohio State; the Rev. Leon Troy, pastor of Second Baptist Church; William Nelson Jr., professor and chairperson of the Department of Black Studies; Micheal Riley, dean of the College of Humanities; Jerry Hammond, president of Columbus City Council; Ohio Rep. Ray Miller and U.S. Rep. John Kasich, both of Columbus; Alex Shumate, chief legal counsel to Gov. Richard Celeste; and the Rev. Phale Hale of Union Grove Baptist Church.

The center had been located in leased space at 640 S. Ohio Ave. The Ohio General Assembly in 1981 allocated $300,000 in state capital improvement funds to acquire and renovate a building for the center.

Later, Charles E. Wallace, a Columbus builder and developer, proposed constructing a new facility to house the center on land donated by the City of Columbus for that purpose.

The University then added $40,000 of its funds for the construction. Wallace’s company completed construction of the facility in September.

JAMES UPTON, PROFESSOR AND PROGRAM MANAGER of the Community Extension Center, stands in front of its new building located at 905 Mt. Vernon Ave.
Community center finds new location

By Eugene P. Farris
Lantern staff writer

After 13 years, the Black Studies Department's Community Extension Center finally has a home all its own.

The center, which has no connection with the proposed Black Cultural Center, will move to a new headquarters Wednesday, said James Upton, center director.

The center's previous location, 640 S. Ohio Ave., was rented by the university. The new location, owned by the university, is 905 Mt. Vernon Ave.

The new building cost about $340,000 and was paid for with money set aside by the state capital improvements bill, Upton said.

In addition, the city of Columbus donated the land for the center and paid for property improvements. The value of the city's donation is $40,575, said Columbus project coordinator Bob Applegate.

Upton said the center's three major purposes are to offer classes for working and unemployed adults, to be an urban research center for university faculty and graduate students, and to find intern placements for graduate students.

The center, which was founded in 1972, also has a reference library containing private and government research reports and municipal documents from all Columbus city divisions, Upton said.

The center evaluates the employment needs of local businesses. Classes are formed to teach people how to perform jobs that need to be filled, Upton said. University departments that offer classes through the center include English, Black Studies, education, art, home economics and others, he said.

Approximately 1,000 people have taken classes, and about 50 faculty and graduate student research projects have been conducted at the center since it began, he said.

"There is a serious atmosphere here," Upton said. "Unless you have a serious attitude, you have no business here."

Undergraduate students in university courses also do research at the center, he said. The center has been used by about 300 undergraduate students since 1972.

Upton said the center's average budget is $11,000, and it usually operates within its budget.

"This is a very good investment for OSU," Upton said. "This is a community project."

The opening ceremonies will begin at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday and will continue all day. Tours of the new building will be given, and jazz, gospel, drama and poetry groups will perform.
The Ohio State University
Black Studies Community Extension Center
Monroe Street and Mount Vernon Avenue

Wednesday, November 6, 1985
Dedication Ceremony

9:30 a.m.

Welcome
Dr. James N. Upton, Program Manager, Community Extension Center

Invocation
Dr. Leon Troy, Pastor, Second Baptist Church

Remarks on Behalf of the Department and Introduction of Special Guests
Dr. William E. Nelson, Jr., Chair, Department of Black Studies

Remarks on Behalf of the College
Dr. G. Micheal Riley, Dean, College of Humanities

Remarks on Behalf of the University
Dr. Edward H. Jennings, President, The Ohio State University

Remarks on Behalf of the City
The Honorable Jerry Hammond, President, Columbus City Council

Remarks of Behalf of the Ohio General Assembly
The Honorable Ray Miller, State Representative, 29th House District
The Honorable Otto Beatty, State Representative, 31st House District

Remarks on Behalf of the Governor
Mr. Alex Shumate, Chief Legal Counsel to the Honorable
Richard F. Celeste

Remarks on Behalf of the Community
Mrs. Billie Brown, Executive Director, Neighborhood House

Benediction
The Reverend Phale Hale, Union Grove Baptist Church
Continuous Tours
9:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

9:30-10:15 a.m. Dedications Ceremony
10:15-10:45 a.m. Refreshments
10:45-11:15 a.m. The Center as an Academic Institution
    Dr. William E. Nelson, Jr.
    Dr. James Upton
    Dr. K. Sue Jewell
    Dr. Maurice Shipley
    Professor William Hutson
11:15-11:30 a.m. Poetry
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    Mr. Amos Lynch, Editor, Columbus Call & Post
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    Columbus Center Stage
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    Dr. Mary Ann Williams
2:00- 2:30 p.m. Round Table Discussion: Community Programming and Public Policy
    The Honorable Jerry Hammond
    The Honorable Ray Miller
    The Honorable Otto Beatty
    Mr. Curtis Brooks, Executive Director, CMACAO
    Mr. Khari Enahoro, Director of Human Services, City of Columbus
2:30- 3:00 p.m. Cultural Demonstration
    The Uhuru Dancers
3:00- 4:00 p.m. Concert: The Gospel Music Experience
    The Alvis Moore Singers
4:00- 4:45 p.m. Round Table Discussion: University Programming and Social Development — Expanding OSU's Outreach Efforts in the Community
    Dr. Frank Hale, Associate Provost, Office of Minority Affairs
    Dr. Ethelrine Shaw-Nickerson, Associate Professor, School of Nursing
    Dr. Lance Kramer, Assistant Provost, Office of Continuing Education
    Dr. Linda James Myers, Associate Professor, Department of Black Studies
4:45- 5:00 p.m. What We Need, What We Expect: A Community Perspective
    Ms. Alice Flowers, President, Near East Side Commission
5:00- 6:00 p.m. Finale: A Musical Celebration
    Gene Walker and The All Stars

Sincere thanks to the F & R Lazarus Company for its generous support of the Center and the College of Humanities.
A dream becomes a reality

By Joseph T. Weston
Lantern staff writer

On a rainy, cold and dreary day, the efforts of 22 years of hard work became a realization when the Ohio State University Black Community Extension Center was dedicated Wednesday morning.

The dedication ceremony for the center, at 905 Mt. Vernon Ave., was attended by approximately 500 guests. OSU professors, city politicians and community leaders were also present.

President Edward H. Jennings said, "The center reflects a positive and beneficial outcome of time and dollars of many who share the goal of the great commission in education."

According to Program Manager James N. Upton, the center cost about $340,000.

"The extension center is dedicated to the black community to provide a major educational force that is badly needed," Upton said. "The center will provide black students an opportunity to work with black scholars and develop their skills."

William E. Nelson, chairman of the black studies department, said one of the center's primary functions will be research — the major difference between the Cultural Arts Center on campus and the Black Studies Community Extension Center.

"The center will be a research bank that will research the economic status of the black community and stimulate black entrepreneurs," Nelson said.

"Research in the area of politics, sociology, and the status of the black family will go on," he said.

Nelson added, the center, previously housed at 640 S. Ohio Ave., will be a satellite recruiting center to bring more students to Ohio State.

Columbus City Council President Jerry Hammond said, "The extension center's location is part of a revitalization of a community that 20 years ago was once the commercial center of the black community."

Hammond envisioned the center benefiting politicians due to the research information it would provide them regarding proper outlets for monetary allocations.

In addition, the center's presence will stimulate more activity and development in the community, Hammond said.

Ray Miller, a state representative and OSU graduate, hailed President Jennings' efforts for his work in getting the university to divest and cooperate with the black studies department's efforts to establish the center.

Miller foresees the center as a means to solve problems existing in the black community today.

"The black community needs a strong black studies center to research the poor health care existing in the black community," Miller said.

He said the mortality rate for blacks is twice that of whites.

Other problems the center will investigate are the high dropout rate of black high school students and the increase in gang violence, Miller said.

Thirty-four percent of all dropouts in the Columbus Public Schools System are black, he said.

Alex Shumate, chief legal counsel to Gov. Richard F. Celeste, said, "The governor feels the extension center exemplifies a partnership between the state and the community. He encourages you not to dedicate a building, but a spirit, which working together, will improve the quality of life for all human beings."
Black studies hitting home

By Ruth Hanley 11-7-85
Ohio State University's Black Studies Community Extension Center finally has its own home in the heart of the community it serves.

Speeches, panel discussions, poetry readings and musical performances accompanied Wednesday's dedication of the center's new quarters at 905 Mt. Vernon Ave.

The center, which had leased space at 640 S. Ohio Ave., offers credit and non-credit courses, research programs and other services to foster interaction between OSU and the black community.

"For many years, this community has not been effectively integrated into the overall structure of the university," said William E. Nelson Jr., chairman of OSU's department of black studies and master of ceremonies at Wednesday's program.

The 7,000-square-foot building contains classrooms, offices, meeting rooms, an art studio, a computer center and a reference library. An Ohio General Assembly allocation of $300,000, augmented by $40,000 from OSU, paid for construction on city-donated land.

James Upton, program manager of the center, said establishment of the center in 1972 has prompted about 1,500 students who might not otherwise have attended college to take OSU courses at the center.

"The center has the potential to become a major educational force in the black community," Upton said. "We will be vigorously competing for contracts and grants to address some of the questions affecting this community."

Successful grant and contract applications have netted $218,000 in research money. Upton said. About 450 students have become interns in local public agencies through the center's placement program.

Programs examining inner-city problems and other concerns of the black community will be expanded in the new building. Upton said. The center has an annual budget of about $27,000.

"Our research in the initial years is going to be about Columbus," he said. "Our approach is to let the community define the research questions."

He also plans to issue a campuswide challenge to all OSU faculty members "to submit proposals for research questions facing this community."

Other plans include resident scholars - faculty members taking time off from their main-campus duties to do research and teach at the center. - and mentor programs teaming students and faculty members.

G. Micheal Riley, dean of the College of Humanities, said, "Here we can pursue research which will bring a fuller knowledge of our rich black tradition."
Marcus Peters, 3, amuses himself as his mother, Dianne, listens to dedication.
OSU center helps black community

By Richard Blake
Latern staff writer

The OSU Black Studies Department’s Community Extension Center, 955 Mt. Vernon Ave., is helping to bridge the gap between OSU students and the Columbus black community.

The Extension Center functions as an urban and black studies research facility, offering students the opportunity to develop and refine their academic skills, said James Upton, director of the center.

Upton said he would like to put the educational and informational resources of the university back into the black community. "I’d like to create a research machine for the production of black professionals," he said.

Yolanda Robinson, administrative secretary and public relations coordinator for the center, said she felt the center could help to offset some of the negative images many people in the black community have of Ohio State.

"There are some perceptions, some of which are true, that Ohio State is a hostile environment for black students," Robinson said. "But this very thing does not mean that things can’t be better."

The work that we’re doing can help create a more positive image for the university," she said.

The center also serves as an adult education programming outlet, allowing non-traditional students to take college-level courses for college credit.

The center was originally opened in 1975. The Black Studies Department rented space on Ohio Avenue until a Capital Improvement Grant allowed the department to build a permanent structure. The current building, which was designed and built by black architects and laborers, was opened in November 1986.

Since the new building opened over a year ago, more than 15,000 people have attended classes at the center, according to Upton, having an average attendance of 100 or more people.

"People in the neighborhood and the community are very interested and curious about what’s happening at the center," Robinson said. "They like the opportunity to participate in everything that we do, including the things they can do to get involved."

In addition to its educational and research work, the center has hosted many cultural events such as the Alvin Alley Dance Group, the South African play "Strive For Life," and the 14th Annual Conference of the National Council for Black Studies, in which black activist and scholar Betty Shabazz, widow of Malcolm X, was honored.

Upton and Robinson both said the opening of the Martin Luther King Jr. Cultural Arts Center, a couple of doors down from the Extension Center, should help to strengthen the campus-community link even further.

Currently, the Extension Center, which is open to the public from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday, has limited staff.

Though there are perceptions, some of which are true, that Ohio State is a hostile environment for black students, that doesn’t mean that things can’t be better."

—Yolanda Robinson

Robinson said that she would like to see expansion of the center to allow more prominent scholars, like Nelson, who are not from Ohio, to do research there. She said that when many prominent black scholars visited Columbus in early April, they were impressed with the facility. "They really expressed an interest in working at the center and at Ohio State," she said.

Those interested in the Extension Center’s opportunities and programs can contact James Upton at 392-4469.

Gulf Vegetables Lantern
Center working to link blacks with university

Program combines academics, reality

By KARLA THORNHILL
Lantern staff writer

Linking the black community with the university has been a goal of the Department of Black Studies since its beginning in 1973.

By combining academics with real-life situations, the staff of the OSU Black Studies Extension Center uses courses, research and a distinct visual appearance in hopes of attracting the community to the university.

Now the halls and lecture rooms of the center, located in the heart of Columbus' near-east inner-city area, are usually filled with students, professors and community members.

Yolanda Robinson, public relations coordinator for the center and a veteran of the department, said the idea of an outreach program dates back to the black student movement during the late '60s and early '70s.

"I was here in the '60s when black students wanted to use education to uplift the community," she said. "And it works. We should have had a center like this 20 years ago."

Robinson said she has found that most people in the black community are interested in what the center is doing and how it is continually working to expand its programming.

"It's really exciting being a part of this because I was raised on the street," she said. "I go to my parents' house and to my church, and they all want to know what's going on with the center."

Robinson said when the staff moved into the new facility in November 1983, adults as well as neighborhood children would come by and ring the doorbell to ask questions. She said they haven't stopped coming.

The center offers lectures, courses on Black Studies and Women's Studies for university credit, meeting rooms for community organizations and referrals.

The center held its inaugural lecture series in September. It featured Manning Marable, the new chairman for the Department of Black Studies. A conference on black women is planned for spring.

Marable said one of the reasons he decided to accept the position at Ohio State is the extension center. He said the center should play an essential role in the President's decision's commitment to the retention and recruitment of black students.

He said he believes the university is sensitive to the center's needs and hopes in the future it will become more active in the community.

"I'd like to see non-credit courses and other courses such as computer science, pre-law and nursing," he said. "But this is down the road."

The relatively new building, located at the corner of Monroe and Mt. Vernon avenues, is surrounded by empty lots, abandoned homes and store fronts that were once the symbol of booming businesses.

This has been one of the most neglected areas in Columbus, so it is good to see a strong, stable institution exist here and is addressing the problems in the community...I think people are feeling better about the community because we are here.

Dr. William Nelson, former chairman of the department of Black Studies

Marable said the center has a dual focus in that community outreach as well as research will be manifested at the annual national conference.

"We are a land grant institution," he said referring to Ohio State. "That means that we must provide sources and research for the community and that includes the black community."

Marable said the program is a continual process. The center needs more money to increase the staff, furnishings and programming.

Although other attempts to build up the area by the city and private entrepreneurs have faltered over the years, William Nelson, former chairman of the Department of Black Studies, said the extension center is a symbol of the university's reaching out to the community.

"If this center has gone a long way as far as upgrading the status of the community," Nelson said. "This has been one of the most neglected areas in Columbus, so it is good to see a strong stable institution exist here which is addressing the problems in the community," he said.

"I think people are feeling better about the community because we are here," he said.

Nelson, a professor of political science and Black Studies, teaches courses at the extension center. He also has a major program for research and is writing grants for practical implications of a number of issues such as housing, civil rights, patterns of black political mobilization and urban development.

Nelson said the university has had outreach programs all over the world, but it has never had a strong presence in the black community.

He said for most black students, the extension center is the first experience they've had with the university.

"They wouldn't dream of going up on campus," Nelson said. "But here they can walk through the doors and feel right at home."

"We are trying to let people know that this center is trying to establish an institutional bridge with the community," he said.

"We just hope that we will not have to do this alone. We hope to encourage other elements of the university to take part in this effort too."

Most of the classes for credit are attended by OSU students, both undergraduate and graduate.

Most say they do not mind the drive down from the university.

Rashid T. Soundiata, a graduate student in Black Studies from Pittsburgh, said, "I think it gives us an excellent opportunity to be exposed to Columbus' black community because most of the time we just see the campus and the commercial district."

Soundiata, who has attended Nelson's course on Black Political Movement and Organization, said having the course in the black community is a good idea.

Verel Adair, a graduate student in Black Studies from Pennsylvania, said he was impressed with the center because of its academic and applied work in the community.

Adair, who is a member of the center's staff and takes a course at the center, said the center was a good outlet for students to show what they have learned.

"The way I look at Black Studies is that although it is academic, it needs to serve the community through outreach as well," he said. "I think the center is doing its right in with the community."

Local high school students use the center as well.

Upward Bound, a program which provides academic and cultural enrichment for minority high school students, meets Mondays and Wednesdays at the center.
New OSU official to expand role of community extension center

By Jeff Long
Of The NeighborNews Staff

The Ohio State University
Black Studies Department Community Extension Center is already feeling the influence of the department's new chairman.

Dr. Manning Marable, who has held the OSU post since Oct. 1, said the extension center at 905 Mt. Vernon Ave., will play a larger role in the community and in the black studies department than it has in the past.

"The extension center is the most public and prominent link between the university and the black community, not only in Columbus, but in the state of Ohio," Marable said.

The extension center hasn't realized its potential since its opening in November 1985, Marable said.

"The university administration was never exactly clear on what the center would do, on what its specific goals and objectives would be," he said. "What I'm projecting is far more ambitious and far-reaching than what the university had planned."

Marable plans to inject life into the extension center through academics, workshops and community forums and recruitment and retention of black students.

In academics, Marable will expand the research conducted at the center and will offer more classes at the center. Currently, two OSU black studies courses are held there.

Marable said the center can increase its contact with the community by presenting more forums and workshops. A forum scheduled for January will present William E. Nelson, director of the Center for Political Research at the center, speaking on the Rainbow Coalition from a black perspective. A conference called "The Black Women: Prospects and Challenges for the Future" is scheduled for May.

The community forums will be modeled on The Oprah Winfrey Show, Marable said, with interaction from members of the community.

"We want people who will not just present stuffy academic papers, but people who can talk about life experiences," Marable said.

Recruitment and retention of black students is a goal of the entire black studies department, Marable said.

"The president of this university is way out in front of most members of the academic community on this," he said. "We've got a rare chance to ensure that higher education is racially pluralistic."

Marable said that establishing closer ties to the community through the extension center will draw more black students to OSU.

Marable's presence has also been felt physically at the center. He has set up an office in the center and will be there at least two days every week, he said.

Yolanda Robinson, administrative secretary of the extension center, said, "A lot of times people in the community want to talk directly with the black studies chair. With Dr. Marable in the building, they'll be able to do that now."
Building links OSU with black community

By Rob Huesca
Of The NeighborNews Staff

NEAR EAST SIDE — For the past three years, a tidy brick building on the corner of Mt. Vernon and Monroe avenues has linked the black community to The Ohio State University.

Through conferences, workshops and classes, the Community Extension Center of the Department of Black Studies at OSU has been reaching out to area residents and local organizations, said program coordinator S. Yolanda Robinson.

The center functions not only to draw local residents into academia, but to bridge the gap between scholars and the community which they study, said Robinson.

“It has been good for people in the college community to come down and interact with this community,” Robinson said.

During the week, the center devotes most of its time to an Upward Bound program for teenagers and to classes taken for regular OSU credits.

Starting this fall, OSU will provide a shuttle from the main campus to the center to ease commuting problems.

The center also is open to a wide variety of community organizations, Robinson said.

“People can rent space here and do activities as long as they are educational.”

Indeed, groups which have used the facilities range from the governor’s office to local fraternities and sororities.

Research on the black community is cultivated by the center which extends its facilities to several scholars.

For example, Dr. William E. Nelson Jr. is currently studying 13 black mayors and their effect on public policy. Another professor, Dr. James Upton, is exploring effective funding opportunities for minority students.

In addition to its research and educational activities, the center sponsors a major academic conference each year and publishes working papers resulting from the event.

The conference is sponsored jointly with OSU, and events are held at the main campus and the extension center.

This year, the conference focused on the black woman. Next year, scholars will examine health issues affecting the minority community, Robinson said.

Although the extension center is just three years old, the request for such a facility harks back to the 1960s.

”Students, black and white, felt that there was a lack of curriculum and information on the black community,” Robinson explained.

Also, students complained that their college education left them unprepared to re-enter their communities.

It was not until educational leaders from OSU visited a similar institution at Wayne State University, however, that the extension center was founded.

“We got the idea from Wayne State University, but, of course, we are Ohio State, and we wanted to outdo them,” said Robinson.

Involvement of local organizations has been the keynote of program development, Robinson said.

“The communication with the community has really strengthened the program.”

For example, suggestions from outside led the center to offer Continuing Education Units with some conferences, Robinson said. Such credits help teachers and social workers qualify for additional training required by their employers.

Robinson hopes the center can expand the number of courses offered for such units in the coming academic year.

With continued local involvement, she said, “Maybe we can solve the problems in the community.”
THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF BLACK STUDIES
COMMUNITY EXTENSION CENTER
905 Mt. Vernon Avenue
RENTING THE CENTER

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SCHEDULE OF CLASSES - 1988/89 ACADEMIC YEAR

**Autumn Quarter 1988**

- **September 22 - December 2, 1988**
- **Black Studies**
  - 650
- **Black Political Movements**
  - Wednesday, 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
  - and Organizations
- **Modern Black Political Thought**
  - Monday, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.
  - 782

**Winter Quarter 1989**

- **January 1 - March 11, 1989**
- **Women Studies**
  - 201
- **Introduction to Women's Studies**
  - Monday & Wednesday
  - 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
- **Social Work**
  - 741.Dol
- **Counselling AIDS Victims**
  - Saturday
  - 8:30 - 11:00 a.m.
- **Political Science**
  - 105
- **Global Problems**
  - Saturday
  - 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

* Basic Education Requirement in Social Science
Spring Quarter 1989
March 28 - June 6, 1989

Women's Studies
300

Social Work
741A09

Black Studies
694

Social Work
742.09

Issues in Women's Health
Tuesday & Thursday
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Death and Dying
Saturday
8:30 - 11:00 a.m.

Group Studies: The Political
Economy of Black Health
Monday
6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Fund Raising
Wednesday
6:00 - 8:30 p.m.

STAFF
Dr. H.E. Newsum, Program Manager
Ms. S. Yolanda Robinson, Program Coordinator
Ms. Martha Dillard, Assistant Program Manager
Ms. Diana DeGraffenreed, Secretary
Ms. Louella Hance, Receptionist

Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Phone: (614) 292-4459

RESEARCH SCHOLARS
Dr. Manning Marable
Dr. Linda James Myers
Dr. William E. Nelson, Jr.

Department of Black Studies
(614) 292-3700
Dr. Manning Marable, Chair

The Ohio State University
Department of Black Studies
Community Extension Center
905 Mt. Vernon Avenue
Columbus, Ohio 43203 - 1413
Family mentor project to help OSU freshmen

COLUMBUS—A program that is designed to provide family mentors for incoming freshmen at Ohio State University who live outside Franklin County is being formulated through the Black Studies Extension Center, said Dr. Linda James Myers, an associate professor in the Black Studies Department.

Essentially we want people to serve as a support system for the students,” said Myers, who serves as director for the Black Family Mentor Project.

“We’re not looking for role models in the strict sense, but people who are empathetic and are understanding of the process that students go through.”

The project is designed to improve the retention and success rates of Black college freshmen, Myers said. OSU’s dropout rate for Black freshmen is between 25 to 35 percent. Between 350 and 400 Black freshmen are expected to enroll when the fall quarter begins Sept. 26.

“One of the initial activities of the project will be to identify individuals and families in the Columbus area to serve as mentors for the incoming Black freshmen,” Myers said.

Although this is not a part of a formal research project, Myers said, data will be kept to measure the project’s effectiveness. Per-
Research, publication expand center's outlook

By David Tull

H. E. Newsom visualizes an expanded role for the University's Black Studies Community Extension Center.

"The most fundamental change will be a shift toward more research and publication," says Newsom, who has assumed the role of program manager for the center. His hope is to strengthen the research and publication efforts that have gone on in the past.

The center's Black Studies Research Series, an existing internal publication, will be altered to provide a vehicle for publication of public policies research work coordinated by the center.

Also, the Occasional Paper Series contains papers from the Quarterly Lecture Series. A third publication will publish the best papers from the center's annual conference.

Publication of papers from the first conference, concerning Black women, held during 1987-88, is in process. The 1989 conference, scheduled for in May, is on "The Health Issues Crisis and the Black Community." Papers are being solicited for this conference.

"This expansion we must do if we are to have the respect and blessing of the University and foster national respect," says Newsom, associate professor of Black studies.

"We want to be something more than just a local fascination. We want to be recognized as a national center."

Ohio State faculty will be invited to "use this as a place to house their research," Newsom adds.

Among the recent large grants was a Rockefeller Foundation Research Fellowship held by James Upton, associate professor of Black studies. The grant was for a study of the impact of financial aid on the success of Black graduate students.

Upton, who formerly was program manager, has returned to full-time teaching.

Several other projects are in the works. William Nelson Jr. proposes to study the impact of minority mayors on public policies and their political impact on Black economic development. Manning Marable is pursuing state support for a policy institute here.

A third researcher, Linda Myers, is looking at family violence and drug abuse.

Myers also is deeply involved in the new Black Family Mentoring Program, which is part of the University's affirmative action plan, Newsom says.

"This program is aimed at improving the retention and graduation rates of Black students. We link our Black students from outside Franklin County with Black families living here."

The plan fills a gap. "There's not enough nurturing going on," Newsom says. "This facilitates the successful matriculation of Black students at this University."

A total of 28 local families have expressed interest in mentoring. Because they come from a variety of backgrounds and professions, they can provide role models for the students, Newsom adds.

But expanding the center's role in research and publication must not preclude other programs for the community and campus, Newsom feels.

The center, located at 905 Mt. Vernon Ave., is close to the community but isolated from the Columbus campus. To help bridge the gap, there now is a shuttle bus service, Newsom says. The bus is geared to two evening classes in Black studies. It leaves the Ohio Union at 5:30 p.m. on Mondays and 4:30 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Winter quarter three courses will be held, in women's studies, social work and political science. In spring quarter, courses are to be offered in women's studies, social work and Black studies.

Additional buses will be added when the center offers two national election-related forums in the Quarterly Lecture Series. A pre-election forum is slated from

7:30 p.m. Oct. 24, and a post-election forum will be 7:30 p.m. Nov. 14.

Another forum will be presented Oct. 20 from 7-9 p.m. on local bond issues.

Newsom came to Ohio State in July from LeMoyne-Owen College, Memphis, Tenn., where he was associate professor of English and director of the Multi-disciplinary Center for Social Research. He has published widely. His third book, Class, Language and Education: Sociolinguistics and Class Struggle in an African Situation, is due for publication in November.

The book focuses on the use of "pidgin" language in Nigeria. Although it originated as the language of commerce, pidgin can accommodate fairly sophisticated and philosophical thought, Newsom found. The use of pidgin also reflects significantly the differences in social classes.
LOTTERY WINNERS MAKE GIFT TO BLACK STUDIES CENTER

COLUMBUS -- When the Ohio Lottery was created to support education, it's doubtful the originators expected the aid to be quite so direct as a recent gift to Ohio State University makes it.

The university's Black Studies Community Extension Center, 905 Mount Vernon Ave., has received its largest ever contribution from an individual donor -- a $15,000 gift from Eli and Sharon Barnes of Columbus. The couple in January 1988 won $16 million in the Super Lotto, sharing a $32 million jackpot with another winner.

A major portion of the gift, $10,000, will be used to open a fund which will become the Eli and Sharon Barnes endowment, providing discretionary funds for extension center programming. The couple pledged their help with further fund-raising efforts to complete the endowment. A university endowment fund requires $15,000 or more.

"Eli and Sharon Barnes will be spearheading a major campaign to raise additional monies for the endowment," says S. Yolanda Robinson, program coordinator at the center.

The Barnes have designated the remaining $5,000 of the gift for support of the center's 1989 health conference, May 4-6.

-more-
Mrs. Barnes is a native of Columbus and grew up in the Mount Vernon Plaza area.

"We have always believed in higher education and we know what it's like to struggle to get an education," she says. "We have been aware of various programs of the extension center and thought we could help."

They have three children, Sharyl, a senior at Central State University, Wilberforce; Duane, a senior at North Adult School in Columbus; and Crystal, a student in a Columbus elementary school.

Mrs. Barnes formerly worked for the federal government and Mr. Barnes worked for the state of Ohio, but both have quit their jobs since winning the lottery.

#

Contact: S. Yolanda Robinson, (614) 292-4459.

Written by David Tull.
OSU Black Studies hits jackpot

Columbus couple donates $15,000 from lotto to center

By Laurie Sielatycki
Lantern staff writer

... And the winning lottery ticket holder is Ohio State. Well, not really.

But thanks to a Columbus couple who did win the lottery, the university will share in the fortune.

The OSU Black Studies Community Extension Center, 905 Mount Vernon Ave., has received its largest contribution ever from an individual donor, said Yolanda Robinson, program coordinator for the center.

Robinson said Eli and Sharon Barnes split a $32 million jackpot with another winner of the Ohio Lottery's Super Lotto in January of 1988. Then the Barnes' contributed $15,000 of the jackpot to the center.

A major portion of the gift, $10,000, will be used to open a fund which will become the Eli and Sharon Barnes endowment, Robinson said.

Robinson said the endowment will provide discretionary funds for extension center programming, such as financial aid for tutoring students, necessary supplies to keep the center running and anything else the center may need in the future.

Although the university normally requires endowments to be at least $15,000, the Barnes' have pledged to help organize fundraising efforts to raise the additional $5,000, Robinson said.

Sharon Barnes said she and her husband have been brainstorming for how to best involve the community in a major campaign to raise the additional money.

"We've been tossing around ideas, but the most important thing is for the community to realize every little bit helps, even a dime or a dollar," Barnes said.

"We're very fortunate that because of the lottery we are able to contribute much more than we normally could have."

Barnes said she and her husband have designated the remaining $5,000 of the gift to be spent on the center's 1989 health conference, May 4-6.

"My husband and I have always been firm believers in higher education, and we know what it's like to struggle to get an education," Barnes said. "We have been aware of the various programs of the extension center and both agreed that it would be wonderful if we could help, so we went ahead and did it."

The Barnes have three children: Sharyl, a senior at Central State University; Duane, a senior at North Adult School in Columbus; and Crystal, an elementary school student in the Columbus Public School system.

Sharon Barnes formerly worked for the federal government and Eli Barnes worked for the state of Ohio, but both have quit their jobs since winning the lottery.
Conference to examine health crisis for Blacks

By David Tull

Activist Dick Gregory will be among the speakers at a conference May 5 and 6 that will focus on “The Health Crisis and the Black Community.”

Also scheduled are author Frances Cress Welsing and Rep. Louis Stokes, D-Ohio.

The two-day event is sponsored by the Black Studies Community Extension Center.

“The life expectancy rate in Blacks has been declining steadily,” points out S. Yolanda Robinson, program coordinator. “Infant mortality, hypertension, cancer, AIDS and substance abuse have been increasing in our communities. It’s important to take a serious look at these health problems and ways of preventing them.”

Gregory began as a comedian. Today he is a human rights activist, author, lecturer, recording artist and nutritionist. He will speak at the opening session from 8:30-10:30 a.m. May 6 in the Martin Luther King Center, on the topic, “Eat to Live.”

Welsing of Washington, D.C., is a nationally known psychiatrist and author.

She won the 1974 National Service Award for service to the Black community. She has published numerous articles and two books: The Cress Theory of Color Confrontation and The Conspiracy to Make Blacks Inferior.

Welsing will speak at 5 p.m., May 6 in the Black Studies Extension Center on “The Effects of White Supremacy on Black Mental Health.”

Stokes, a congressman from Ohio’s 21st District (Warrensville Heights) is chair of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and a member of the Appropriations Committee.

Stokes will speak at the lunch scheduled from noon-2 p.m., May 5 in the Ohio Union Ballroom. His topic will be “The Status of a National Health Care Policy Speaker in the United States.”

Panel discussions May 5 will be held in the Ohio Union. On May 6, a series of workshops will be centered in the Martin Luther King Center, 867 Mt. Vernon Ave.; the Black Studies Extension Center, 905 Mt. Vernon Ave.; and nearby churches, parks and other buildings.

Workshops are free. There is a $10-a-day advance registration fee for other activities, including the three keynote addresses.

There also will be a free Health Fair on May 6 in Mayne Moore Park, adjacent to the King Center, or inside the King Center in case of rain. The health fair will feature screenings and educational programs.

An added feature of the conference will be tours of Columbus hospital facilities May 4.

For additional information, call 292-4459.

April 27, 1989/onCampus/3
Black community leaders to discuss apartheid issues

"Apartheid in Columbus, Ohio and Southern Africa" is the topic of a two-day conference Oct. 27 and 28 at the Black Studies Community Extension Center, 905 Mount Vernon Ave.

A wide variety of community, city, state and national leaders will take part in the sessions. Among them is the Rev. Lucius Walker of New York, N.Y., executive director of the Interreligious Foundation for Community Organizations. Walker will discuss "The Church's Response to Apartheid" at 9:15 a.m. Oct. 28.

Events are from 10 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Oct. 27. Topics include historical events in South Africa, U.S. foreign policy, the South African justice system, housing, health care, and theological perspectives on the issue.

Also scheduled are a workshop on economic development; the film "Mandela"; and an update on Namibia with students from the Trinity Lutheran Seminary. Also, artists will read poetry and perform African dances.

After Walker's speech on Oct. 28, workshops and panels from 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. will consider the role of churches, government-funded programs' impact on apartheid, the effect on workplaces and employment, if South African schools should be segregated or integrated, the needs of those abroad and the responsibility of the U.S., and networking.

The deadline for preregistration is Oct. 23. Pre-registration fees are $10/day. Registration at the conference is $15/day. Fees include lunches.

For more information or to register, call Yolanda Robinson, 292-4459.
Session focus is cancer

Cancer strikes Blacks in disproportionate numbers.

A workshop from 8-11 a.m. April 11 will focus attention on why this different ratio exists and on possible ways to combat causes of the disease. The workshop will be in the Black Studies Community Extension Center, 905 Mt. Vernon Ave.

Concerned community leaders, including ministers, doctors and University faculty and staff, are being urged to attend, says Joanne Hichik, program coordinator for the Ohio Cancer Information Service. The OCIS is a program of the National Cancer Institute and a public service of the Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Research Institute.

"Blacks have a disproportionately higher incidence of cancer and higher cancer mortality rates compared with the general population," says Hichik. "Black men are more likely to die from cancer than any other group in the United States," she adds.

The National Black Leadership Initiative on Cancer, and the Central Ohio Coalition for Cancer Control in Minorities sponsor the workshop. Robert Smith III, Chicago, Midwestern Regional coordinator for NBLIC, will speak on "Accepting the Challenge."

Also on the morning program are William J. Hicks, associate director of medical oncology at Grant Hospital, and Randall E. Harris, director of cancer control at the University's Comprehensive Cancer Center. Group discussions will be a key part of the program.

Horace Newsum, program manager at the extension center and professor of Black studies, will introduce speakers.

There is no admission charge for the workshop.

To pre-register for the workshop or to obtain information, call Hichik at 293-4600.
Local conference to discuss minority employment skills

By Carolyn Coleman
Latern staff writer

The OSU Black Studies Center will be hosting a three day conference beginning today on developing employment skills in the minority community.

It will be held at the Radisson Airport Hotel May 3-4, and the Martin Luther King Jr. Center for the Performing and Cultural Arts on May 5.

The purpose of the seminar is to help minority entrepreneurs grasp the necessary resources available to remain competitive and “on the edge” of business development in the 1990s and beyond, said Yolanda Robinson, program coordinator for the OSU Department of Black Studies Community Extension Center.

The conference will consist of workshops including international trade, franchising, cooperative economics and women in business, which will specifically address the issues women face and how to deal with them, Robinson said.

The workshops will be taught by individuals outstanding in their fields, including Julianne Malveaux, syndicated writer and activist, and Alvin Poussaint, psychiatrist, author and editor with Bill Cosby, Robinson said.

“We are hoping to bring the different classes together and have an impact on the community at large,” she said.

The conference will also address the importance of increasing the awareness in the community as a whole on problems such as AIDS, drugs and how to become successful, she said.

“If you don’t plan for the future, the future will not be ready for you,” Robinson said.

Harvey Norton Jr., assistant deputy director for minority business development for the Ohio Department of Development, is the co-coordinator for the program.

The Department of Development serves the minority business community in Ohio, and supplies information on how to start and maintain a successful business.

The department provides services, management and sales opportunities to 1200 minority businesses that are certified by the state of Ohio, Norton said.

The department also provides information to the state, local and federal government on the issues surrounding the minority community and business ventures, Norton added.

Minorities who are defined as black, hispanic, oriental or American Indian, own 51 percent of the businesses in Ohio.

Norton said the department wanted to co-sponsor the conference with OSU because of the need to educate the community about minority difficulties.

“Anyone interested in economic development should attend,” Norton said. “We will teach people how to handle their finances, and how to plan for the future of their business as well as their personal lives.”

Norton and Robinson stressed the importance of minorities returning to their communities once they “make it.”

By talking to and assisting other minorities in their businesses and educating them on how they became successful, the minority community can be enriched and encouraged, they said.

The conference speakers are individuals who are concerned with this issue and are fulfilling this responsibility.

“We hope they will remember to give back to their community once they are successful,” Robinson said.

The seminar will be important for everyone in the community, especially those interested in the development of the minorities in business. It will be an outreach to educate individuals on what the minorities have to offer, Robinson said.

The conference will offer free child care to anyone who attends the Neighborhood House. Those interested in attending the conference can register at the door, or call the Black Studies Center at 292-1301.
Black Studies Center succeeds in mission

By Arum I. Arum
Lantern staff writer

The OSU Black Studies Extension Center has been successful in its mission to build and maintain bridges between the university and the local black community, said outgoing director/program manager, H. Ike Okafur-Newsum.

The center started in 1972 with the goal of being an additional educational resource that would specifically address the black population's needs for community involvement, community control and community empowerment.

"The center is active practically everyday....Our schedule is packed. There is always something going on."

— Yolanda Robinson, Black Studies Extension Center program coordinator

Okafur-Newsum said.

However, the center's usefulness has blossomed during the last three years. Today the center caters to the needs of a diverse multi-racial group of people.

"The center is active practically everyday....Our schedule is packed. There is always something going on," center program coordinator, Yolanda Robinson said.

Several OSU academic departments and other campus units such as the Department of Black Studies, the School of Social Work, the College of Education, the Women's Studies Program, the African Studies Center, the School of Music and the Department of Philosophy utilize the center's new facility, located at 905 Mt. Vernon Ave., to offer a wide range of focused, community-enrichment courses.

The center provides a forum for public lectures and other community enlightenment activities for many civic groups and neighborhood cultural associations, as well as agencies within both the city and state governments.

Columbus Mayor Dana G. Reinhardt conducted his Women's Day at the center. Also, the Septima Clark Center for Urban Literacy regularly utilizes the center for its literacy circle meetings.

Linda James Myers, OSU professor of black studies, heads the Center for Optimal Thought, which is located at the center. She organizes cultural awareness workshops for inmates and those on parole from Orient Prison.

"Between January and April of this year, the center served as a forum for anti-war advocacy in the black community during the Gulf crisis," Okafur-Newsum said.

Through its Black Studies Annual Conference Series, the center sponsors national conferences focusing on the problems and concerns of blacks, Okafur-Newsum said.

The 1988 conference, titled "The Black Woman: Challenges and Prospects for the Future," brought more than 300 local and national scholars and academics together. The proceedings from this conference were recently published by the center.

"In 1991, instead of a national conference we decided to put together a youth summit to address the challenges facing our young black men and women in America today," Robinson said.

Since the center moved to its present inner-city address, it has not recorded any break-ins or crime incidents.

Martha Dillard, program assistant to the center, attributes this to "the understanding on the part of our people that we are there to serve them."
Skeleton discoverer to speak at center

By Yvette Harms
Lantern staff writer

Dr. Donald Johanson, discoverer of "Lucy," the 3.5 million-year-old hominid skeleton, will speak at 9 a.m. Friday at the Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Performing and Cultural Arts, 667 Mount Vernon Ave.

Johanson is a prominent paleoanthropologist and "made a remarkable discovery in the early '70s with the finding of Lucy," said Richard Yerkes, associate professor of anthropology.

Johanson's lecture, "Lucy, the Beginnings of Humankind," will begin a two-day colloquium focusing on the relationship between African and African-American cultures, said Martha Dillard, a spokeswoman for the Department of Black Studies.

"We wanted to trace the origins of Africans to America," said Yolanda Robinson, acting manager of the OSU Black Studies Extension Center.

When we learned Donald Johanson found the oldest human remains in Africa, we wanted to find out more about his research," she said.

Robinson hopes this program will also encourage more students to take anthropology courses.

The two-day program, titled "Encounters: African Presence in the Americas," will also include Dr. O.R. Dathorne, professor at the University of Kentucky. He will be speaking on Africans presence in the New World. Dathorne will speak Friday at 1 p.m. at the OSU Black Studies Extension Center, 905 Mount Vernon Ave., Robinson said.

The center will hold a book-signing party Friday at 5:30 p.m. The book is a collection of papers, presented to the Department of Black Studies in 1988, by several members of the community and people nationwide concerning issues of the black woman, Robinson said.

A panel discussion will be held Saturday at 9 a.m. The panel will discuss African-Americans in the next century. This discussion will include issues such as the family and health care, Robinson said.
Resource books highlight contributions of women

By S. YOLANDA ROBINSON
Call and Post Contributing Writer

The encyclopedia "History of Black Women in America" is receiving positive reviews in major newspapers and journals. The two-volume set of books edited by Darlene Clark Hines, Elsa Barkley Brown and Rosalyn Terborg-Penn is an encyclopedia that is written on the lives of Black women in America.

"Black Women in America" has approximately 800 articles and 400 photographs written by men and women scholars from throughout the country. It has chapters on the biographies of Black women and the participation of Black women in community organizations, work, church and social clubs.

Three women from Columbus, Ohio were selected to write in the volume. The writers, all of whom are professors at The Ohio State University, were introduced by Sarah Austin, special assistant to Dr. Gordon Gee, at a recent reception sponsored by The Ohio State University Black Studies Community Extension Center, the Center for Women's Studies and the College of Humanities.

OSU's contributors are Stephanie Shaw, Jacqueline Royster and Joan Cashin -- all of whom are professors in the OSU College of Humanities. At the reception, each talked about their research for the book and the mechanics of putting the volumes together.

Individuals who attended the reception commended the writers on their contributions to the book and their unique gift of being able to translate research into a language for the public. Many of them thought the volumes would be excellent for high schools and families to have in their homes.

"History of Black Women in America" is on sale at the OSU Black Studies Community Extension Center, 905 Mt. Vernon Ave. (292-4459)
Racism and Apartheid

By Carol Hector Harris

At a three day conference that was held in The OSU Black Studies Community Extension Center and The Ohio State University Campus, local leaders and South Africans discussed issues of apartheid and racism. The timely exploration of the subject was held during the weekend of the Ku Klux Klan rally in downtown Columbus last month.

Reverend Lucius Walker, Executive Director of the Inter Religious Foundation for Community Organizations kicked off the three day workshop series at a luncheon that was sponsored by The United Christian Center and later in OSU Independence Hall where he detailed his organization's recent efforts to break the U.S. trade embargo on shipments to Cuba.

CONT' ON PAGE 1
where he had gone to speak against racism against Black Athletes and he was subsequently sent to prison for attending the meeting. He escaped twice. In prison he had a chance to talk to Nelson Mandela.

During the first escape he managed to leave the country, but the South African police brought him back after he was captured by the Portuguese police. During the second escape he was shot in the back and taken to the hospital, then sent back to prison and sentenced to hard labor on Robben Island for eighteen months. He was arrested in 1965 and placed under house arrest for five years. He served only one year and was given an exit permit, whereby he agreed if he returned to South Africa he would be sent to prison.

Brutus went to Britain and taught for five years, appeared before the United Nations, the United States Congress and the Congressional Black Caucus in an effort to get South Africa expelled from the U.S. Olympics. He succeeded in that effort in 1970, and then mobilized for the divestment movement.

When asked if he will ever return to South Africa, Brutus said he recently returned as a visiting professor a year ago. "If isn't good," he sadly said. He believes most of the changes are cosmetic and because of this view he is not popular. "Just giving people the right to vote, a paper change is not enough if that vote is meaningless." The system can be so structured that even when given the right to vote, the economic power could remain in the hands of the Whites and a few Blacks, who really are 'Uncle Toms' who make it look like change, a syndrome we've seen in the United States.

Brutus did, however, encourage young students to become involved in politics and to vote. He said that some changes can be made.

Brutus said he will return to South Africa to live when he is certain that the changes that are made are not in the hands of the same leadership. "A real change would mean a change in leadership," he said, "and the many people who are homeless outside of Cape Town getting real employment, food and shelter."

The conference was organized by The OSU Black Studies Extension Center and The Community Organizing Center. Under the direction of S. Yolanda Robinson and Rev. Les Stansberry. Key sponsors of the program were, The National Endowment on Humanities, Ohio Humanities Council, The Ohio State University Department of Black Studies, Office of Minority Affairs and African studies, and The Columbus Community Organizing Center.
OSU Extension Center to hold fourth Community Day

The Ohio State University's Black Studies Extension Center will be holding its fourth annual Community Day Program, Friday, Feb. 18, and Saturday, Feb. 19, at the OSU Black Studies Community Extension Center, 905 Mt. Vernon Ave.

Community Day is a free, two-day program of activities promoting the understanding of the role of education in the transmittal of culture. The keynote speaker, Amiri Baraka, will address his theories of community empowerment through education from historical and cultural perspective.

Baraka has had extensive experience administering arts and culture programs as well as community service programs. He was an organizer and director of The Black Arts Repertory Theater in Harlem from 1964 to 1965. He is the author of numerous books, anthologies, poetry and plays, including "The Death of Malcolm X," "Dutchmen," "The Slave," "Black Music," "Anthology of African American Women Writers" and "The Autobiography of Leroy Jones" (Leroy Jones is his birth name). Baraka is the recipient of The Rockefeller Foundation award from Drama, National Endowment for the Arts for Poetry, and the Guggenheim Fellowship.

The program, directed toward reinforcing the positive aspects of the African American community, will include workshops ranging from hieroglyphics, Biblical Black history, African headdress and hair design to the rights of passage, education through the drums and more. There will also be a youth panel discussing how culture has affected them, receptions with African foods, and African dance.

Among the expected presenters are Dr. H.E. Newsum, professor of music, Phoebe West, Okey Onyejekwe, Moriba Kelsey, The Ohio State University; Phyllis Ransom, Ohio Arts Council, Grace Okoli, Sadie Jackson, Mable Haddock, National Black Programming Consortium, Barry Edney, Atiba Childs, Roger Myers, Stacia Twitty, and Damien Skinner.

This celebration of Black History Month promises to be an educational event exposing the great African and African American culture to all who participate. The program is being co-sponsored by The Ohio Program on Humanities, The Buster Douglas Fan Club, The Association for the Study of African American Life and History, State Rep. Otto Beatty Jr., and the Franklin County ADAMH Board.

For more information, contact S. Yolanda Robinson, program coordinator, OSU Black Studies Community Extension Center, at 253-4620.
Clergyman to speak about South African issues

By Maria Rosario B. Tordil
Lantern staff writer

A clergyman, who was jailed and tortured for his anti-apartheid efforts, will bring a campus audience up to date on the situation in South Africa.

Minister Trevor Steyn, assistant to Archbishop Desmond Tutu, will speak on the social and political issues of a free South Africa at 8 p.m. on Oct. 3 at the Black Studies Extension Center.

The program, presented by the OSU Department of Black Studies Community Extension Center and the Columbus Community Organizing Center, was organized in response to a community forum's desire to find out about the present situation in South Africa.

Donald E. Swartwout, secretary of a local Presbyterian Peacemaking Committee, said this is Steyn's second visit to Columbus. The Presbyterian Peacemaking Program and a local organization of Presbyterian churches helped fund Steyn's visit to Central Ohio.

S. Yolanda Robinson, program coordinator for the Community Extension Center, said Steyn will focus on the political, educational and economic situation in South Africa.

Steyn, pastor in the Anglican Parish of St. Mark, has been an active opponent of apartheid for many years. He has been jailed several times and was tortured while in prison.

Steyn's parish is an extremely poor area of South Africa populated by people forcibly relocated by the apartheid regime. Steyn and his parish assist thousands of children a day and work with abused men and women.

The National Presbyterian Church and the National Presbyterian Peacemaking Program is based in Louisville, Ky., Swartwout said.

The program brings internationally known peacemakers to the United States. Local divisions of the program focus on bringing the peacemakers into the Columbus area.

Steyn will arrive in Columbus on Saturday, Oct. 1, after appearing in Green Bay, Wis. Steyn will spend four days in the Columbus area speaking at eight local churches and high schools.

Prior to his appearance at the Black Studies Extension Center, Steyn will be taking questions at 4 p.m. on Oct. 3 on WOSU's News 880 "Openline" radio talk show.
Activist speaks about dioxin's dangers

By Brad Davis
Lantern staff writer

Lois Gibbs, housewife-turned-activist, spoke to about 40 people Wednesday night at Ohio State's Black Studies Extension Center.

Gibbs is visiting threatened cities across the country promoting a campaign to stop dioxin exposure, she said.

"The government's decisions to poison kids are made every day, in every city, including Columbus," Gibbs said.

Gibbs first became an activist in 1978 in Love Canal, a town in Niagara Falls, New York, she said. She helped her community fight the local and federal governments after a toxic waste dump in their town began poisoning her children and many others, she said.

"I'm not a scientist, I'm high school educated," Gibbs said. "But I am a community organizer."

Her speech Wednesday was the keynote address for a panel discussion titled "Environmental Justice for All..." sponsored by local groups including the Ohio Environmental Council, OSU and PARTA (Parkridge Area Residents Take Action).

Gibbs stressed the need for citizen organization and cooperation in Columbus, citing her community's struggle against "well-funded" corporations and "impersonal" governments.

"Columbus is a dioxin-contaminated area," she said.

The Environmental Protection Agency has identified dioxin as a carcinogen, which affects the entire national population, Gibbs said.

"We're talking about our ability to have children," she said.

Gibbs's research also has found that placement of toxic sites is disproportionately concentrated in minority, low-income and low-education communities, she said.

"Certain sections of American society are being targeted," she said.

The evening's panelists included a Capital University philosophy professor, a Franklin University economics professor, a Columbus community activist and an OSU doctoral student in natural resources.

Such issues as environmental racism, community organizing, ethics and the economics of environmental policy and decision-making filled the hour-long discussion.

Joan Phillips, a member of the audience, said she enjoyed the event.

"Lois spoke from the heart," Phillips said. "You can tell she has suffered much."

Joe Heimlich, an OSU professor of natural resources who helped organize the event, said Gibbs will speak again Friday morning at 10 a.m. in 102 Kottman Hall.
Black women’s health focus of luncheon

Open dialogue, lifestyle key to staying well

By Michelle A. Artis
Lantern staff writer

Nearly 50 African-American women broke into song Wednesday at a conference with the words: “I love black women deep down in my soul. I said deep, deep. I said down, down. Deep down in my soul.” The African-American Women and Health Issues Luncheon focused on the physical, emotional, and psychological well-being of black women and emphasized the importance of black women gathering together and discussing issues that impact them, particularly health.

The keynote speaker at the luncheon was Byllye Avery, founder of the National Black Women’s Health Project, who shared a significant part of her life with the women. She spoke Wednesday at The Black Studies Community Extension Center.

“In 1967 I coughed frequently,” Avery said. “Then I lost a significant amount of weight, weighing 87 pounds. I was hospitalized for 21 days, and lost my appetite for a whole year.”

She was diagnosed with sarcoidosis, which is a form of lupus. The disease affects a significant amount of women in the black community. Lupus, itself, is a chronic disease that causes parts of the body, especially skin, joints, blood and kidneys to inflame.

Avery said she learned to manage her disease and live a healthier life. Since being diagnosed, Avery has been sharing the importance of health consciousness in the black community to black women all over the country. In her visit to Columbus, her message was the importance of dialogue.

“The most powerful tool you have is to talk about your health with other people,” Avery said. “We have to break the conspiracy of silence, it kills us more than anything.”

She told the women at the luncheon to get breast and pelvic examinations every year on their birthday.

Jeanne Boykin, office manager of the center, said Avery’s presentation was very educational, enlightening, and essential for the future.

“It’s important to discuss the health problems black women are facing as we near this millennium and begin a new one,” Boykin said. Avery also addressed the issue of self-love by encouraging the women to take one hour every day to get away from their children, their significant others, and their hectic day at work to rest.

“Some women walk around mad because we haven’t had time for ourselves,” Avery said. “It’s important to have alone time.”

Taking initiative in their own well-being and maintaining healthier lifestyles is key in empowering black women in their own communities, she said.
Speaker discusses power of black women

Emotions, Spirituality
topic of luncheon at Black Studies center

By Michelle A. Artis
Lantern staff writer

Pandora's Box with a twist is the story Rev. Linda H. Hollies presented to more than 50 women yesterday afternoon at the Ohio State Black Studies Community Extension Center.

Hollies, an author and spiritual leader, hosted a luncheon at the center focusing on the spiritual connection of black women. Her presentation was titled "African-American Women and Spirituality: Tapping the Power Within."

Pandora, a mortal woman from Greek mythology who received a box from her lover which contained all the evil the world possessed, was warned by her lover not to open it. Despite his command she opened its lid and evil was released in the world for the first time.

However, in Hollies' version, the box was transformed from containing evil into one containing the strength, spirituality and sexuality of black women. Contrasting Pandora's warning not to open the box of evil, Hollies urged the women to open the box within themselves and release the strength, emotions and spirituality they possessed.

"You have the power and potential within yourself to be what you want to be," Hollies said.

Pertaining to sexuality, Hollies promoted long-term relationships between men and women and warned the women about the threat of AIDS.

"When you have sex with someone you don't know well, you have sex with everybody they had sex with and didn't know well," Hollies said.

She also told the women not to stay in bad relationships but rather move on if their needs aren't being fulfilled.

Hollies also encouraged the women to learn from one another by providing mental support and encouragement to one another.

"I think Reverend Hollies' presentation was wonderful," said Yolanda Robinson, program coordinator for the OSU Black Studies Community Extension Center. "What she had to say was very empowering for me and for, I'm sure, the other women as well."

Hollies' speech was educational, said Evangelist Betty Morgan, senior receptionist for the Urban League of Columbus, an inner-city organization.

"What impressed me most was that she said being black is beautiful and black people have the power to do what they set their minds out to do," Morgan said.
FREE Computer Orientation for Seniors

Senior Computer Orientation (SCO-255, 258) - Senior Computer Orientation is a free training program designed to introduce adults aged 55 and older to a variety of computer topics. 16 hours of computer instruction are devoted to these topics: e-mail, hardware, internet, operating systems, terminology and word processing. FREE

Additional Courses for Seniors (ages 55 and up)

Students who register for any of these classes should have taken at least one computer class or have experience working in a Windows environment. The fee for each individual course is $25.00 per person. Fee payment in the form of a check or money order (payable to The Ohio State University) is due at the start of each class session.

Internet and E-mail (NET-259) will allow students to learn more about the Internet and e-mail. Lessons and exercises will provide opportunities to practice finding and using Internet-based information, resources and services that have relevance to the needs, desires and interests of senior citizens. FEE: $25.00

Introduction to PowerPoint (PPT-257) students will gain an understanding of the PowerPoint window (toolbars, menu commands) and learn how to develop powerful slide presentations in Microsoft PowerPoint. Students will format slides, create presentation notes and handouts and run a slide presentation on a computer. FEE: $25.00

Evening Course (Open to all ages)

Introduction to Excel (EXC-256) – Students will learn tool menus and toolbars using basic skills to create, open, and save Excel worksheets – entering values into a worksheet and selecting cell ranges, calculating value totals with Autosum and entering formulas using Autofill. FEE: $25.00

Registration

Registration is due at the beginning of each class session. Register early! Space is limited. Clip and send registration with payment (if applicable) to:

AAAS Community Extension Center
Atten: Technology Program Coordinator
905 Mount Vernon Ave
Columbus, Ohio 43203
FAX: (614) 292-3892

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For questions or additional information contact us at (614) 292-3047 or aaassec@osu.edu

Autumn 2005 Technology Course Registration

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Autumn 2005 Technology Courses
Fired leader of OSU center gets job back

By Encarnacion Pyle
THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

Ohio State professor Judson L. Jeffries has been reappointed as director of the university's African-American and African Studies Community Extension Center, weeks after community members rallied for his reinstatement. Jeffries was given his job back late last week. Ohio State said he will continue to earn his $94,488 annual salary.

OSU will evaluate the African-American and African Studies Community Extension Center to determine its future, an official said.

In an Aug. 6 termination letter, Antoinia C. Kalu, OSU's African-studies chairwoman, said that Jeffries' refusal to communicate and work with her resulted in "wasted effort, energy and time for the department."

Although he was being fired from the director's job, her letter said he would remain as a professor and would teach five classes a year.

In a response, Jeffries said Kalu made "deliberate attempts to degrade and intimidate me," and he argued that he had improved the center's services.

Joseph Steinmetz, OSU's new executive dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, said he decided to reinstate Jeffries after being asked by the provost to resolve the matter.

"We need a longer period of time to look into the mission of the Community Extension Center, and I decided it was best to hold everything as it is, if you will, as we do that," Steinmetz said. He would not discuss Jeffries or the events that led to his firing.

Steinmetz said the school will evaluate the center over the next six months to determine its future. It currently offers a variety of classes and programs for students and residents of the Mount Vernon Avenue area.

Neither Jeffries nor Kalu could be reached yesterday.

epyle@dispatch.com
Our Mission

The African American and African Studies Community Extension Center is the outreach component of The Ohio State University Department of African American and African Studies (AAAS). The primary goal of the Community Extension Center is to promote and coordinate research, teaching, and service projects that support Ohio State's land-grant mission, as well as address the concerns of the city's Diasporic communities by:

- Serving as liaison between The Ohio State University and Columbus' urban communities;
- Fostering greater interaction between members of the community and the university;
- Partnering with university, faculty, staff, and students to provide opportunities for learning, discovery, and engagement.

African Affairs Symposium
This one-day colloquium, held annually during the fall, features a topic that is especially germane to the growing African community in the city of Columbus. The symposium is designed to bring together elements of the African and African American community in order to exchange ideas and form lasting educational and policy-oriented partnerships.

Black Veterans Day Salute
Each Veterans Day the Community Extension Center hosts a symposium that honors and examines the contributions of Black Ohioans who served in the U.S. military.

History of Black Columbus Conference
Each spring, this conference examines and celebrates the rich history of African Americans in Columbus. Our most recent conference focused on "Gentrification, Redevelopment and the Role of a Community Benefits Agreement."

Lecture Series
This series features presentations from scholars and authors about topics that affect the community. Lectures are held throughout the academic year.

Summer Residential Program
This program is designed to provide high school juniors and seniors with an appreciation for and an understanding of African American and African culture and history as well as an opportunity to experience college life.

Staff

Judson L. Jeffries, PhD, Professor and Director
Alicia Shipe, Technology Program Coordinator
Kevin L. Brooks, PhD, Program Coordinator
Sarah M. Twitty, Senior Program Coordinator
and Fiscal Officer

AAAS Community Extension Center
905 Mt. Vernon Ave. Columbus, OH 43203
(614) 292-3922 Fax: (614) 292-3892
aaascec.osu.edu

Colleges of Arts and Sciences
artsandsciences.osu.edu
Our Facility
University and community groups also use the Community Extension Center to hold classes, meetings, and events. Advantages include:

- Location: in the historic Bronzeville neighborhood on Mt. Vernon Avenue;
- Accessibility: a 10-minute drive from campus; On the COTA busline; Free parking
- Availability: flexible weekdays, evenings, and weekend hours

Technology
The Community Extension Center's modern classroom is a fully-equipped, state-of-the-art teaching and training resource for individuals, classes and groups. The classroom is equipped with workstations that contain Microsoft Office software and internet access.

Research
Faculty and students conduct research projects at the Community Extension Center that include:

- The birth of Black Studies at Ohio State
- The cartography of voting preferences in the Mt. Vernon Avenue area
- Healthcare accessibility for residents in the Columbus 43203 and 43205 zip codes areas
- News coverage of the 2006 Ohio Governor's election
- Rediscovering the lost city of Bronzeville

Education

College Credit Courses
Classes offered at the Community Extension Center are an attractive alternative for students who may find it difficult to access the university's main campus due to work schedules and/or parking availability. Courses include:

- AAAS 495: Get Out the Vote! Service Learning in Urban Communities
- AAAS 717: African American Political Leadership
- AAAS 730: Black Political Movements and Organizations
- English 36701: Language, Identity, and Culture in the U.S.
- Geography 5805: Elements of Cartography--Serving the Community with Cartography

Continuing Education
The Community Extension Center is an ideal place to hold special courses that are offered for enrichment, certification, or continuing education credit. Such courses have included:

- African History in America Part I 1500-1896, Part II 1896-Present
- Leadership Development: The Ray Miller Institute for Change and Leadership

Partnering with the Community Extension Center
University departments, faculty, staff, students and organizations benefit from partnering with the Community Extension Center by using it as a resource to promote learning, discovery and engagement initiatives. Partnerships include:

- Math Science Club with The Ohio State University's Wexner Medical Center and COSI;
- The Ray Miller Institute for Change and Leadership with the Center for Urban Progress;
- Community Tour with the Bronzeville Neighborhood Association (BNA);
- ReVITALizing Neighborhoods through V.I.T.A.;
- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance with OSU Extension;
- Cartography project with the university’s Department of Geography.
Our Mission

The African American and African Studies Community Extension Center is the outreach component of The Ohio State University Department of African American and African Studies (AAAS). The goal of the Community Extension Center is to enhance the educational opportunities of students and to improve the quality of life for people who live and work in the neighborhoods near and around the center and Columbus’s urban communities by:

- Serving as a liaison between The Ohio State University and Columbus’s urban communities.
- Fostering greater interaction between members of the urban community and university.
- Partnering with university faculty, staff, and students to provide opportunities in academics, outreach and engagement, and research.

Special Events

Fall Into Good Health
Flu vaccines, free health screenings, and health related information are among the many services provided to attendees during this community health fair. This event is held annually in collaboration with the Health Partnerships Group.

History of Black Columbus Conference
The primary aim of the conference is to bring the community together to celebrate the rich history of African Americans in Columbus. This event is held annually, during the spring, and is sponsored by the Community Extension Center in collaboration with community members.

On Moral Grounds: Moral Issues Seminar
A series of public conversations about the moral dimensions of issues facing our communities and our society. Topics have included “Reparations for Slavery” and “Race and Genetics.” This event is held quarterly in partnership with the OSU Institute for Collaborative Research and Public Humanities.

For additional information visit us at http://aassec.osu.edu or contact us:

AAAS Community Extension Center
906 Mt. Vernon Ave. • Columbus, OH 43203
(614) 292-3922 • Fax: (614) 292-3892
E-mail: aassec@osu.edu
The Community Extension Center is an ideal place to hold special courses offered for enrichment, certification, or continuing education credit. Previous continuing education courses have been taught by:

- African American and African Studies
- Center for African Studies
- Center for the Study and Teaching of Writing
- College of Education
- College of Nursing
- College of Social Work
- English Department
- Math Department

University departments, faculty, staff, students, and organizations benefit from partnering with the Community Extension Center by utilizing it as a resource in promoting outreach and engagement, teaching, and research initiatives. Sample partnerships include:

- Health Partnerships Group with OSU College of Nursing
- Math Science Club with the OSU Medical Center
- Summer Residential Program with the Center for the Study and Teaching of Writing
- "I Am Dancer" project with the Dance Department
- Intern/Trainee Seminar with City & Regional Planning